

Citizen Community Meeting #3

February 20, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm

Location:

Higley Unified School District Governing
Boardroom
2935 S Recker Rd Gilbert, AZ
85295

The goal of the citizens' committee is to have thoughtful, public dialogue and provide our Governing Board with a recommendation that helps them make an educated decision on what critical needs should be addressed.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Tyler Moore, Chief Financial Officer for Higley Unified School District at 5:03 pm.

The following committee members were present:

Tyler Moore	Melanie Shaha	Robert Furneaux
Gustavo Landeros	Kathleen Richards	Marty Bender
Melissa Johnson	Taylor Francis	Michelle Bugg
Vanessa Shepherd	Ozzie Lewis	Christopher Sexton
Victoria Payne	Scott Hamilton	Eric Bruan

Attended via phone call: Domingo Santos

Due to communication issues, Jennifer Nunez has withdrawn from the committee.

Mr. Moore stated that before the approval of the agenda he wanted to amend the current agenda to designate an area on the agenda, right after the approval of the agenda, for public comments and or concerns from the public. The district also has an email address where the public can submit questions and or concerns. Those can be brought to the committee meetings and be addressed during this time on the agenda.

Mr. Moore asked for a motion to add this moving forward. Motion to amend the agenda with a 2nd to add an area for public comments to address the committee. All in favor. 15-0

Public Comments:

What is the email address to submit questions and or comments? citizen.committee@husd.org

Q: You had mentioned last time that you would be emailing the committee some financial information prior to this meeting.

A: Mr. Moore stated, he did email it out, it was the full demographic report. Mr. Moore stated he would resend it out as some committee members did not receive it.

Approval of the Agenda

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from January 30, 2024, were not included in the packet for the committee to

approve. The minutes will be brought back for approval at the March 5, 2024, committee meeting.

Mr. Moore mentioned that the next couple of meetings will be open conversation, as the committee works to formulate a recommendation to the board.

III. FY22 Bond Proposal

Q: On the ballot measure for the bond, there are no projects, that the bond must pay for then? The ballot measure is not for specific projects, it is for the authorization of the bond which then the school board will authorize the sale of those bonds and then they become attached to specific projects?

A: That is correct. The language is general enough that no projects are attached.

Q: Shaping the size of the bond, regarding specific projects how important is that?

A: The current project list will help to decipher the size of the bond.

Q: In 2019 why did the committee have to vote to give you authorization to repurpose the last bond?

A: Mr. Moore explained he was not working in the district at that time. Mr. Moore explained that in 2019 he thinks they were repurposing the 2013 bond authorization.

They used specific language in there that they were exceeding or one of the categories in which they assessed a dollar amount, so they were repurposing it to use that money to move to a different bullet point. That was Mr. Moore's recollection.

Committee member, Ms. Bugg, explained that the bond was purposed in 4 different areas: It was at the district's approval that 10% of the monies in those buckets could be reallocated into a different bucket. They needed to move a greater amount of the monies out of a bucket that wasn't utilized for projects that they maybe had on deck, so they needed voter approval to move those funds to a different bucket with more needs.

Q. How much debt are we in as far as bond debt?

A: Mr. Moore commented, it is under 100 million. Committee member, Mr. Bender commented after June 30th, of 2004, it looks to be 61.2 million, plus we still owe another 10.5 million in interest. For all the previous bonds in our history the community still owes 71.5 million which will be paid back every year until the year 2035. The next 3 years the property tax amount withdrawn from the community is 11.3 million dollars. That is for 25, 26 and 27, in 28 that drops to 5 million dollars.

In the 2022 bond proposal, the stuff that was proposed to be spent for 2024, most of that money that was to be expended from bond proceeds the district was able to absorb into the regular budget, is that true?

A: No

Q: What was not completed in 2024?

A: Fire panels, district wide lighting, a portion of the major projects, that were identified in Higley High.

Q: How much money was it that you couldn't expend that you could have if the bond would have passed?

A: 3-4 million dollars.

So, you could have spent that money, you could have chosen to because we have that much in excess. How much of a carryover do we have in M&O and capital?

A: 22 million in M&O, and Capital, 4 million.

So, we could use some of that money to assist with the needs that are listed in the bond, is that true?

A: Yes, but you would have to make some budget changes.

IV. M&O Continuation

Moving forward to M&O continuation, Mr. Moore shared on the 2nd page information pamphlet with an original resolution date of November 5, 2019. The 2nd page shows the 5 bullet points which the 15% override is funding.

- Increase teacher compensation,
- Maintain and improve elementary specials such as arts, music and physical education, and District athletics and arts,
- Provide staffing to maintain average class sizes,
- Support gifted, special education and all-day kindergarten, and
- Provide education resources to classrooms.

We are going into year 5, next year, Mr. Moore stated, that is the last year it is fully funded. The only option we have on this November ballot is to ask for continuation. It is not a new authorization; it is just a continuation. If we were to completely sunset, then fiscal year 2027 there would be a new question. If you have more questions, please email the citizen committee prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Moore commented that the real question to the committee is should we put a question on the ballot to continue the M&O override?

Q: What is the practical difference between asking for a continuation or having it expire and asking for a new override. Is it just, not to have it expire to avoid cuts?

A: It wouldn't make sense to expire if the want is to continue. Cuts would need to be made over the next couple of years, only to bring the request back to the community to pass again. Continuation would be the best option.

Q: Override whether it is M&O or capital, we could do budget transfers? Is that true?

A: Yes, we can transfer M&O funds to capital if needed.

Q: Despite us doing that, our M&O override has grown from 5-6 million to 22 million dollars over the past 4 years. The budget balance carried forward has allowed this. So, we have been able to do the maintenance that is needed on the school district, and we have had to make some difficult decisions but to date, we have been able to take care of the district in its current state without new schools and even pay for the Higley addition, just by the money that came in from the override.

That is money that has no interest attached. It is drawn every year from the community for 5 years, once the community decides they don't want it anymore they can vote against it. Mr. Moore commented that is not entirely true, we have not funded all these needs from the M&O override. Mr. Moore stated we received 25 million in different COVID grants, that helped supplement our M&O needs, over the last 3 years.

Q: Do you think that Arizona will continue to grow funding for schools, keep it flat, drop it, what is your expectation?

A: If history repeats itself, Arizona will continue to maintain its standards of status quo as one of the lowest funded states in the country. We don't foresee additional covid money, all of that has expired as of June 30. All those additional dollars have been rolled over and have

been rolled back into our budget and will now be back into M&O.

Q: It is certainly true that if we don't get an M&O override, and we don't get any bond money the district will be looking at a dire financial situation.

A: Yes, I would agree with that.

Q: The carry forward funds have increased over these last couple of years to 20-21 million. We have had the one-time infusion of funds, from the state and federal government, that totaled maybe 25 million.

One perspective would be that we have grown the treasury, another perspective is that we had a onetime cash infusion, and we have spent it; if not for that funding, we would have had 3 million dollars of expenses that we would not been able to be paid for over that time.

A: Yes, I would concur with that.

But I would say that it is equally true that you've been able to find money for the district to do different things over the last few years, especially. That's true also, right? I would say, it's available from state programs and things.

A: I would say since my tenure I have been here for three years, that there were some things and practices that were happening prior to me that weren't exactly leveraging the budget to its fullest capacity, and so you know, that I have done things differently than others, but I feel like we have leveraged our budget like you said, to its fullest capacity.

Q: Isn't there already something in 2026 that we're getting money from the state for Williams Field addition or something?

A: We were denied funding by SFD.

Q: Why were we denied?

A: We did not meet their test, and they have several tests that outline whether you need additional building capacity in the school facilities division for those who don't know what that is, it's a division of the state that provides capital funding for districts either for new construction or for maintaining minimum standards. We have been trying to leverage that for a new building at Williams Field which we feel we are at capacity, but there held by statute to which they have a formula generated, an equation essentially that determines whether you need that capacity or not. We did not meet that; we were short 70 kids.

Q: Isn't it basically students per square feet?

A: Yes, it is a function of that. Although it doesn't consider all the programs that we offer. It is black and white.

Q: You made it a goal of yours to increase our carry forward each year. Are you at your goal? It was 21, 22 million, you think that's the carryover that you want to maintain year to year. Hire or lower?

A: I think the board has expressed being relatively high, and so it is now coming down. An adequate carry forward is between anywhere from 4 to 12% which would equate to anywhere from 8 to 15million for the district. You will see that decreasing over the next couple of years.

Q: How long do you expect to carry forward to reduce to that say goal of 8 or 10 million?

A: That will only take a couple of years, or it could take one year, if you want to transfer it all to capital, you can clear that out quick.

Now that you've said that all of these things were looking for, these improvements, could that be used for that goal?

A: That is one option, I think the committee has, but I think we have more needs than the one-time dollars.

Mr. Moore, recapped, if you review some of this and you want some more information, on the override and the continuation and outside what is being funded, the next couple of years, if we don't renew it in November, we would see a 3.5 million decrease in the budget and then in the preceding year, another 8 million and then the following year would be a total of 13 million. The district hasn't identified plans in basically writing but there would be a drastic decrease in staff. Stamina override is funding a lot of the auxiliary curriculum such as specials, arts, music, physical ed, district athletics and arts. A lot of those are not state funded, which is why districts do overrides.

Q: You could do more than just decrease staff sizes though, couldn't you? Wouldn't there be other steps you could take, or not?

A: 85% of our budget staff, where else do you go?

Re-boundary, close a school, consolidate. Obviously, there are options that you have to take. They are not good options, and that is why I agree that we need to make sure that it is funded, but we need to also acknowledge that the last time the bond tried to pass it failed it was 42 to 58. Now we are asking voters for not only a bond of 40 million, 50 million etc., but also an override. I see that as very risky.

Comment from committee member Ms. Bugg, I think the bond failed in my personal opinion because the district as a whole as we talked about in our first meeting, did a very poor job on having a public opinion on what was important to the district, it had one sided effect that someone didn't like what was written into the bonds, so they rallied a bunch of troops around it to vote it down, for not the betterment of the children. No one's looking for the best long-term effect for the kids. Some people were very slighted and pushed to their own personal agenda.

Committee member, Mr. Bender mentioned he was deeply involved in both bonds, and the first one had no pushback. The second one he agreed with was different, it was a much more organized process, but up until the very last days of the first bond, there was nobody talking about it, nobody coming to the meeting, nobody doing anything. Even that one failed 46 to 54.

Q: Is anyone concerned about Dr. Birdwell awaiting trial on 18 felony counts? I think that plays a role in trust, community trust.

A: Mr. Moore mentioned he thinks she will always have a black cloud over this district and unfortunately for her actions. Her trial is separate from the district, we and the board took a consent decree that eliminated, basically separated the district from Dr. Birdwell. The district did two years of extensive procurement training and additional audits, to show in good faith that Higley was not practicing anything she was accused of. That consent decree was signed off by the attorney general, and we have moved forward as a district.

V. Capital Maintenance Assessment/Project List

Mr. Landeros mentioned they went through and listed the 6 major categories in this section and listed them by years.

They looked at the age of the school, the cost of the square footage, to do that type of work. They also looked at the money and the allocation at each site. The list was based on life expectancy, such as roof needs, flooring needs, weatherization. The district tries to get funding to help in these areas through grants. Unfortunately, the state only has a certain amount of money to provide, and so they prioritize. We have been lucky enough this year to land some of the money from the state. Unfortunately, now they are out of money, so the

district is having to look at ways to fund these projects internally.

The district went through a hypergrowth at a certain point. All the schools were built at the same time and the maintenance from the maintenance aspect makes this difficult. We are having to come up with a lot more money at one time to maintain these schools to keep them up. It doesn't help having other districts and charter schools, that are building new facilities and renovating them. The district is trying to be proactive, to make sure our facilities are up to par with everybody around us.

Every single school has needs, there is not one that does not. The list put together that you have in front of you goes through 2029.

Q: Are these estimates based on today's pricing versus previous?

A: Obviously, working with Tyler, we took a formula based on square footage, and we allocated inflation past a certain amount of time. We know that the square footage cost to do a roof right now, but that may change in three years. We added a percentage of that to allocate for repairs for the near future.

Q: If I remember right, in a recent board meeting, there were proposals, that wanted the middle school to redo the Pre-K areas. So, for example, why have those been separated from these and these from those. What kind of decision making goes into why we could need a bond for all or some of these as opposed to others?

A: The Pre-K, and middle school projects, that we have done recently are utilizing funds that we received. We refinanced the district under the lease from the middle schools from Dr. Birdwell two years ago, the district was paying a third party to make that lease payment and so we owe approximately 3.6 million a year to pay down the 40-year lease for our two middle schools. That was done in 2013. We refinanced those two years ago and basically, that leaser was holding capital funds to make capital improvements. Those capital improvements were at the direction of the leaser not the district. We made capital request, but they were not satisfied. Upon refinancing the leaser, returned all those funds to the district and we are now utilizing those to renovate the two middle schools in areas where they were not being addressed. The schools have been largely untouched since 2013, it has been about 10 years. That is what some of those recent agenda items have been for those two middle schools utilizing the capital funds. We are getting down to the last bit of those funds now.

Q: Do any more funds like that exist, those capital lease funds for any other school or any other projects or are those the only ones that we own.

A: We own all other schools.

Q: Are these all the projects, are these in the operating budget or are they part of the capital?

A: Capital, but in a perfect world we would replace these on the years in which they would land on us, with our capital budget. This is the timeline, like weatherization, is a 7–10-year replacement schedule. We should be doing that and then roofing every 20 years. A roofer will only give us a 20-year warranty.

The cost is about 8 million a year on average, on specific years the cost is more like 25 million. We do not have a sufficient capital budget to maintain and keep this up. We would recommend these be introduced into the bond, or a portion of these to help support the capital budget.

Q: in the bond was a significant upgrade to the Higley Performing Arts center, and in this there is no money allocated for the HCPA. What is the story there?

A: We leveraged the capital budget and then the rest emptied out pretty much all the HCPA revenue from their fund. They have an enterprise fund revenue that they garner for sale of

tickets and shows there. Their needs were drastic and there were some safety concerns there. We leveraged all those funds to fund their capital replacements.

Q: Don't we have a cash fund that is separate from M&O and capital?

A: Some of those cash accounts are designated to schools, like tax credits, auxiliary all of those like student fees. All we do is account for those but those are maintained at the school level. There is not a large bucket of money sitting there. Maybe a couple thousand dollars that they utilize for field trips, or other expenses designated for that school.

M&O is strictly a state driven formula. Cash funds are any miscellaneous fees, any rental income, etc. other entities that pay the district for various services or fees. Cash funds are maintained at the school level and the funds generated at the school level are then reused at the school level. The district does not put our hands in that money, that is revenue generated by the school to enhance their school program.

Q: Is it the district decision, additional assistance that would be used to fund these capital projects?

A: Yes, right now our capital budget is about 7.5 million dollars annually. That is what we get from the state.

Q: How are the Community Ed funds used for before and after school care?

A: They went into the hole and in the red during covid, and they have been working slowly and updating the governing board and keeping them apprised of building their fund balance back up. We set a goal of maintaining a years' worth of revenue in case we are faced again with not being able to run their programs because they are specifically a cash generated program. We have not met that goal yet. The district has not utilized any community ed funds.

Q: Could we think of your proposal here as three main facets? Major maintenance, capital projects, which it looks like, if there wasn't a committee and you were just coming up with the proposal yourself, there would be 25million for that. There would be another 30 million for the things you want to do at William's field HS and another 10 million for what you want to do at Higley HS and then about 13 and a half million for technology and security all in for the 5 years. Is that true? So about 80 million is what you suggest?

A: Yes, that is the list that we are presenting.

Mr. Landeros reviewed Williams Field High School and discusses the list 1-7 below.

Williams Field High School

1. Visitor Bleachers \$500,000
2. Tennis Courts & Sand Volleyball Courts \$1.5 Million
3. Building Addition \$10 Million
4. Relocate Transportation \$12 Million
5. New Practice Field \$1.2 Million
6. Secure Front Office \$750,000
7. Competition Gym \$4 Million

Q: Are these in order of preference?

A: No

Q: Who decided they wanted these items? Where did this information come from?

A: We went to multiple schools. All our elementary schools were built for K- 8, students. Elementary schools are not at full capacity and do not need any additional additions. The High schools, when they

were both built, Higley High in 2000, and WFHS in 2006, they have now exceeded their capacity. They have modified spaces to make things work. A lot of this is just future proofing out site. As enrollment increases these needs, for more capacity.

Demographic shows growth is coming in 3 years, in looking forward yes, we will need more capacity for our high schools.

Q: Relocation of transportation is there a spot in mind?

A: The district owns a vacant piece of land, just South of the 202 west of target. Moving them off this lot would then allow WFHS to expand and grow with its student growth. Transportation is crammed in there; they have buses on the canal and buses in the dirt. The facility is also overgrown. We would be achieving 2 goals to move transportation and opening up WFHS.

Q: Could number 4 be funded by levy, approved by the board or partially funded versus through a bond?

A: A Capital override levy? I believe you are referring to adjacent ways. That would not qualify for adjacent ways.

Q: Last meeting we were told that the demographics were changing but that also the level of students was declining along with you know, births. Why would we need a new transportation area and more space for our HS if the demographics show a decline in students?

A: It isn't for more buses but rather an adequate facility for our current needs. When transportation was built, it wasn't built to accommodate the needs we currently have (buses, and vehicles). It is also a safety issue, for drivers and working in the area.

Q: Would the goal of the transportation site also incorporate finding ways to do things like the buses and things that we can get through grants?

A: some of the conversations would include getting some new buses. The district would apply for grants to assist with buses, for transportation needs.

Q: Isn't transportation funded by the federal government?

A: No, it is a State funded program. We get paid per mile, and there is a formula.

Q: Are you able to go into any more detail on practice field or competition gym? Would we hold Cheer competitions and charge for them? What is the use for?

A: At WFHS, as a spectator there are no true ticket booths, no real entrance to that gym and that area. Addressing those needs and the interior of the gym, to compete with the school district. No revenue, but more modern like other outlying districts. It could be revenue enticing. Creating a space that is adequate to not only the current usage and student body but also creating a facility that would be enticing to rent.

Q: On #2 and #5 the tennis courts, what would we be doing to those?

A: Currently we do not have enough space to have 2 ball fields on that practice field. Moving the courts and volleyball would allow to increase the space and have 2 true practice fields. At the High School there would be enough space for sports and activities to be happening at the same time outside rather than all being in an area. No area for multiple practices, currently. Also, it would assist with student safety.

Q: #3 the additional building, the ten mil, is that for the students?

A: Yes, by the addition it helps with classroom space, it would help with alleviating traveling teachers, multiple use of a classroom by different teachers. Teachers would have designated spaces. Not shared classrooms. More attractive.

Q: Out of this list, what is needed for safety, and security, and the benefit of the students? What is extra if we don't have the money? Need vs. want.

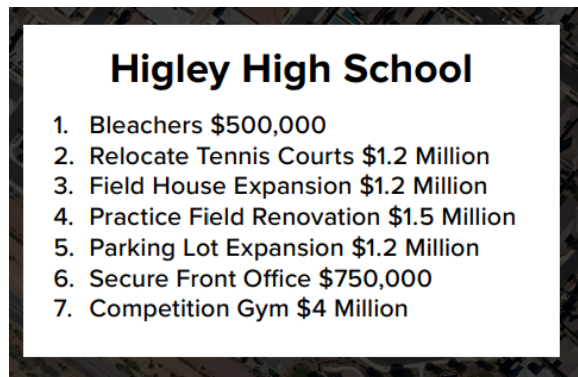
Could we have a separate list of priorities? Some parents are moving HS students to other districts because of updated buildings and more space. If we aren't competitive, we lose bodies, and the finances

per student, which is around \$4,400 per student.

Q: Can we reapply for the grant we lost out on by 70 students, each year?

A: It is our ongoing goal to look for and apply for funds, in any capacity to assist with any projects. We will submit again for the application and continue to try for additional funding sources.

Moving onto HHS- phase 2, a lot of these were carried over from projects that we think few of you were involved in. A lot of these were carried over that we were unable to fund. Mr. Landeros went through the 1-7 areas of need at Higley High School.



Q: What if any role does boosters and PTOs potentially contribute to any of these?

A: They do help with small items that are needed through the campus. Not enough funds to cover such large items.

Q: Are they all independently registered? 501c's by requirement?

A: All of them that work within our schools are board approved, and we make sure they are all 501c's.

Q: All the front offices of the schools were refitted for security. The district office was refitted for security. I notice there is a big expenditure at both schools. What will be done that's different?

A: A truly secure lobby, right now anyone that is a guest can walk into the front office and use the restroom without having to be let in behind closed doors. An example, Higley High School, if you're a guest, and you need to use the restroom, they have to buzz you in and let you in behind the secure door. Those are the kind of needs we want to address. A lot of our elementaries already have great secure lobbies.

Q: Have we ever looked at empty lots to expand across the street by HCPA?

A: It is SRP property. The district has reached out, but SRP has no interest in leasing or selling.

Our last slide is Technology and security; We have tried to address as much as we can through our capital budget, but the technology needs are ever changing and updating. Demand is high for keeping students and the district up to date.

Devices have been updated as much as possible, but every 3-5 years things need to be updated, and changed, some other technology can go 5-7 years. Outfitting our outdated equipment to the newer technology will help support the demand now and in the future.

We have started phases to replace outdated security cameras. We have an initiative currently ongoing. We are in phase I. We just completed that, all exterior entrances at the elementaries, were completed. We are now moving to secondary campus, exterior, but ultimately, we would like to bring that to a grander scale. It has already helped catch individuals break into our school. New cameras assisted with catching the person.

That is the extent of the project list of those items that would also be considered.

Q: Are those items also to be considered in a bond or those are going to override?

A: These would be considered in the bond, in override. Mr. Bender mentioned earlier, possible capital override. Again, capital override is limited to 10% of the RCL so it'd be \$8 million a year.

Committee member, Mr. Francis, has a hard time with these items that have a short lifespan and having it paid by a capital bond.

If we are going to buy laptops every 3 years by the time, we've paid off this bond, we've got six rounds of laptops and paid interest on that over that time. These seem to be items to me that we should have in the ongoing operations budget.

A: Yes, I think that is a valid point. I think we are presenting all our needs on a grander scale. I can take that comment into consideration and kind of revise this at the next meeting.

Q: When we know some of the lifespan of these products, like HVAC. Air conditioner, and laptops etc. can we start now, saving for anticipation? Is that something that the district does, or can plan for?

A: We do our best to plan for these things, but the reality is we don't receive enough funds to update and take care of the needs. Our goal is to budget and save and make smart choices.

Committee member, Taylor says he struggles with that answer, as he doesn't feel we should depend on our normal operations on bond and overrides. We are kind of expecting to live outside of our budget. What if we never get another bond or override? Are schools not going to have HVAC's? Well, not then the cuts would be staff, and fine arts etc. This is the plight of Arizona funding in general. It is not just Higley, but this is all over not just in Arizona. Arizona state gets away without funding an adequate level per student to be able to take care of these needs.

Mr. Landeros mentioned the way we try to levy these large ticket items is by applying for grant money from the state. That is always our first look. Prioritizing the needs is always first. What can be put off and done later is always at the bottom of the list.

Mr. Moore, we are here today because we need help financially to satisfy the needs of the district for the next 5-10 years. It is not coming within our capital budget. We have a core responsibility to provide education to our students and 7.5 million is obligated to not only do that but also maintain our facilities. At some point something has got to give. We are at a point now where we feel like we need to research other opportunities, other sources of fundings such as bonds. 60% of schools either have an M&O and another 40% have had a bond or currently have a bond in place. It is the nature of Arizona schools. That is why we are here asking for the committee's help.

A committee member also mentioned that this is something the Board needs to consider- maybe that is one of our recommendations to them, is they need to start thinking long-term what we can change in Arizona. Funding across the country is difficult. Arizona has poor funding solutions. We need to fix Arizona's funding.

Tyler is doing exceptionally well to fix and do what he can with the mess that was left. He is working hard to set up the district better now and for the future.

Q: We all understand that we are underfunded, as a state and the district as well. I think putting a pencil to it to say, here's the level of funding that is required to maintain these facilities. This is what we need on an annual basis to run the district and it is more than \$8 million than the state gives us. Every year we face this amount of deficit (whatever the amount) is. The public needs to know this, to be able to say that we need a bond. I feel if we break it down more specifically, it would be helpful.

A: Mr. Moore will bring back a more broken-down list to the next meeting. The last thing on the agenda is site capacity.

VI. Classroom Space Usage

Building	Current	Program Capacity	Physical Capacity
Bridges	773	91%	72%
Centennial	626	48%	37%
Chaparral	777	61%	50%
Coronado	571	63%	54%
Cortina	753	60%	51%
Gateway Pointe	723	75%	62%
Higley Traditional	736	68%	55%
Power	584	55%	42%
San Tan	887	70%	58%
Cooley MS	1,300	82%	75%
Sossaman MS	1,477	93%	85%
Higley HS	2,886	97%	87%
Williams Field HS	2,776	106%	96%
	14,869	75%	63%

Q: Looking at some schools with extra space but not students. We have talked about how we are losing students to charter schools. For example, Coronado, does mandarin. Are there thoughts that we could create some other types of programs at these schools that are lacking students that we could bring some of these students back?

A: Yes, we are looking into that extensively this year. Obviously without a superintendent, we put a lot of those conversations on hold. Now that we have a superintendent being approved at the next board meeting, I feel these conversations will be at the forefront.

Q: At the last meeting we talked about if we could find out where these kids are leaving and going to. Some kind of system to tally up where students are going, based on records being sent to new school.

A: Yes, we are working on a tracking system and implementing a leave code system, in our Synergy student information system.

Q. Room capacity, at WFHS, over what area is exceeding?

A: The course sessions are double staffed. Classrooms are being used multiple times.

Q. How do you achieve the staff/student ratio?

A: HUSD has a board policy regarding class size. These are set by our board. Teacher-student ratios. Policy IIB-RA (Special Ed) and IIB-RB (Regular Education). As the school grows, any empty space is utilized. Every space available is taken over to accommodate a classroom.

Q: Are you going to present to us a possibility of what we need?

A: Yes, Mr. Moore will clean up the spreadsheet showing annual expenses, and have a list showing priorities.

VII. Future Agenda Items

A. Facilities Tour – HTA-next meeting. Have a facility tour.

B. Settle on Needs – next meeting.

C. Present Survey Data – Paul with Highground-next meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Next meeting date March 5, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.