



Mount Prospect School District 57
Board of Education

Minutes – March 5, 2020 Community Forum

The Board of Education held a Community Forum on March 5, 2020, at Lincoln Middle School. It started at 7:00 p.m. with a brief walk-through of Lincoln led by Mr. Adam Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, and Mr. Paul Suminski, Principal, Lincoln Middle School. The Community Forum was for the purpose of exploring the results of the satisfaction survey given in fall 2019 that included questions related to the aging middle school building. All Board members were present.


Presentation of the Results of the Fall Satisfaction Survey


President Kowalczyk presented the results of the Fall 2019 Community Survey. Residents within the district were mailed a paper survey but were given a code if the resident preferred to complete the survey online. There were 1,257 responses. President Kowalczyk started with reviewing information about the respondents such as age groups, length of residency in Mount Prospect, if they had children in the district, etc. The survey asked respondents to prioritize where they believed the district should focus its efforts. The next section of the survey was on communications. She then spoke about the section of the survey on facilities planning where residents were asked which of two options they would support for Lincoln. The first option was to update and expand Lincoln at a cost of \$40 - \$60 million. The second option was to build a new middle school and remove the old school at a cost of \$65 - \$80 million. Responses were as follows

	<u>Build New Middles School</u>	<u>Address Maintenance and Renovate Lincoln</u>	<u>Support Either Option</u>	<u>Not Sure Need More Info</u>
Parents (non-staff)	41%	16%	21%	22%
Non-Parents (non-staff)	25%	25%	15%	35%
Staff	48%	23%	14%	15%

President Kowalczyk reviewed the remainder of the survey which covered the areas of Overall Satisfaction, Staff Performance, and a final section on School Feedback which was for parents only.

President Kowalczyk said the remainder of the meeting would be for questions. She, Mr. Parisi, and Mr. Suminski answered many questions from the audience. Some of the questions were on projected enrollments, physical closeness and the probability of bullying, and the goal and the timeline. President Kowalczyk answered that there was no established timeline. The Board and administration want to see how the community feels about renovating or building a new Lincoln. A building referendum would need to be passed to do so. Mr. Parisi said the referendum passed in 2018 was to shore up finances and do building maintenance. Administration works with the district architect to identify work that needs to be done in the buildings and that work is shown in the Master Facilities Plan. The district is more proactive with Westbrook, Fairview, and Lions Park because the buildings are in much better shape. The Board and administration need to plan ahead and not pour too much money into Lincoln if the community wants it to be torn down. President Kowalczyk commented that if we don't do maintenance and we don't have the money to build a new school, then we would be in bad shape. We need to start planning if Lincoln will be renovated or rebuilt. President Kowalczyk and Mr. Parisi continued to answer questions until 8:15 p.m. President Kowalczyk said they wanted to be conscientious about everyone's time and closed the meeting at 8:17 p.m.


Virginia Webster, Secretary


Eileen B. Kowalczyk, President

Date of approval: March 19, 2020