

I. Call to Order

Call to Order: Chairman Arnold

Present: District 1 – Joe Arnold, Chairman
District 2 – Malissa Morgan, Vice Chairman
District 3 – Dixie Ball
District 5 – Jill Holcomb

Ken Kenworthy, Superintendent of Schools
Tom Conely, School Board Attorney

Absent: District 4 – India Riedel

Invocation: Tom Conely, School Board Attorney
Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Chairman Arnold

II. Information/Discussion Items

Superintendent Kenworthy introduced and welcomed two new administrators: Nicole Havee, Supervisor of Transportation, and Lisa Bell, Supervisor of Food Service.

Superintendent Kenworthy introduced Dr. John Watson and Mr. Greg Kelley of Clemons, Rutherford and Associates, Inc., Tallahassee.

Mr. Kelley's presentation to the Board consisted of the following:



Comments:

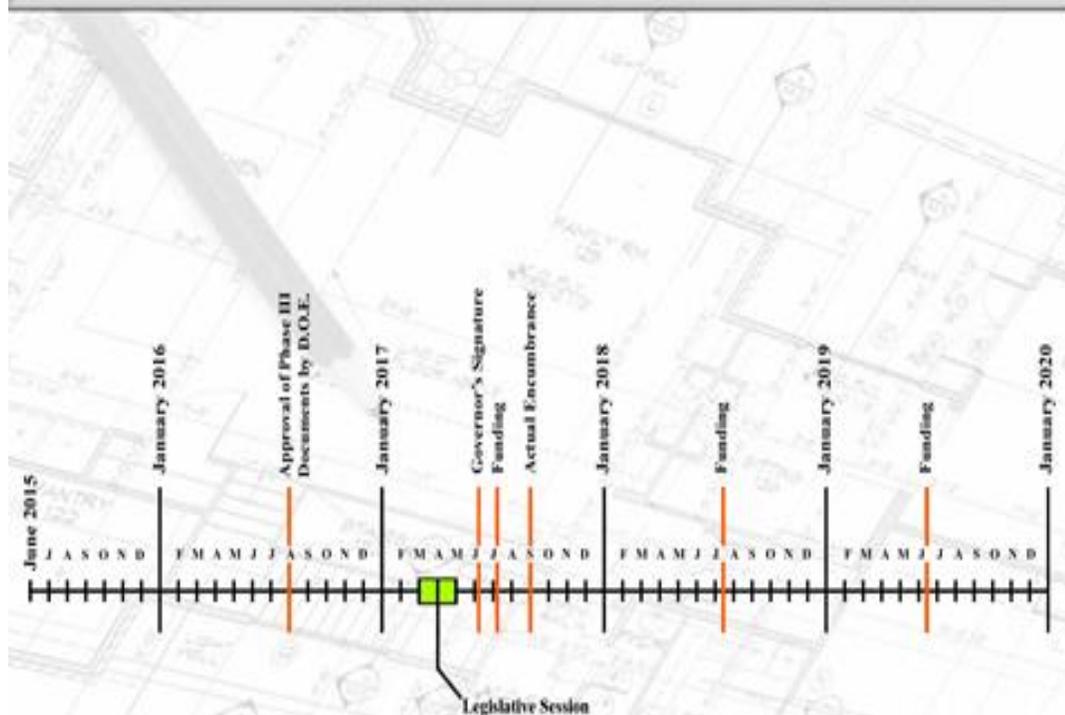
Okeechobee has participated in the Special Facilities Construction Program three times previously for building Everglades Elementary, Osceola Middle, and Seminole Elementary construction.

The Board-approved Castaldi Report was presented to the Florida Department of Education (DOE). DOE approved tearing down of all the old buildings. Buildings #3, #4, and #5 are only 22 years old, and DOE requested additional inspection and information. DOE is aware of the flooding problem with these buildings, however, they want to know if the buildings are structurally sound should they decide the buildings will remain onsite. DOE will include in the project the costs of replacing the roofs, the mechanical systems, and the electrical systems if the buildings stay. Also included would be costs for new retention ponds and pumping systems to correct the flooding problem. This alone is estimated to cost over \$1 million. Mr. Steve Dobbs is assisting Mr. Kelley in costing out all of the items necessary for Buildings #3, #4, and #5 to stay, and a report will be submitted to DOE next week.

SPECIAL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT PROCEDURAL CHECKLIST

- _____ Conduct Facility Plant Survey or Spot Survey to generate a recommendation for the construction of a new school or replacement of existing
- _____ Conduct a Castaldi on existing schools being replaced and submit to DOE for approval.
- _____ Have Board formally approve survey recommendation generated by the most current survey or spot survey.
- _____ Submit Board approved survey recommendation to DOE for approval thru EFIS.
- _____ Determine if new facility will be built on an existing parcel or if a new parcel will need to be purchased by the Board. If new parcel, put binder on property contingent on SFCFA funding.
- _____ Send letter to the Commissioner of Education requesting the SCFA Pre-Application Committee visit the District to determine if the selected project meets the criteria of being a "critical need".
- _____ District will prepare for the Pre-Application Committee to visit. District will make presentation explaining the necessity for the project and explain why it is a "critical need".
- _____ If the Pre-Application Committee finds the proposed project to be a "critical need" the District will complete a SFCFA Resolution and submit it to the Board for approval pledging all of their capital outlay funds to the project for a period of three years.
- _____ Board should not hire an architect and develop plans for the proposed facility until after the Board receives notice from the Pre-Application Committee that their proposed project is a critical need and has been approved by the visiting committee.
- _____ Board will advertise for the services of an architect to begin design drawings. Final Phase III construction documents must be completed and approved by the DOE prior to August 1.
- _____ The District Superintendent will present the project to the SFCFA Committee together with any other projects state-wide that have been determined to be a "critical need" by the Pre-Application Committee. The SFCFA Committee will rank the projects in order of the seriousness of each critical need.
- _____ SFCFA Committee will submit the projects in priority order to the Commissioner of Education to be included in the Legislative Budget Request.
- _____ Legislature will fund some or all of the projects in priority order.
- _____ District must be prepared to sign a construction contract 90 days after the encumbrance notification.

Funding Timeline



The Board has decided on August 1, 2016, as the submission date for a Special Facilities funding request. Dr. Watson said that the next step after receiving a positive response from DOE on the Castaldi Report is to perform a Spot Survey. The Spot Survey will require Board approval and will include a narrative explaining what buildings are being removed and what is being put back onsite. It is important at this point for the Board to decide if the 9th grade will stay at the Freshman Campus or if they will move to the High School. The decision needs to be made before the Spot Survey can be completed.

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When a Spot Survey is completed and approved by DOE, the Superintendent will request the Commissioner of Education to send a Pre-Application Committee to visit the campus and determine if the project is a critical need for the District. Assuming that the Committee agrees it is a critical need, then there is much involved in completing the Special Facilities Application by the August, 2016, deadline. The funding request will be taken up in the 2017 legislative session. It is estimated that August, 2020, would be the completion date for the new facility.



Comments:

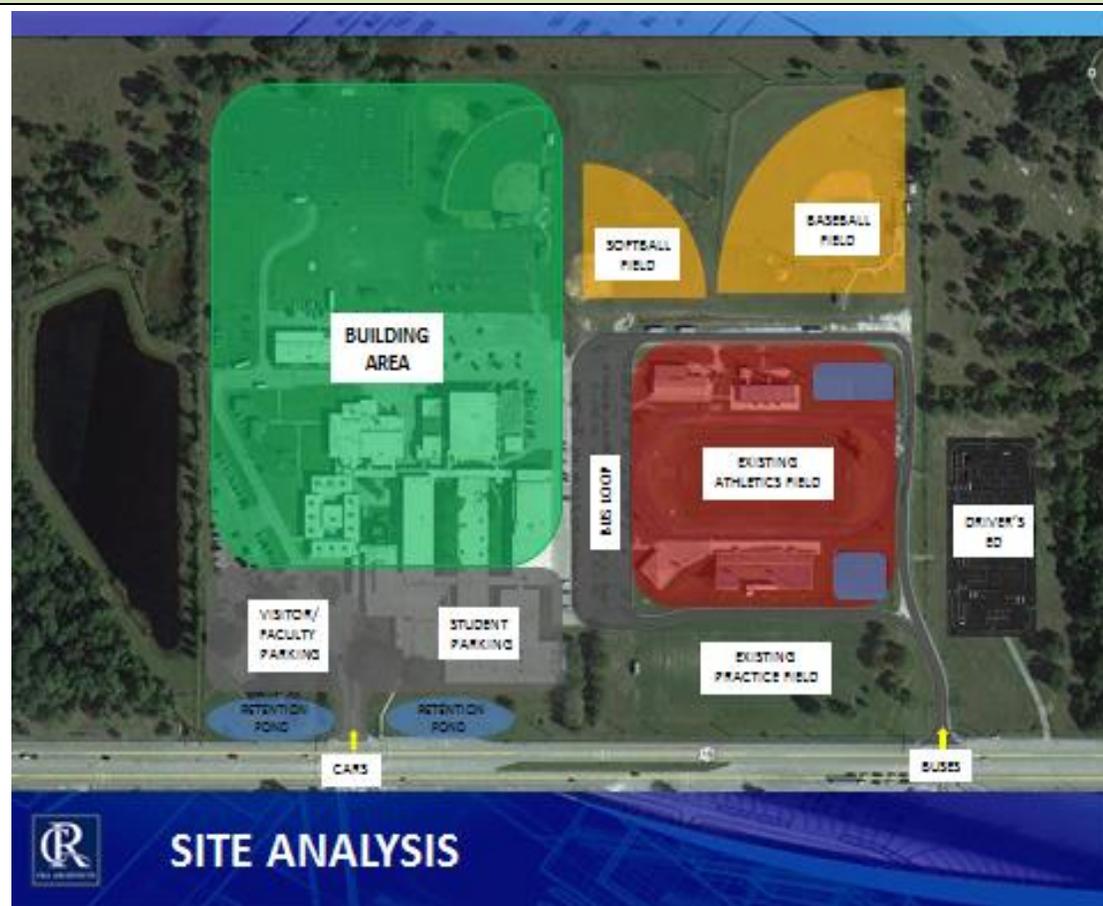
OHS sits on 55 acres of property. Some of the existing problems are:

- Traffic – DOE does not want buses and cars comingled. They also do not want the school completely encircled with driveways.
- There is a flooding issue at the front of the property.
- Drivers' Ed is located at the back of the property, so cars are driving the length of the property from the front entrance to the back of the property.
- Parking is not convenient to the front door of the office



Comments/Proposals:

- The stadium and existing practice field will not be affected.
- Drivers Ed is moved to the front of the property on the south side where there is four acres.
- The orientation of the softball and baseball fields could be changed. If these fields are moved from their present location, it must be at District expense – cannot be included in project costs.



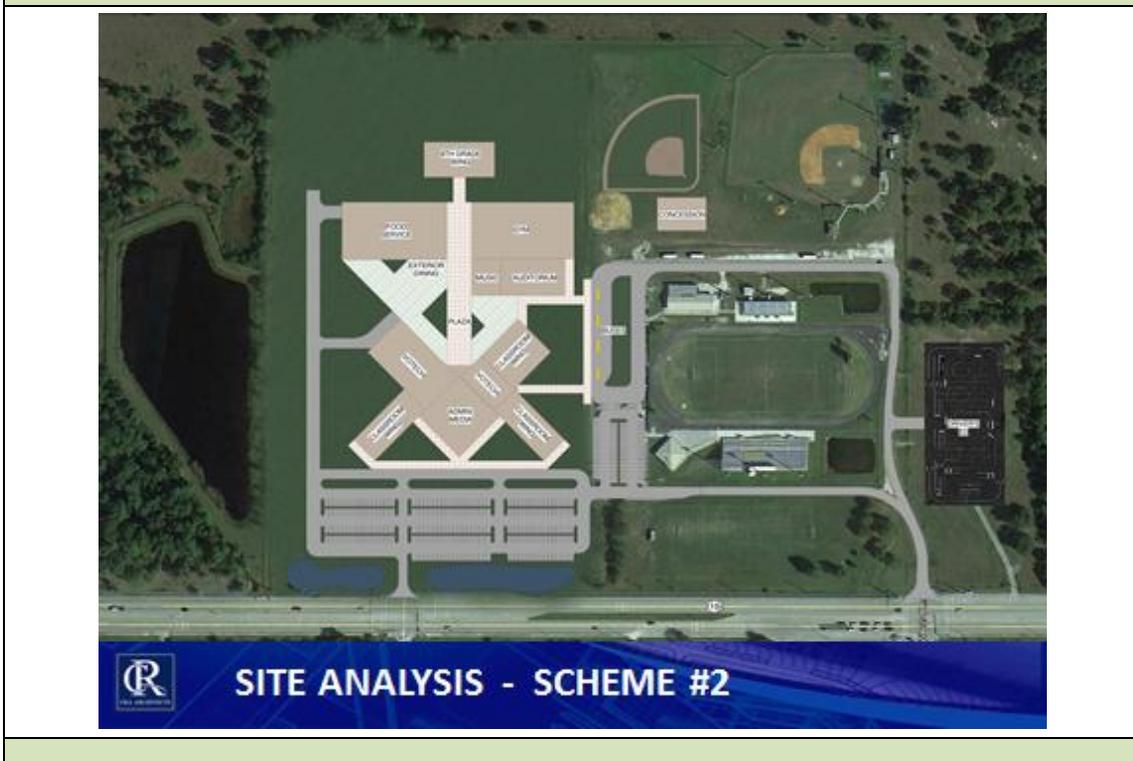
Comments:

- The cars and buses will be separated.
- There needs to be one parking space for every two 11th and 12th grade students – approximately 450 spaces.

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- There needs to be one parking space for every faculty and staff member.
- Visitor parking requires one space for every 100 students – approximately 200 spaces.
- Re-orientation of the softball/baseball fields could allow for a common concession area.
- The green area is the proposed new building area. There is room to start building in the back area and tear down front buildings as the project progresses. The 9th grade campus could be built first and used as needed for 10-12th graders as buildings are torn down and rebuilt. Classroom space will also to be supplemented with portables during the construction phase.

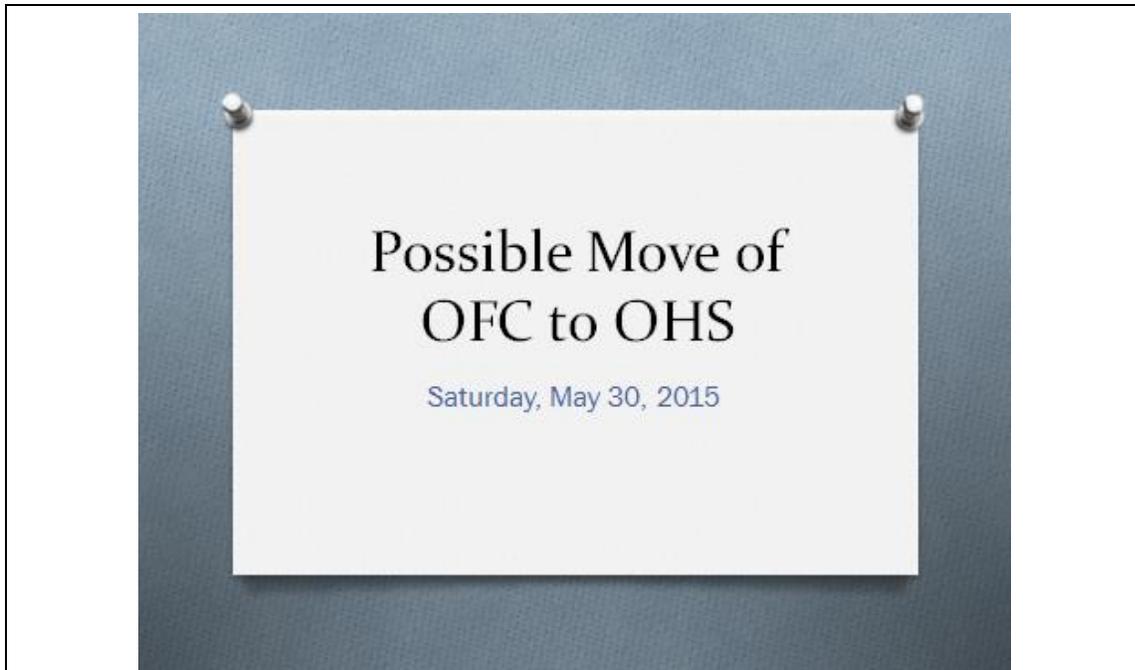
Possible Layouts of Site





This picture (top) is an existing school in Holmes County being rebuilt into a contemporary facility (next two pictures).

Superintendent Kenworthy commented that the final product may not look anything like what has been presented today. There will be many opportunities for staff and public input in the future, and architectural plans will evolve from that. Superintendent Kenworthy presented the following information:



Teacher	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dryden, Brian	Ag Foundations - 25	Ag Foundations - 25	Ag Foundations - 50	Ag Foundations - 50	Ag Foundations - 25	Ag Foundations - 25
Dixon, Val	ROTC - 25	ROTC - 25				
Ingram, Bobbie	PP/TS1 - 36	PP/TS1 - 36	PP/TS1 - 25	PP/TS1 - 25	PP/TS1 - 55	PP/TS1 - 55
Jellison, Bruce	TS2/PP - 5	TS2/PP - 10			TS2/PP	TS2/PP
Laflem, Clint	Guard - 4	Forensics - 5			Band	Band
McKee, Fran	Algebra 2 Honors - 19					
Torres, Dolores		Spanish - 5				
Nash, Connie			TS2/PP - 18	TS2/PP - 21		
Maulson, Debbie	Drama - 29	Drama - 29				
Rowland, Kim			Health Science - 21			
Scandimanti, S.				Construction - 28		
Total	116	116	60	60	75	75

Total Duplicated - 498
Total Unduplicated - 249

Comments:

This slide shows the number of students from the Freshman Campus taking classes at OHS. The duplicated count includes two courses per student. Shuttles are provided every two hours back and forth to the high school for freshman to take classes at OHS.

Pros and Cons of Moving OFC

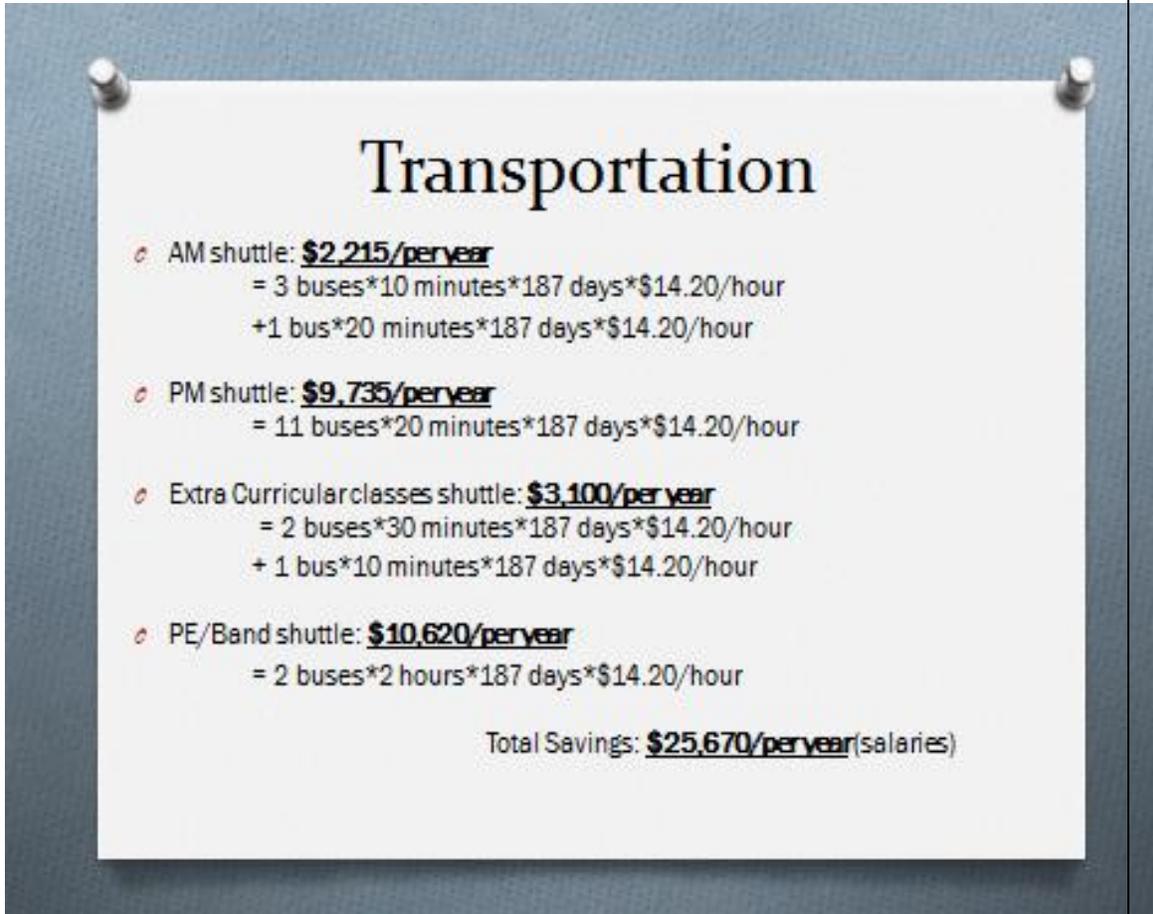
Pros to Move	Cons to Move
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students have an opportunity to earn 7 as opposed to 6 credits • Less transportation costs due to elimination of shuttles • Restoration of instructional time lost due to shuttles • Closer for student athletes for practice • Newer facilities for students and teachers • Having everyone at the main campus may allow for a cohesiveness in staff culture • Better selection of classes • Potential for larger classrooms • Secure campus • Better communication and vertical planning • Electives are in one place • Construction of OFC could ease burden of housing OHS students during construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being on a separate campus allows the students a year to "find themselves" before they have to go on the main campus full time • Range of ages between girls and boys could possibly influence undesirable decisions • The current campus is centrally located in town for all to get to fairly easily • The current campus also has easy access to the auditorium that is used for testing, programs, etc. • Social influence • Lose middle school reacquainting as a class • High School Campus would serve possibly 1,800 students

Pros and Cons of Staying

Pros to Stay	Cons to Stay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students have an easier transition into the high school environment • Students are not influenced by the pressures of their upperclassmen peers • Synthesizes the two middle schools • Less peer pressure from older students • The standard alone campus gives them a "sense of self" • Technology investments • Historical building • School cultural events • Staff schedules sync with everyone having the same plan period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for additional science classrooms with labs that are modernized for the needs of today's STEM program. • Outgrowing the building • Open campus/security • Extracurricular involvement • Parking • Drafty/no heat • Antiquated phone system • Bell system/TekNet • Electives are a mess • Need outdoor restrooms

Comments:

- Shuttling of students to OHS causes loss of instructional time due to shuttling time. The bell schedules at OFC and OHS do not match, so there is idle time at both ends of the shuttle trips for students. The most compelling reason to move 9th grade to OHS is that students will not lose instructional time due to shuttling to OHS and will have an opportunity for earning 7 credits as freshman as opposed to the current 6 credits. This could have a positive impact on graduation/promotion rates and would provide opportunities for taking additional elective courses.
- One of the most concerning issues in moving 9th grade to OHS is losing the current Freshmen Campus setup that allows 9th graders to mature for an additional year before intermingling with older students. It also allows freshmen coming in from two separate middle schools to bond as a class and develop their identity before going forward to the high school campus.

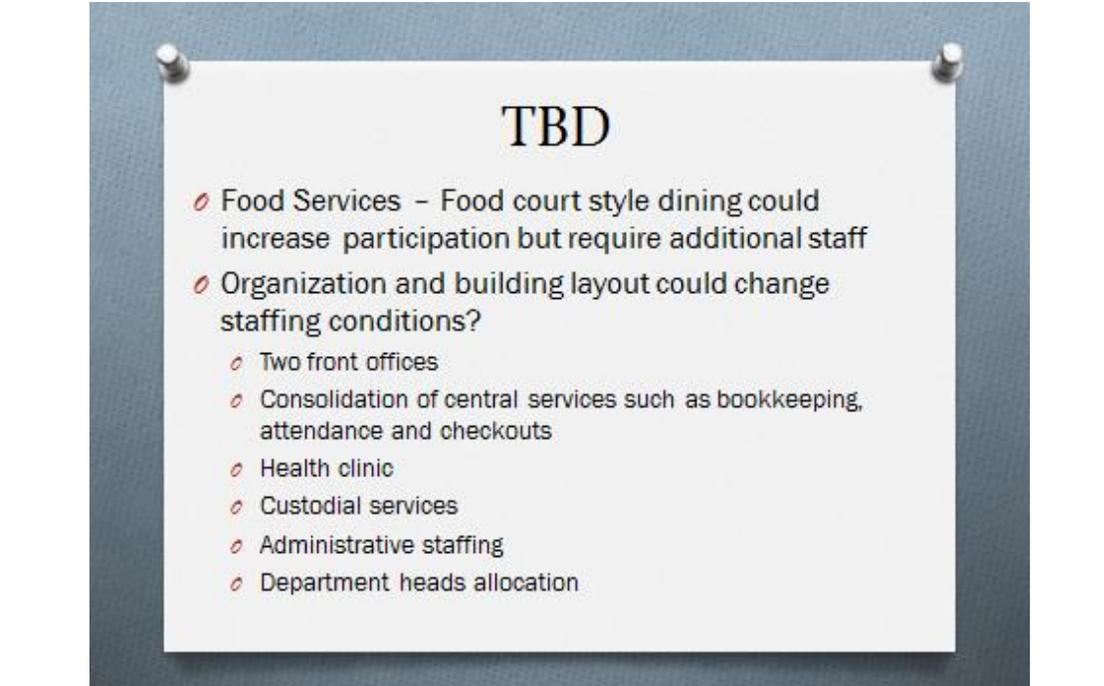


Transportation

- o AM shuttle: **\$2,215/per year**
= 3 buses*10 minutes*187 days*\$14.20/hour
+ 1 bus*20 minutes*187 days*\$14.20/hour
- o PM shuttle: **\$9,735/per year**
= 11 buses*20 minutes*187 days*\$14.20/hour
- o Extra Curricular classes shuttle: **\$3,100/per year**
= 2 buses*30 minutes*187 days*\$14.20/hour
+ 1 bus*10 minutes*187 days*\$14.20/hour
- o PE/Band shuttle: **\$10,620/per year**
= 2 buses*2 hours*187 days*\$14.20/hour

Total Savings: **\$25,670/per year**(salaries)

It is estimated that by eliminating the shuttle service between the Freshman Campus and OHS, the District would realize an annual transportation savings of \$25,670.



TBD

- o Food Services – Food court style dining could increase participation but require additional staff
- o Organization and building layout could change staffing conditions?
 - o Two front offices
 - o Consolidation of central services such as bookkeeping, attendance and checkouts
 - o Health clinic
 - o Custodial services
 - o Administrative staffing
 - o Department heads allocation

The above items are yet to be determined if the Freshman Campus is moved to OHS.

Further Discussion/Questions/Comments:

- If the Freshman Campus were to become vacant, a possible use of the space could be to house community agencies that serve students and families.
- Board members expressed a desire to keep the 9th grade students, if moved to OHS, somewhat separate from the upper class population; however, they also discussed the

need for the 9th graders to feel as though they are a part of the high school and not in limbo. Dr. Watson commented that 98% of all high schools in the state have the 9th grade included onsite and not separated from the rest of the student body.

- The total square footage that will be allowed for OHS with grades 10-12 is 240,000 square feet. With the 9th grade moved to OHS, there would be an allowance of 295,000 square feet or an additional 55,000 square feet. That would allow for approximately 12 additional classrooms and 8 additional administrative spaces. The core spaces – gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria – are based on the number of students. The District will have flexibility in using the total square footage allocated for the project.
- The Board discussed and requested visits to other high schools recently completed or in the process of completion. Mr. Kelley volunteered to arrange a visit to South Fork High School in Martin County which is currently under construction.
- The Board asked the Superintendent to bring consideration of including the Freshman Campus in the Special Facilities project to them for decision at the June 9th Board meeting.

III. Public Comment

- Mr. Steve Dobbs addressed the Board regarding the spaces for the auditorium, band, and drama. He stated that those spaces would get more space if the 9th grade is included at the high school. Mr. Dobbs reported that Mr. LaFlam had 150 students in marching band last year and expects more next year, which is a huge program. They cannot practice marching inside – they must be outside for that. Mr. Dobbs stated that Band should be a huge consideration in planning spaces and that it is crucial for the long term and quality of the Band program.
- Carol Revels, Senior Administrator, Okeechobee Freshman Campus, thanked the Board for the workshop and for making the consideration of the 9th grade an important concern.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, on a motion by Dixie Ball, seconded by Malissa Morgan, the Board adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next regular meeting of the School Board is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

(Signature on File)

Joe Arnold, Chairman

(Signature on File)

Ken Kenworthy
Superintendent of Schools