

March 24, 2013

WOLFE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRCT FACILITIES PLAN HEARING REPORT*

A public hearing was held at Campton Elementary on March 23rd, at 5:45 P.M. (local time). The purpose of the public hearing was to propose a new District Facility Plan developed by the Wolfe County Local Planning Committee. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 13-0 in favor of the proposed new plan and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the new plan.

There were 6 individual(s) in attendance. Ernie Whisman, Wolfe County Schools Director of Pupil Personnel served as the locally-appointed hearing officer. Kenny Bell, Candy Burnett, John May, Amanda Perry, Jeff Stamper, Nick Brooks/were present.

COMMENTS

Ernie Whisman, hearing officer, called the public hearing to order. The hearing officer outlined the purpose of the hearing and the hearing procedures in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. It was explained that those persons wishing to speak would be given the opportunity and that written statements would be accepted. All considerations will be made available to the Kentucky Board of Education via the hearing officer's report. The hearing officer read the proposed new District Facility Plan which includes; Major Renovations to Red River Elementary, Rogers Elementary, and Wolfe County High School which may include site development, roof replacement, doors, hardware and windows, interior finishes and accessories, casework, signage, HVAC replacement, electrical-lighting service upgrade, plumbing-fixtures, fire protection and annunciation and security systems, ADA accessibility, safety-security upgrades. Major Renovations to Wolfe County Middle School which may include HVAC replacement, safety, security and ADA upgrades. Capital Construction Priorities (Regardless of Schedule) Construct New Central Office and Central Bus Garage. DISTRICT NEED. Discretionary Projects. Construct New Elementary School to replace Red River Elementary. Construct Baseball –Softball Hitting Facility for Wolfe County High School.

The floor was opened to those who wished to make a statement. One statement was read into the record from Brandon McWhorter, teacher at Rogers Elementary. His statement noted the aging of our facilities. Rogers Elementary and Red River Elementary are both at or beyond fifty years old. He noted that renovations were a temporary fix and the only viable long term solution was replacing the old schools which cannot happen without state or federal funding due to budgetary issues at the local level. He also noted that the operating systems at the older schools were obsolete and either extremely costly to repair or nearly impossible due to replacement parts no longer being sold. Mr. McWhorter noted the energy inefficiency and the detriment to learning climate of such outdated buildings. In conclusion he noted the precarious situation financially that maintaining older facilities presented to local districts already burdened by financial issues. In his final statement he demanded that government put a high priority on putting money into new facilities for the students of Wolfe County. No other individuals wished to record testimony regarding the facility plan for Wolfe County Schools. The meeting was adjourned.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the new District Facility Plan developed by the Wolfe County Local Planning Committee and adopted by the Wolfe County Board of Education be approved as the District Facility Plan for the Wolfe County School District. A copy of the new plan is attached.

Respectfully submitted,
Ernie L. Whisman
Director of Pupil Personnel
Wolfe County Schools

cc: Tim Lucas, Manager
Public Hearing Agenda
Planning File

Attachments: Wolfe County School District Facility Plan

*This document is presented to KDE as submitted by the district-appointed hearing officer.