

February 28, 2013

**MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT FACILITIES HEARING REPORT**

A public hearing was held at the Mercer County High School on February 28th, 5:30 EST (local time). The purpose of the public hearing was to propose a new District Facility Plan developed by the Mercer County Local Planning Committee. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 11-5 in favor of the proposed new plan and the Board voted 3-2 to approve the new plan.

There were 23 individual (s) in attendance. Tim Eaton, KSBA Facilitator served as the locally-appointed hearing officer. The superintendent and four board members were in the audience also.

COMMENTS

Supt. Dennis Davis 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; 9th Grade Center to become MCMS, renovation at Hughes Jones Technical School, Mercer Co. Elementary to become 1-2 Primary Center, King Middle School to become King Intermediate School, Mercer Co. High freshman center addition, District White Board Initiative, major renovations to bus garage, central office, central Maintenance and the Mercer Co. Tech Center. Finally, discretionary projects at Mercer Co High that consist of a sports complex master plan.

The floor was opened to those who wished to make a statement. There were a total of seven citizens that made public comments. Speaker number one questioned the need for the proposed new freshman center. Asked that the board reconsider keeping the current intermediate building open. Speaker number two complained that the board did not follow the LPC's recommendation which kept the intermediate building open. Speaker number three also emphasized that the board should reconsider closing the intermediate school. He also left a petition that he said contained 100 signatures. Speaker number four stated the downtown location of the intermediate school was important to the community. Speaker number five also favored the location of the downtown school, tied it to tourism. Speaker number six praised the work of the LPC and urged the board to reconsider closing the school. Hinted that she thought it was an effort to completely delete Harrodsburg from the Mercer system. Finally, the seventh speaker talked against consolidation and had efficiency concerns about the districts decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

KSBA, LPC Facilitator

Tim Lucas
KDE, Facilities Management

Attachments: Public Hearing Agenda
 District Name School District Facility Plan
 Sign In sheet