

Eastern High School Alumni Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 15, 2016, 4:00 PM
Meeting Report

Attending were David Cushion Jack Davis, Gary Wegenke, Joan Nelson, Nancy Mahlow, Guil Northrup, Judy Williams, Mike Williams, Cheryl Cushion, Eleanor Doersam and Lynne Martinez. Lou Hekhuis joined the meeting by phone. Also attending were Yvonne Caamal-Canul, Therese Szymanski, Dr. Mark Coscarella, Mara Lud, Delsa Chapman, Ben Botwinski, and Eldon McGraw representing the Lansing School District and Amy Baumer, coordinator of the School Bond Committee.

Dave Cushion opened the meeting. At his suggestion, those attending introduced themselves.

Lou welcomed the Superintendent and representatives of the District and thanked them for meeting with the Alumni to discuss the bond proposal. He also thanked her for supporting the continuance of a strong high school in the Northeast quadrant of the City and for the District's work on developing the Pathway Promise. He noted Alumni support for both these proposals.

The Superintendent thanked and congratulated LEHS staff on the substantial increase in graduation rates during the 2014-2015 School year. She stated that she is proud of the work that everyone at the school put into creating this result.

Yvonne presented an overview of the School Bond proposal, accompanied by a slide show. A copy of the slide show will be shared with the Alumni Board.

The Superintendent pointed out that the Bond Proposal is the result of a 3-year process of facility and program planning that has involved District administrators, staff, the School Board and the community.

She described the 3 pathways and program outlines that are proposed for the 3 High Schools, how feeder schools would work and what choices parents and students would have. In response to a question about how parents will know of choices available to them and how to navigate the options, Yvonne stated that Terri Bernero has been appointed Director of Pathways and that she is training Pathway Navigators who will help to parents in understanding options and making choices.

The second part of the presentation described work that is proposed at each building and projects that are proposed for all schools in the District.

David thanked Yvonne and her staff for the presentation and the discussion. Guests left the meeting and the Board began a conversation of the proposed motion that the Alumni Board support the Bond Proposal.

Jack stated that he is one of the co-chairs of the Bond Committee and that they hope to have support from alumni at each of the high schools. Sexton has agreed and Everett alumni are creating an association.

Jack offered a motion to support the Bond Proposal, supported by several. Guil offered an amendment to state that the Board supports a 2.25 mill Bond Proposal. Jack accepted the amendment.

The amended motion was approved with 8 yes votes and one no. There were no abstentions.

Guil requested a copy of the Ballot proposal language. Amy promised to send it to Lynne for sharing.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30.

The Next Meeting of the Alumni Association Board will be determined and announced at a later date. Meeting in April after Lou returns was suggested.