

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 5, 2015
To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Bond Accountability Committee (BAC)
Subject: 9th BAC Report to the Board

Background

In the November 2012 election, voters approved a \$482M capital improvement bond for Portland Public Schools. The PPS Board appointed a Citizen Bond Accountability Committee to monitor the planning and progress of the bond program relative to voter-approved work scope, schedule and budget objectives.

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Closeout of work at Marshall High School.

Closeout of work in Improvement Project (IP) 2014 (6 contracts, 12 schools).

Bidding and award of IP 2015 (4 construction contracts, 8 schools).

Bidding and award of IP 2015 – Science (2 construction contracts, 18 schools).

Bidding and award of IP 2015 – Maplewood (1 construction contract, 1 school)

Bidding and award of Tubman Campus Improvements.

Selection of a design team for IP 2016 (11 schools).

Completion of design and start of construction at Roosevelt High School.

Completion of design for Franklin High School.

Completion of design for Faubion PK-8 School.

Selection of a design team for Grant High School.

Preparation for master planning of Benson, Lincoln, and Madison High Schools.

All of the summer work to date (IP13 and IP14) has

Current Issues

Program Budget. Staff has continued to provide budget information to us in a transparent format.

The total program budget has increased to \$525 million as funds from various sources have been incorporated into the bond program. The largest additions, of course, have b

The fact that this process is common does not, however, mean that it couldn't have been handled better, particularly in terms of public and stakeholder involvement. Some stakeholders, at least, feel that the District had "promised" some aspects of the project that have now been removed for budget reasons. The extensive nature of the District's public outreach during the design phase requires, in our view, some education about the process and the inevitable tensions between scope and budget. We recognize that few want to hear this message at the outset but, had it been given and heard, there might have been less disappointment at this point.

Schedules. Staff has continued to provide detail and transparency on each of the project schedules, and the format used has proved to be very helpful to us. Again, we appreciate staff's responsiveness to our requests in this regard.

The IP15 work, as noted above, must be completed in 65 calendar days. This is a significant challenge and staff will need to engage all the lessons learned from prior years to achieve this.

Both Roosevelt and Franklin designs

The employment of apprentices through the Workforce Hiring program exceeded expectations on IP14 and the work at Marshall. We expect similar results from IP15.

Contractors still lag behind the aspirational goal for MWESB involvement, a result of the fact that all work to date has been awarded on a low bid basis with only aspirational goals applied. We are now getting close to the point where the high