

WVMS Board Minutes

Date	March 29, 2023
BOD Present	Eileen Sennet, Sander Gottlieb, Danielle Kamine, Emily Alt & Renee Casterline, Hussien Kazimi, Matt Cannavale
School Members	Dennis Puhalla/Pat Endler (architect/non-board)
Absent	Brian Stanchak

Call to Order

The meeting opened at 6:34 (Sander, second by Danielle)

Building and Grounds

Dennis reviewed the background and process.

The intent is to add classroom capacity by replacing the existing media center with a two-story building.

Received 5 bids. Cut down to 2 bids.

If we want to have this done by next school year we need to decide as soon as possible.

Pat Endler (architect) presented the two selected proposals.

Bids ranged from 1,070,500 to 1,570,000.

If wood constructed, the building must be sprinkled.

Cut back to Pickett Construction and Champion.

Worked to cut back price (remove balcony, overhead doors, and metal panel exterior.)

These changes dropped Champion (steel framing) from 1,295,500 to 1,091,500.

Pickett (wood and sprinkler) dropped from 1,070,500 to 1,022,500.

Dennis asked if Bonds, testing, or other stipulations matter between the bids.

Per Pat, we could ask for a Bond but it would not be required. Both are local, trusted companies.

Sander: Is there a value difference for wood versus steel framing?

Possibly on change of occupancy but generally no, not much on sale.

Eileen: Can the prices change?

No, once a final lump sum number is agreed to the contractor is bound to that number.

Matt: Is there an insurance cost difference between steel and wood framing?

No, not really because of the sprinklers.

Is the supply chain better for wood versus steel... do we trust one to deliver on time more than the other?

No. We have faith in both timelines.

What is outside of this number?

Furniture, cubbies, alarms, some electric... we should expect 10% more costs.

Pat left the meeting so it was board only from here on.

Charlene (email) is concerned that if the building is not done on time it will have major financial impacts and also about our plans for sustainability and recurring payments. Roughly 16 additional students is our break even. Will this force us to raise tuition, especially in terms of increasing operational costs? Her concerns are detailed in the email as circulated with the board.

Eileen, is there concern that the soon-to-open discovery Montessori school in Scranton will impact our growth projections?

Eileen asked about quantifying the waitlist to see if they are full, 2 or 3 day students and how that breaks out.

We will reconvene in a few days after we have determined answers to open questions.