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School board approves schematic

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FREMONT -- School board members approved the schematic design for the new middle school Monday night, which allows the architects and construction manager to move forward with the design development phase.

Chris Moore, senior project manager of Touchstone, which is the construction project manager and Curt South, project manager of Fanning-Howey were on hand to talk about the process noting everything is on schedule.

Moore said construction drawings should be done by the end of November, bids will be due about mid-February and construction should begin next spring.

He said the district is a little less than \$30,000 under budget for the project.

"If you're under the OSFC's budget, you can select more alternate bids to use up the money," Moore said.

The schematic phase submission requirements for the project includes the estimated construction costs for the work based on the drawings and the budget for the project as included in the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission master plan, updated project schedule and other required documents including locally funded initiatives for the HVAC upgrades associated with the chilled beam system, which fell outside of the budget. Moore noted this system is a little more costly.

During the meeting, Tim Cullen, director of student services, introduced a few students from the gifted program, who had created a podcast about their vision of the new middle school in a "Dream School" podcast contest. Four students who attended the meeting received a certificate and told the board members their visions.

The fourth and fifth grade students talked about their ideas of a green school using solar panels and being energy efficient.

Kit Wilson said her visions are more about what's inside the building. She hopes for endless teaching, endless opportunities, endless achievement, endless comforting and technology.

In other news, the board approved the following:

- Supplemental appropriations, fund-to-fund transfers, annual risk assessment and monitoring service, consulting agreement with Corporate One Benefits Agency Inc. and purchasing property, fleet, liability insurance in the amount of \$90,571.
- Christine Oravets as assistant principal at the Fremont Middle School on a two-year contract, effective Aug. 1. She is replacing Cheryl Schell, who is moving to Ross High School as assistant principal.

- Six resignations and 16 appointments to teaching positions and substitute and support staff positions.
- Extended time for the 2009-10 school year for several staff members.
- Several status changes, supplemental contract and a leave of absence.
- 2009 summer school programs at Ross and appointing Cheryl Schell and James Marquette as supervisors for the summer intervention program.
- Appointing bus drivers for the summer intervention program, and appointing William Measimer and Dennis Michael for summer bus maintenance.
- Appointing a cook for the after school program, hiring several teachers for the summer migrant program, along with bilingual assistants, a nurse, clerk, custodian and bus drivers.
- Kyle Cook as FMS football coach for the 2009-10 year along with Brittani Guggisberg as Ross assistant cheerleading coach, Stephanie Martin as FMS assistant cheerleading coach, Teia Thomas as Ross assistant cheerleading coach, Dennis Tompkins as Ross freshman football coach and Juan Vela as the head Ross girls basketball coach.
- Renewing the contract with the Northern Ohio Educational Computer Association for the 2009-10 school year.
- Advertise bids for a freezer/cooler at Ross High School.
- Continue membership with Ohio High School Athletic Association, and the 2009-10 pay-to-participate student fees for athletics.
- Professional development days for staff and buying software and services, which includes the Reading Edge Program from Success for All Foundation. The first year program fee is \$43,452 and the materials fee is \$16,514.

An investors meeting takes place at 6 p.m. today in the Tech Center David Carr Lecture Lab regarding the selling of Fremont Middle School bonds. Later this month, the district plans to sell \$9.5 million of bonds to pay off the \$9.5 million in notes. The district went out for the notes in December and they are due in September.
