

**Ohio School Facilities Commission**  
**December 17, 2009**  
**William McKinley Room 1:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM.

Members present: Chair Sabety, Vice Chair Quill, Dr. Steve Puckett, Melissa Miser for Representative Matt Patten and Sean Chichelli for Representative Kris Jordan

Executive Director Rich Murray reported on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environments in accordance with Resolution 09-103, adopted at the September 3, 2009 meeting of the Commission. Director Murray provided an overview of the materials including:

- Executive Director's report and recommendations
- The report from three workshops held in November
- The results of a community space survey

Director Murray noted that in developing this report, the OSFC staff amassed a tremendous amount of background information and reached out to many topic experts and stakeholders. We recognize that there are additional people and organizations who can contribute their particular insights and we intend to further engage them.

An integral part of this process was incorporating the feedback from three all-day workshops held in November on the following topics: Quality Construction; 21st Century Learning Environments & HB 1 Strategic Alignment; and Effective Community Partnerships. Participants represented a broad cross-section of the state from a variety of school districts, state agencies, and non-profit organizations. Their efforts are presented in a separate companion report.

The Report and Recommendations highlighted some common themes for consideration:

- Provide more planning tools for school districts (school boards, administrators, teachers, staff) and communities
- Emphasize sustainability of facilities (total cost of ownership including operations and maintenance, "green schools," variety of spaces needed to meet changing teaching/learning approaches)
- Continue outreach to stakeholders; broaden scope to more actively include educational associations, teachers, staff and students
- Continue to build on successful program

The Director, with the assistance of OSFC staff, presented the findings and recommendations on the topic areas called for in the Resolution.

#### 21st Century Learning Environments Recommendations:

1. Gather data from districts that characterize how their facilities are currently configured for educational delivery – Ohio Department of Education support will be instrumental
2. Conduct focus groups and user group meetings on school design from the perspective of various users, including teachers, staff and students
3. Build on dialogue with Ohio Department of Education by seeking their participation in outreach and development efforts
4. Monitor Ohio Department of Education’s progress in developing definitions and rules for the components of the Ohio Evidence Based Model
5. Develop tools for districts that are in the early stages of school facilities planning process
  - a. Build on 21st Century design attribute checklist outlined in workshop
  - b. Document examples of 21st Century design concepts from Ohio schools that already incorporate model features
  - c. Sponsor seminars highlighting experts in 21st Century design
  - d. Encourage partnerships with local colleges and universities for K-16 effectiveness

#### Effective Community Partnerships Recommendations:

1. Develop case studies that lay out the details of strategies and tactics used by school districts and their community partners to create joint-use facilities
2. Create compendium of successful projects that can be used as a resource for districts and community groups
3. Build on list of characteristics of successful community partnerships outlined in workshop
4. Research other governance models
5. Convene work group (attorney general staff, school district legal counsel, district administrators, community partners and their legal counsel) to develop templates for legal documents associated with construction and operations of joint use facilities
6. Examine OSFC’s role in encouraging and incentivizing community partnerships

#### Quality Construction Recommendations:

1. Elevate role of OSFC quality assurance section
2. Improve the methods for communicating OSFC policy, guidelines and expectations to construction managers
3. Develop training and support tools (for example, workshops, user groups, mentoring) to be used throughout the design and construction process by district superintendents and their designated facilities point person
4. Provide additional tools to school districts to support the selection of quality contractors
5. Increase awareness of district requirements for operating and maintaining facilities

Sustainable Funding Recommendation:

- Continue analysis based on funding history and post-securitization status
  - Describe school districts and facilities that have not yet been served by an OSFC program
  - Understand State's funding environment, including the limitations of the General Revenue Fund and the increased competition for capital dollars
  - Consider changes to OSFC programs to focus available resources on priority projects

The Director concluded his report by stating that this process, while compressed, was certainly productive he believed that it will serve the Commission well. The OSFC staff has taken what we heard in the workshops very seriously and we appreciate the openness of the workshop participants as they relayed their perspectives. The Director stated that the report will continue to be our guide in the months and years ahead and he will be reporting on the implementation of these recommendations as a component of the Executive Director's report at future Commission meetings.

Chair Sabety thanked the Director for the report. Dr. Puckett stated his appreciation for the staff's work and a brief discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 PM.



J. Pari Sabety, Chair



These meeting minutes were prepared by  
Cheryl J. Lyman, Secretary to the Commission