

## **Administrative Bulletin to Board Members August 1, 2014**

### *Superintendent Report*

#### **Plan Con Project**

As of today all rooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor have met substantial completion which means by the end of the week all material should be moved back into the rooms. Substantial completion is a term used to indicate we are able to occupy the rooms but reserve the right to still have items addressed that we believe are not done correctly. Next week they will begin putting the tile down on the upstairs floor and we should have substantial completion on rooms in the art and music hallway and also the 1<sup>st</sup> floor with the exception of the office. The gym repairs and refinishing are presently scheduled for the first week of September and will take three weeks to complete. As I indicated last week the major concern for opening of school will be the completion of the hallway starting in the main entrance and running through to the start of the cafeteria entrance.

John in reviewing the specs found a small note indicating that all interior and exterior metal was to be painted. When we had asked Lobar about painting the outside steel columns a color other than white they had submitted a change order to do so at a cost of \$16,000 with \$8,000 of the total for rental of a lift. At the time I choose not to pursue it because it was too expensive. With the new found foot note we are pressing them that it is a contractual obligations to paint the columns and we are asking for a mockup of a color painting on the column before they proceed to paint all the columns. This is an item that I believe we are going to win in the game of give and take. It is their job to get as many change orders through as possible and I believe it is my job to prevent as many change orders as possible. I am fortunate to have John working with me on this project. Within Plan Con there had been budgeted over \$130,000 for change orders. In renovation project they do a standard percent of 4 to 5 of the total because of the many unforeseen situations that come up when renovating an old building. At present time excluding the auditorium abatement the score is \$38,926 in their favor and \$42,331 in our favor. My past experience has been that if you can remain under 50% of the allotted dollar figure you have been successful on behalf of the district. I am sure there will be some additional change orders that will tip the scale in their favor however I am confident we will remain well below the 50% level unless something extremely unforeseen should come up.

#### **Pre K Programs**

Even though the Legislators cut the Governor's budget and eliminated the funds for Pre K we have obtained information on a grant through PDE to operate a Pre K program. We have already submitted a letter of intent to apply for the grant. The grant is not due until August 28, 2014 and awarding of the grant will be much later should we be selected as a recipient. I have made contact with individuals within the know to find out as much as possible on how the grant will be evaluated. Obtaining this type of knowledge can give us an edge. What I have been able to find out to date is the single most important item of determination for the grant will be based on cost per student. With that knowledge in hand Mrs. Cutchall, Mrs. Hendershot, and I plan to do some creative financing that will hopefully get our per pupil cost at approximately \$2,000 per student. We will have plans in place so as to attempt to have the program up and running within three weeks if we are given notice that we are a successful applicant.