

1. A duly advertised public hearing of the Board of Education was called to order by President Fred Naegele at 7:00 p.m. in the North Harrison Elementary cafeteria.
2. Secretary Ron Coleman polled the Board and found that all members were present.
3. Superintendent Monty Schneider opened the hearing by stating the purpose of the meeting was to get the community's input concerning a possible renovation or building project concerning North Harrison Elementary.
4. Each Board member welcomed the public.
5. Mr. Alvin Brown questioned why the school system believes it is necessary to do a building project due to a declining enrollment and he believes the school property tax rate is high.
6. Mrs. Kelley Churchill believes the elementary building has affected her health and the Board should start fresh and build a new building. She does not like the open concept of the classrooms and she believes a new building will increase enrollment.
7. Mrs. Teresa Black believes the elementary building has affected her health and renovation of the current building will not stop health problems of students and staff.
8. Mrs. Virginia Long wants the Board to take care of the elementary problems.
9. Mr. Ron Coleman asked the three school district trustees in attendance to state their opinions on the building project.
10. Mr. Fred Uhl (Morgan Township Trustee) stated that tonight was his first visit to the elementary. He believes the Board should build a new building.
11. Mr. Joe Martin (Jackson Township Trustee) suggested the Board should salvage as much as possible of the current elementary structure. He also questioned property tax implications.
12. Mr. Michael Beyerle (Blue River Township Trustee) stated that he is a product of NH Elementary. He wants the Board to provide more information to the public and is glad Ron Coleman is speaking up during Board meetings.
13. Mr. Ron Coleman stated he does not want to pay more property taxes.
14. Mrs. Kathy Goldman stated that past air quality reports meet current health standards, but agrees the HVAC system needs replaced. Mrs. Goldman stated she does not support a new building.
15. Mr. Greg Rupp is skeptical of air quality reports. He believes the elementary is a sick building and the Board must expand/build to meet the needs of students. He also believes the current elementary building hurts ISTEP scores and recognized that he is not a taxpayer in this school district.
16. Mr. Gary Byrne asked how did RQAW arrive at a \$16 million figure for a new building and wanted to know the square footage of this proposed project. He believes the Board will spend more money than is necessary if renovation occurs. Mr. Byrne believes the cafeteria and gym of the current building should be saved and new classrooms added to these areas. He suggested that the current pods be used for storage.
17. Mr. Jerry Firestone stated that all monetary figures are estimates.
18. Mrs. Kathy Goldman stated there are similar elementary buildings in Indiana.

19. Mr. J.R. Hampton stated that NH Elementary is an excellent school. He has two children in this building that have been sick and wants the Board to look at all aspects of construction before making a decision.
20. Mrs. Jennifer Jacobi believes the NH Elementary teachers must be good teachers to teach in the current open concept environment. She believes the Board must renovate or build a new school.
21. Mr. Jack Cassidy is concerned that there are many unanswered questions and could outside advice be sought. He also questioned whether the Board has exhausted research into similar schools.
22. Mrs. Jennifer Jacobi questioned possible property tax implications of a multi-million dollar building project. She also asked Assistant Superintendent Ken Oppel when the last air quality study was completed and were children in the building when the testing occurred.
23. Mr. Ken Oppel stated the last air quality report was in June of 2005. He stated previous air quality testing was completed in April of 2005 and that he believed students were present. He also offered to provide all air quality reports to Mrs. Jacobi.
24. Mrs. Angela Deatruck states she has a very sick child and the Board should build a new building.
25. Mr. Gary Outcalt suggested his son misses educational activities due to current elementary classroom sizes. He also believes construction costs are inflated and the Board needs to spend taxpayer money wisely.
26. Mrs. Virginia Long asked if the Board could guarantee no more mold issues if renovation occurs at the elementary.
27. Mr. Jeff Davis stated that time is of the essence due to interest rates and construction costs that are rising. He supports Gary Byrne's construction idea. Mr. Davis is concerned about operation/utility costs for a renovated elementary building and asks the Board to do what is best for our children.
28. Mrs. Marla Sieberns stated she has children at NH Elementary and is concerned about property tax rates. She asked the Board if Morgan Elementary would get renovated and is it possible to combine NH Elementary and Morgan Elementary into one building.
29. Superintendent Monty Schneider stated that combining Morgan Elementary and NH Elementary is not a current option.
30. Mr. David Harmon thanked the Board for the tough decisions that they have to make. He stated his wife could not attend the public hearing because she is "barred" from the building. Mr. Harmon stated that future construction projects would face EPA and VOC considerations.
31. Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Miller asked the Board if classrooms were renovated would the rooms become smaller.
32. Mr. Jerry Firestone stated he has been instructed not to make classrooms smaller.
33. Mr. Buddy Bosler agreed the Board should look at other construction possibilities. Mr. Bosler stated that no matter what the Board decides, it will cost the taxpayer money. He thanked everyone for coming and expressing their opinions.
34. Mr. Bobby Chinn stated the Board will not make a 100% perfect decision but will do what it thinks is best for the community. He is concerned about the 50-year old school buildings in current operation and that many people cannot afford to pay higher property taxes. He thanked everyone for coming and expressing their opinions.

35. Mrs. Kathy Goldman expressed she liked Gary Byrne's suggestion and agreed the public hearing will make her think more on this project. She thanked everyone for coming and expressing their opinions.
36. Mr. Ron Coleman stated the Board will not make everyone happy in their decision. He thanked everyone for coming and expressing their opinions.
37. Mr. Fred Naegele agreed that the Board has a tough decision and is seeking advice from RQAW. He stated it was not fair to criticize Board members and administrators who built the current elementary due to their concern for energy costs and tornado concerns. He agrees the HVAC system is outdated. He also stated the technology department wants a computer lab in the elementary. Mr. Naegele wants to accommodate everyone's concerns but agrees the Board cannot make everyone happy.
38. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

President

Secretary