The CVCS Facilities Committee convened on Wed. Feb 7th 2007

Attendees: Ruth Milner, Mary Nutt, Karen Bowman, Tracey Hamilton, Jim Shepherd, Don Weinkauf, Cecilia McCord, Delilah Walsh, Pete Whiteis, and Rusty Wrenn

Agenda:
1. Discuss Current Priorities for the Committee
2. Discuss Directions to Meet these Priorities
3. Communication to CVCS Community

Having not convened for some time, the committee spent a considerable amount of time discussing past activities and outlining current facilities priorities for CVCS. Here is a summary of those priorities:

1. Additional multi-purpose room type space by Fall 2007
2. Renovations to ditch parking area and West Place area
3. Understanding of State legislative issues affecting lease/purchase timeframe of buildings
4. Maintain sustainability goals from RTI plan but balanced against the short-term need for real buildings.
5. The RTI E-Pod Building is the highest priority for school

The consensus of the committee was that the school should proceed with current plans to lease an additional modular multipurpose room type building for fall 2007, as it is not likely to be able to design, bid, and construct even a permanent-modular building in this timeframe.

The committee agreed to follow developments in the legislature regarding the need for full ownership of buildings and property by 2010. Additionally, the committee agreed to meet with the City to follow-up on previously proposed revisions to the ditch area along West Place. The City has verbally agreed to help the school develop this area into a parking area as well as develop the large dirt acreage between the ditch and the West Place Park as a recreation area for the school and city.

There was good discussion about maintaining the goals from the RTI programming phase of Sustainability. There was general agreement that we should commit to these goals. However, we must be cognizant that teaching space is constrained and that adherence to such goals should not stagnate progress on new building developments for the campus. A straw-man one-page goals summary was presented by Weinkauf.

From the RTI plan, the E-pod building was identified as the highest priority for the campus. The proposed structure is a 7200 sq. ft. building which will house music, art, kitchen facilities, stage, and other multipurpose uses. The initial estimate by RTI for the building at $160/sqft at the end of 2005 was $1.1 million. This will likely be considerably higher due to escalating construction costs over the past year.

The committee agreed to break into 3 teams to begin addressing the major issues of bringing permanent structures on line for the school. The three groups are 1) Education: learning best practices from other schools on sustainability, funding routes, and timeframe of construction, 2) Funding: identifying potential funding and financing sources for our charter school and what we can afford, and 3) Architects and Construction Ideas: taking the RTI programming document to various types of architects and contractors requesting ideas and estimates on the construction of the campus in a way which meets our main goals expressed in the RTI programming document.

Committee Team Members are the following:

Education: Ruth, Tracey, Karen, and Cecilia
Funding: Delilah, Don and Rusty
Construction Ideas: Jim and Pete

Mary Nutt will serve as utility infielder on all three groups.

The committee agreed to meet again in approximately 3 weeks with advances on the three areas, city work, and legislative update. Weinkauf agreed to type the summary, seek approval, and submit to the governing council.

Respectfully submitted … Don Weinkauf