

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR SESSION
FEBRUARY 17, 2005**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in a work session and regular session on February 17, 2005, in the Board Room at Hobart Middle School, 705 East 4th Street, Hobart, Indiana, with the following present or absent as noted:

Board Members

Jason Back
Robert W. Marszalek
Stephen R. Turner
Michael J. Rogers
Terry D. Butler
William David Bigler
Nancy J. Norris
HHS Student Representative
(Came in just before 7:30 p.m.)

Staff Members

Peggy Buffington
Ted Zembala
William J. Longer
Peter L. Goerges

Absent:
John A. Leach
Rich Edwards

AUDIENCE: The following individuals were present in the audience:

Karen Snelling, *Post-Tribune*
Larry Dawson, Envoy, Inc.
Dave Blanton, Gibraltar Design
Brian McFarland, Gibraltar Design
Don Monday, Gibraltar Design

The work session was called to order around 5:55 p.m.

Dr. Peggy Buffington, Assistant Superintendent, introduced Dave Blanton, Brian McFarland, and Don Monday from Gibraltar Design. Mr. Blanton handed out an agenda for the work session and noted that it reflected the work that had been completed in the last few weeks. Mr. Blanton told the Board that the work sessions are a continual process of refining the information that has been or was being presented. Information will be presented about the design—what's changed, where it's going, and what may be coming up in the future. He noted that even though the sessions are informal, they are important that everyone will be on the same page as the Board moves through the different stages of the project.

Mr. Blanton updated the Board on the progress that has been made. The educational specification meetings have begun, and tours have been scheduled for several visitations. Dr. Buffington and Gibraltar personnel started with the information that had been gathered for the 1028 hearing, have meet with staff, and have gone over the information the staff submitted. That information was updated again this afternoon, and Board members were given a copy which was a little different from the one that was in their Board meeting packet. Board members will be receiving updated information on the project in their Tuesday packets. Information that was developed for the 1028 hearing noted a school with around 260,000 net square footage and a gross square footage of around 318,000 to 320,000. The estimated cost per square foot ranged from \$137 to \$150 and was based on the costs of some of the new high schools, and for visual impact he showed a piece of tile that was one square foot. Square footage and costs will be a primary determining factor to meet the goal as plans are developed for the educational specifications for the building. It will be important to meet the estimated square footage mark at the completion of the schematic design phase. This part of the planning is very important to the process of building the new school.

Mr. Turner asked for an explanation of how the gross square footage and net square footage are related to one another. Because of the importance of net square footage being converted to gross square footage, Mr. Turner felt the Board needed to aware of how that will affect the cost of the project. Mr. Blanton explained that the net space is useable space or clear space withing a given room available to an educator. Areas such as a mechanical room, air handling rooms, etc., are included in the net space, but the walls and wall thicknesses, exterior wall thickness, restrooms, boiler rooms, cases for mechanical are some of the areas that get added to make up the gross square footage. Mrs. Norris commented that the total square footage as shown was a net figure to which another 25-30 percent would have to be added.

Mr. Blanton noted that the project was progressing, and teachers have submitted their "wish list" classroom,. In an effort to keep the project realistic, they will be meeting with staff to see what is actually needed and if there were any overlapping usage which might be eliminated to keep the project on target.

Mr. Blanton indicated that Brian McFarland would discuss the steering committee's efforts and a preliminary site layout. Dr. Buffington indicated that the Board had received a copy of the site layout and asked him to speak about the tour of Crown Point High School. Mr. McFarland indicated that he was meeting with three different groups--faculty steering committee, administration, and the Board. Crown Point High School was visited by the steering committee. He commented that many teachers have never visited other schools so it was a good opportunity for them to do so. They saw things they liked and also some things that they would want done differently. Dr. Buffington noted that the physical education teachers were very specific in what they wanted, and it is because many are coaches and are in other schools. When classroom teachers attend conferences, they usually are not in schools but other facilities so they don't have the opportunity to visit other schools. She said that the visit was an enlightening experience for the academic teachers. The visitation schedule is as follows: next Tuesday at Chesterton High School, February 23 at North Montgomery and Lafayette Jeff; February 28 at Eastern High School, March 1st at Crawfordsville, Pike, Fall Creek, and Lawrence High Schools, and March 4 at the Century Career Center in Logansport.

Mr. McFarland spoke about the information and how it was prepared for the Preliminary Facility Requests by Category. Also, the Board was given a summary of the current Facility Program Space and Square Footage of the high school. The Preliminary Facility Requests included the "wish list" requests from the high school teachers. The Gibraltar team met with Dr. Buffington this afternoon and offered her input. The list will be reworked after meeting with the staff and understanding their needs and finding ways to eliminate overlapping requests and double usage requests. Some of the highlights of comments and discussion are as follows:

A Core Area:

A.01 - Administration

Need to look at records for storage, vault needs, and student records

Dr. Buffington commented that they need to look into storage and whether space can be saved with records, and vault needs. Mr. Butler inquired about the use of an office area by the credit union, and Dr. Buffington explained that a request was being made for the School City of Hobart's credit union be operate out of an office in the Student Services area.

A.02 - Guidance Area

Vault and student records is an area that will be investigated further. Mr. Rogers asked if records were stored on disc or hard copy. Dr. Buffington indicated that it is done both ways, and now the school has the capability to store records electronically and are moving in that direction. However, there are still paper records that have to be used.

Mr. Marszalek asked a question about the square footage that can be compared to the square footage of areas when visiting other schools. Mr. McFarland indicated that they taught them how to count ceiling tiles to be able to know the size of different areas they were visiting to compare with what they have now. He said they will be working with staff to see what their needs are and whether their requests can be reduced. On the visit they were trying to visualize a 900 square foot classroom. Mr. Bigler asked for information as to the number of teachers in each discipline so it could be matched with what was being requested. Traveling teachers are an issue, and it was noted that the social studies department requested ten rooms because they have two traveling teachers. Mr. Butler had a question pertaining to the General Instruction Area and the floor and wall finishes and wondered if the painted walls were drywall, and he was told that a large portion of the walls will be painted block. Mr. Butler commented that the Board was looking for a durable building, and some of the general descriptions say painted block and others say painted walls. Mrs. Norris said that she was not in favor of a carpeted band room and indicated that the band director has now changed his mind about this, too. She also noted the reduction in practice rooms from eight to six and because of block four scheduling, indicated that students don't have time to practice during the day at school. The room sizes may have to be adjusted to accommodate groups who may be practicing. Mr. Butler noted that the schools that the

Board visited all had practice rooms that were just used for storage. However, Mrs. Norris noted that storage room is important for that department.

B General Instruction Area

B.03 - Art

Will be looking into reducing the room size because of overlapping areas. Mr. Bigler suggested the possibility of a room divider similar to Crown Point. Mr. Rogers asked about the kiln and indicated that there isn't one now. However, he was told that the class does have a kiln, but it is kept in a closet area. There was a question as to whether the kiln is used, and Mr. Back and Dr. Buffington indicated that it was.

There was some discussion about conference rooms and capacities, and Mr. McFarland highlighted some of the sizes of those. Mr. Turner asked that the capacities be listed on the next updated version. Mr. Turner also asked that the existing space document be sorted by the same codes that they are using for their preliminary documents. Mr. Butler commented that he felt the architects "could waste as much of his time as they want" for the project. If more than two hours were needed, he was willing to take as much time as needed, and he felt that other Board members were in agreement with him. Mr. Marszalek commented that looking at what we have now or twenty years ago isn't necessarily pertinent, but what will be needed 25 or 50 years from now should be a more determining factor. What is the outlook for education in 25 years and will the space be useable then? An area of concern for him was industrial arts as well as the number of students enrolled in a class and room usage compared to the cost for the room. Dr. Buffington commented that it is difficult "to think outside the box" and try to figure out what will be viable in the future. She indicated that she would discuss this further when they come to the industrial arts area. The elective areas are the rooms that may cost more than an academic room. She was anxious for teachers to visit Pike to see some unique uses of space.

Dr. Buffington asked to speak about the Media/Technology Area.

D.14 Media Center

Dr. Buffington noted that there was overwhelming support to have the two computer labs off of the media center, and she had no problem with it being hard wired with the option for wireless.

Discussion then returned to the General Instruction Area.

B.05 Computer

Dr. Buffington indicated that after today's meeting and the possibilities of wireless capabilities, the computer classroom space was a negotiable figure. She noted that there currently was legislation for one computer per student. She wasn't sure if it was funded legislation or not or even if it would be approved, but she wanted to make the Board aware of it. Even some of President Bush's initiatives are leaning towards this. Since there will be wireless capabilities for the rest of the building, the lab space would be a negotiable area. Mr. McFarland noted that one of the schools that will be visited, Eastern, is a totally wireless school. Dr. Buffington said that she was looking forward to seeing what problems may have been encountered with their wireless operation. Dr. Buffington commented that wireless will continue to get better and should have a lot of its issues resolved by the time the school is occupied. Technology will be more advanced, and she was comfortable with having the two labs off the media center and wireless capabilities for the rest of the building. Being totally wireless will be scary for the staff until an adjustment is made.

B.06 General Classroom

It was noted that they will be meeting with staff as to the actual number of rooms needed and the number of students they have. Dr. Buffington commented that the office storage for the department chairs has some issues because storage is needed for textbooks of subjects not being taught. There was some discussion about department chair offices versus team offices, and some thought team offices were more functionable. Mr. Blanton indicated that 900 square foot common classrooms are usually set up for 28 students, but Dr. Buffington noted that Crown Point had 32 desks in their rooms so

there would be some flexibility if needed. The English and social studies departments were asking for 10 rooms for each area.

B.07 Health

Still looking at this area because one of the teachers also teaches science, and they were not sure how he was counted. Mr. Back asked about the storage rooms, and Dr. Buffington indicated that they didn't ask for any. Mr. Bigler asked whether one room could be shared with a common area between the two classrooms with a door and storage for each room. Dr. Buffington thought that was a good suggestion especially with some of the equipment that they have. Currently they do have storage areas.

B.08 Large Group Instruction

Mr. McFarland indicated that large group instruction had been discussed with the steering committee. Originally it was thought that it would be for groups of 50-60, but when they visited at Crown Point, their room held around 90. This was the direction they are thinking about. Dr. Buffington commented that they will be looking at this type of room when they visit Eastern. She said that in looking for space that could be used for Board meetings, the large group area might work if an area for executive sessions and private storage was available. Mr. Goerges noted that Chesterton has an in-the-round lecture area with a nice sized meeting room behind it. Water is also available for catering needs. He attended a seminar there, and the space worked very well. Dr. Buffington indicated they are looking for dual capacity room usage that would be able to accommodate the Board's public sessions. Mr. Bigler commented that there were dual purpose rooms that were very accessible for the public with close parking and were available for the community when not in use by the school corporation. The present auditorium does have two lecture rooms that can be opened up for additional seating and may be a Board Room could be incorporated into the auditorium area.

B.09 Science

Mr. McFarland recapped the science areas. He noted that the chemistry lab is larger than the physics lab because it has more equipment, but they will be checking this area to possibly reduce some area. They will be looking at planned activities. Dr. Buffington commented that science is one of the hardest areas. Storage is a prime concern for them because they don't have much now and are trying to compensate for this. Mr. Butler mentioned one of the schools that was visited had two classrooms sharing a lab and thought this might be a possibility. Dr. Buffington noted that having the teachers visit schools allows them to see these types of classrooms and how they can be used. It was noted that steering committee members are the people who are visiting facilities, but Dr. Buffington indicated that they are taking video and showing it in the guidance area. Mr. McFarland said that after visitations, this may be an area that can be modified. Mr. Rogers asked how the classrooms would be grouped. Dr. Buffington said that no decision has been made on the groupings. The team teaching approach may be the deciding factor. At Crown Point, they are grouped by area. Mr. Rogers indicated that if the science rooms were spread out, it could result in an increase in utilities. Mr. McFarland and Dr. Buffington commented that at one of the schools the science rooms were clustered and the other classrooms were around them. The tours are important for staff to be able to visualize and maximize their space.

B.10 Special Education

Mr. McFarland highlighted the requested special education needs and indicated that it may be possible to reduce one classroom, and the skills lab area will probably be reduced because they visualized more room than is actually needed. The time out room was reduced to one room. The resource rooms would be used for small group meetings with students who have been pulled out of class. This would allow the special education teachers to go to where the students are rather than returning to the special education area. It could probably be a shared space that could be used by other staff members. Dr. Buffington indicated that at the middle school and high school levels this type of room can be a necessity. An example for using the room would be a teacher needing to read a test to a student. Also, regular teachers are asking for this type of space because time is wasted in traveling. She felt the rooms were a necessity. Other conference room

areas could be used if they were available but this is an accommodation and the number of rooms will be investigated. Mr. Butler commented that nationally there is a movement for schools to accept the severe challenged students into the general classroom population. The special education teachers are co-teaching with the general education teacher. Mr. Turner inquired about the current total special education space. Mr. McFarland didn't know and indicated that they would have to get that information. Mrs. Norris thought the classes are in the band room area, and Mr. Turner was concerned about the cost of the facilities for this area. Mr. Butler noted their lab is set up like a home, and they are now required to assist the students in learning on how to live in a home. Dr. Buffington noted that the skills lab was for student to learn those life skills. Mr. Turner inquired about the program and whether there will be changes or anticipating future changes or just existing needs. Dr. Buffington indicated that all were trying to be accommodated, but she noted that the area is still being studied. She also commented that the School City is way ahead of many area school districts with least restrictive environment, and these populations are continuing to grow. For their needs the current space is insufficient. The proposed space will be for current needs as well as future needs. Mr. Butler agreed that the student population was growing because of additional paraprofessionals that have been hired in Hobart and other districts. Presently, this population is fluctuating between 12 and 15 percent. Mrs. Norris also noted that part of the problem in special education was that the need areas keep changing from what was originally considered special education. Dr. Buffington indicated that Coop programs are shared and Hobart has an EH class at the middle school and at the high school, and our elementary students go to another district. If this continues, that would be a need to be considered. Mr. Marszalek commented that this was an important factor because Hobart has the high school class and another district has another kind of program because that is how the Coop functions. However, it could change and go in another direction. The class enrollment is not just Hobart students and can vary depending on the needs of other districts. Dr. Buffington also noted that the school corporation does receive room rent for the Coop classes housed in Hobart.

C Specialized Instruction Area

C.11 Auditorium

Mr. McFarland indicated that they were looking at a capacity of 600-650 for the auditorium and noted that Crown Point has a capacity of 750. Dr. Buffington indicated that Crown Point has an approximate student population of 2,100. They do have assigned seating for productions which has caused them problems. Students receive assigned seating for performances, and people want more seats than they can have. Mr. Butler asked if the high school's large events could be held at the middle school because of the larger auditorium. Mrs. Norris thought that graduation would be the only time where more seating might be needed if the ceremonies had to be held indoors, and the present auditorium is too small for that so graduation would probably have to be held in the gym like last year. Mr. Turner pointed out that a building space should not be designed of a one day occasion that may or may not be held there. Dr. Buffington mentioned that the choral performances come close to present auditorium capacity. The groups have been split to help with this. She noted that the fine arts department is growing, and she just wanted the Board to be aware that is a problem area there. Crown Point told them that this was one area they would change if they had to do it again. Mrs. Norris mentioned that lecture rooms might take care of the problem. Mr. Turner asked Mr. McFarland what an auditorium capacity would be for a high school our size, and he indicated that it would be 650. Mr. Bigler liked the seating above the stage rather below. Dr. Buffington indicated that the auditorium stage shop is an area that will be investigated further. The black box is an item that is "high on their wish list." There was a question about having a separate make-up room and its size. Mr. Bigler indicated that he'd like to see some of these areas when visiting other schools to help visualize the sizes of these kinds of rooms. The office size was also questioned. Dr. Buffington commented that there will be dialogue concerning some of these areas. She indicated that the stage shop area request was not just from the theater department but also the choral and band departments. The choir has some elaborate sets. Mr. Butler noted that at one of the schools visited had small permanent seating in their auditorium with high tiered

production seating that rolled out but was not bleacher seating, and he suggested that might be an alternative for consideration. Mrs. Norris indicated that storage space is needed to store the sets that have been made because they could be used again. There was some discussion about Crown Point's auditorium and its contents. It was noted that its acoustics were very good. Mr. Turner asked if Gibraltar planned to bring in consultants for the acoustical work and the kitchen area. Mr. Blanton told the Board that they have a person on staff, Mark Jenkins, who has a great deal of experience with acoustics, and they would be relying on his expertise. Mrs. Norris indicated when the present auditorium was built the acoustic expert designed it for the theater, but it doesn't work for the choir or band. The new auditorium acoustics need to consider all groups using the auditorium. Mr. Turner asked for a list of the projects that Mr. Jenkins has done.

C.12 Performing Arts

Mr. McFarland noted that the choral department was very active and the band is growing. There will be dialogue about the possibility of sharing storage and offices. They will be discussing the last three areas—general music/guitar room, secretary REH and studio classroom (keyboard, music composition) to see if the rooms could be shared. There was a question about the size of band music library and Mrs. Norris noted the space is needed for their music which is now stored in the band director's office. There was a question about the secretary area and what it was. Dr. Buffington and Mr. McFarland explained that some schools have an assistant or separate person who takes care of events such as coordinating performances, promoting performances, handling of the monies taken in from performances, and so forth. There is no such person at the present time, but this area was a staff suggestion. Dr. Buffington said the staff was planning futuristically and noted that they do not have these kinds of rooms at the present time. Dr. Buffington indicated that keyboarding is taught at the middle school and they have a keyboarding room there. It was suggested that the band practice rooms be revisited because these rooms usually just end up being used for storage.

C.13 Vocational

Dr. Buffington indicated that Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a vocational program, and she noted the classes that are used by the program. She is talking with the PLTW teachers about the technology education lab which may be a questionable space area. In the FACS area they will be taking a look at the textiles and clothing lab which might be able to be a sectioned off area in the foods and nutrition area. The furniture and cabinet making program is a vocational class. Hobart is participating in the Porter County Vocational Program, and Hobart is their site for this class and part of the partnership with them. The radio/TV/broadcasting is another vocational program that is self-supporting and provides benefits. In reviewing needs, they are looking at the current job market and its trends. Furniture and cabinet making is a high priority, and Hobart is one of two schools that provide the class in this area. IT technology includes Cisco/A+/MSCA, and the labor market continues to show a need for people trained in these areas. In planning futuristically, space needs to be flexible for loose equipment and that's part of the current planning. Since Hobart is part of the Porter County Career Center, we want to contribute to the whole program. In looking at the area of power mechanics (auto shop), there isn't a need for that space. Our students who wanted to participate in the automotive program for next school year have been placed in the Porter County program, and no Hobart students are on a waiting list. Enrollment in the Porter County programs is based on a student's GPA, and all of our students have been placed in the automotive programs (diesel, industrial mechanics, auto mechanics). An area under consideration is a law enforcement class as part of homeland security, and Dr. Buffington said that discussion has been held with city and are looking to have space for that class. She indicated there is a lot of student interest in the class. Mr. Bigler noted that the class would give another police presence in the school in addition to the school resource officer. In designing for the class, it could use a large classroom area, but since students from other schools would be attending, consideration needs to be given for easy access for getting in the building, supervision, and so forth. Dr. Buffington noted that Johnson Control has approached the School City about having a partnership for a HVAC class. They are looking into the program, and discussion is being held with

the Porter County Career Center Director and Johnson Control to have the program in Hobart. Mr. Turner inquired whether they would be interested in having their name on the door for a negotiable donation, and Dr. Buffington noted that they are interested in a partnership in that regard. She will bring more information back to the Board for discussion. She noted that the labor market has huge demands for HVAC trained people. She told Mr. Marszalek that they are trying to be visionary in the vocational area. Mr. Bigler said that they will have to look at making the vocational area in an accessible area. She is looking forward to visit the Century Career Center. Mr. Butler thought it might have to be designed as a large area and then mark off the different areas.

D Media/Technology Area

D.14 Media Center

Mr. McFarland noted that Dr. Buffington had discussed the computer labs earlier and they will stay in this area. He thought the spaces were appropriate and because of possible community usage, there would be two restrooms available so people won't have to be out in the school.

Mr. Butler asked President Back to poll the audience to see if the work session could continue and delay the start of the regular meeting. President Back suggested that the work session continue until 8:00 p.m., and everyone concurred.

E Physical Education/Athletic Area

E.01 Administration

Mr. McFarland outlined the requested needs and noted that the conference room area's capacity would be 6-10 people. He felt the storage area and vault were appropriate. The office would be a nice size, and a hospitality room is something that schools have. Mr. Turner indicated that maybe the conference room would be sufficient. Dr. Buffington noted that there is no reception area, and the secretary is there. Also, they have a need for a copy and storage areas. She noted that the reception area is a heavy traffic area. There was some question about the officials' locker rooms and whether it was a private bath for the athletic office. Dr. Buffington noted that locker room area will also be discussed.

E.15 Cardio/Fitness

Mr. McFarland highlighted the needs of the cardio lab and thought they were reasonable. Dr. Buffington indicated the office will also be used to lock up equipment such as the Trifit machine which is used for assessments and heart monitors. She said that staff was happy with the area designed for the cardio lab. Mrs. Norris commented that the cardio labs in Naperville were small, but Mr. Rogers pointed out that they were in areas not designed for the equipment.

E.18 Gymnasium-Auxiliary

Dr. Buffington commented that this area needed to be explained, and Mr. McFarland indicated that after visiting Crown Point it was felt that an auxiliary gym wasn't needed and the upper level of the main gym could be used with approximately the same square footage by using the spectator area. Mr. Butler noted that the main gym would have to be enlarged for a larger spectator area. The staff would like to have four courts available so different teams can practice at the same times. The auxiliary gym didn't go away, the space has just been combined with the spectator space. Mr. Goerges commented that if a field house was possible, the Board would have some options in terms of cardio space and wrestling or one level or two levels to work into the design. Dr. Buffington indicated that this had been addressed and the cardio and weight areas are wanted to look very similar to North Montgomery and that can count as instructional space. Mr. Bigler noted that the high school has an upper and lower gym, and he wanted to know the difference compared to Crown Point with the basketball courts upstairs and whether there would be a major difference in expense. Mr. McFarland didn't think there would be unless hall space had to be bought. Mr. Dawson commented that the second floor gym

would cost a little more for structure and foundation. Mrs. Norris commented that in Naperville, the whole athletic building was not handicapped accessible to all areas of the building. Another cost consideration for two levels would be the need for elevators. Dr. Buffington commented that in her discussion with Mr. Glover she told him she thought they were doing a field house, but she noted that the staff didn't consider that area an auxiliary gym. However, it was extra square footage, and that will be clarified with them. They are looking for four courts for practice, and if it was built like North Montgomery, they have two courts. However, Dr. Buffington thought if it had been built a little longer, they could have had three courts. She noted that she asked if they needed that many practice courts. Mr. Dawson commented that by the next meeting there might be some idea of the control board's attitude for the academic area and athletic/physical education areas. He thought that seven basketball courts might be an excessive number if they were considering a request for a new school and field house. Mr. Bigler commented that one of the schools had portable basketball courts so that the areas could be used for other things. Mr. Butler thought it might be better to make the main gym floor larger so that it could be used for events such as wrestling tournaments and so forth. He said if the field house option is approved, some of these areas would be incorporated there and would shrink the school's square footage. Dr. Buffington agreed, but she said that the faculty would like to have the extra gyms in the specs. Mr. Goerges indicated that he agreed with Mr. Dawson in that the control board will be setting standards and ratios in terms of academic areas and athletic facilities. Dr. Buffington indicated that they are aware of that.

E.19 Gymnasium - Competition

Dr. Buffington asked Mr. McFarland to change the word “gymnastics” to “aerobics and tumbling.” Mr. McFarland highlighted the requested areas with the Board. The spectator gym will seat around 2,500 people, and the Board wanted to know the seating capacity of the current gym. Dr. Buffington said she would get that information to the Board. Mr. McFarland said that there will be two teacher showers, one for each gender. Mr. McFarland said that the varsity locker room will be discussed with staff. Mr. Butler commented about some of the problems. The visiting teams use the female locker room now so if the females are practicing in auxiliary gym, they can't use their locker room. Also, if wrestlers are practicing, they need to be out before the basketball game starts. Mr. McFarland said that the discussion will try to determine if there is any overlapping usage. Sometimes there has been vandalism when visiting teams use home team locker rooms. The coaches know exactly how they want this space designed. Mr. Turner commented that there is not a lot of space requested for P.E. storage, and Mr. McFarland pointed out that there are other storage areas noted--two equipment at 500 square feet each and trainer storage of 100 square feet so there would be 1,300 square feet altogether. Mr. Butler said that a problem to be solved will be getting ticket booth and concessions for the auditorium and athletics in the same area. Dr. Buffington noted that Crown Point did not have these areas together and had separate areas for each one. Mr. Bigler asked if the weight rooms would be in the field house, and Dr. Buffington concurred. Mr. McFarland noted that there are two weight rooms--one for machine weights and the other for free weights. Mr. McFarland thought some of the space might be able to be reduced, and Dr. Buffington commented that the staff wanted to make sure that the two areas were separated. However, she thought one room could house both as long as they were two distinct areas. Mr. Goerges indicated that Lowell High School has their free weights in a glass enclosed area. The machine weights and cardio equipment are in a separate room. There was some discussion about community use of this area and whether memberships would be sold. Some felt that the community was already paying with their tax dollars, but it might be okay to consider a minimal type fee. Mr. Dawson commented that if anyone is using those rooms, there will be a need for supervision, and if the rooms are separated, they should still be visible so you would only need one supervisor. Mr. Butler noted that Crown Point had a roll down gate that might be a viable option. Dr. Buffington said that the PEP grant cautioned the school districts to be aware of local gyms that sponsor and support the schools and not to harm their business.

Mr. Bigler had a question about the media center and where books would be kept. Dr. Buffington indicated that would be the stack area. Mr. Turner asked about how many volumes were in the library's collection. Don Monday indicated that the area would hold 2,500 volumes and that is the goal of the media specialist.

E.20 Laundry

There was a question about the necessity for a toilet in this area.

E.21 Pool

Dr. Buffington addressed the staff's request for a swimming pool. She conveyed some of their thoughts for the Board's consideration. They felt they could generate enough revenue from a 50 meter pool to pay for it. If the Board would decide not to do a pool at this time, that the layout of the building be considered for a pool being built in the future. They expressed their concerns about keeping students on one campus and noted that the swimmers do come in for practice between 5 and 6:00 a.m. The staff feels that the pool would be used all day long, and they also teach the life guarding classes. The Board noted her comments. Mr. Marszalek was concerned about the enrollment of swimming classes versus the cost of a swimming pool. Dr. Buffington indicated that she would get them the current enrollments of those classes. Mr. Dawson thought that a pool of this size could be built for around \$4.5 million or a little higher. The Board asked him to get some estimates for their consideration. Mr. Marszalek also inquired about the cost of maintaining the pool area. Mr. Goerges noted that the energy costs could be expensive. Mr. Dawson also pointed out other cost considerations such as insurance and man power to operate it, but he also noted that it can be a very valuable program for the school and community. Dr. Buffington indicated that she did ask for Mr. Glover to get her their ideas for generating revenue for the pool, and the Board indicated that they were interested in seeing the information also. Mr. Bigler inquired about pool usage beyond the swimming seasons.

President Back indicated that the work session had reached its "stopping point." The Board thanked Gibraltar Design representatives for their information and Mr. Dawson from Envoy. Larry Dawson indicated that the Board should voice any concerns that would not allow Gibraltar to move forward on the project. He didn't think there were any and indicated that no formal approval was needed at tonight's regular board meeting unless the Board was dissatisfied with what has been done. He thought they should continue and noted that a key item is budget control. The special education area can be expensive, and the science area has to be done right the first time because those rooms will not be relocated. The utilities in the floor are the expensive part of their design. Nothing has been decided in the auditorium as to the whether there will be an orchestra pit or fly bridge and those are major money items. Gibraltar will be working on how to commingle the space with all of the departments using this space and defining shared space. Then the key to maximizing the use of the auditorium, the competitive gym, and the field house for multiple purposes. The need for the gathering areas, ticket booths, and restrooms to be available for the public, but still have control of the building. If the Board wants additional seating for the auditorium, now is the time to do it because this is another area that won't be changed for many years. He commented about the Johnson Control request and clarified that just because they were offering a class, they will get the work. He said that it wasn't possible and that there will be competitive bidding for the project. Rest rooms and locker rooms need to be done correctly now because of the expense involved. A couple of extra classrooms are not that expensive to do because there are no utilities involved in building them. Mr. Rogers inquired as to whether the project would be handicapped accessible, and he was told that it would be. Mr. Turner inquired about the information they would be receiving next week, and Mr. McFarland clarified that they would be getting an updated site plan trying to be friendly with the neighboring areas. Mr. Rogers asked them to show where the fields will be clustered. Mr. Bigler asked if it would be a single concession area. Mr. Butler commented that he has noticed at other schools don't utilize their main parking areas for events and games. The traffic doesn't flow in an easy fashion. He noted that curvy roads and parking areas look nice, but square or rectangular areas are easier to maintain and might provide easier access to the field areas. Mrs. Norris noted that parking is a problem at Joan Martin. There isn't any parking in front of the school and the driveway area is always filled with cars. The handicapped parking area other than one space isn't near the building. There was lengthy discussion, and it was consensus that the Board that Gibraltar give the steering committee the review the items that had been requested and to have dialogue with them about those requests. Dr. Buffington wanted the committee to be able assist in

some of the necessary changes because of being over the allotted square footage and those areas of concern will be discussed with them. Dr. Buffington noted that morale is high and the tours have been productive, and she was sure that together they will be able to reduce the space areas to fit the square footage goal. Mr. Bigler asked Dr. Buffington to thank Mr. Glover for "his insight" and the questions he asked on the last visit. The others made good inquiries, too, but he felt Mr. Glover lead the way. Mr. Turner wanted to keep the committee motivated and wondered if they should be invited to attend the work sessions because they are open meetings. Dr. Buffington thought that this could be done later on. Mr. Turner asked for Mr. Dawson's comments on this, and he cautioned that he wouldn't want the Board to feel pressured by someone to give into certain requests. He noted that the budget will be the determining factor, and everyone will try to get as much as will fit into the budget. He said that Gibraltar and his firm have been through this process many times, and as things firm up, they will be getting cost estimates. When this happens, they might have to meet and review items that may have to be removed to keep within the budget or find different ways to do something to stay inside the budget. The important thing is that the teachers are being listened to, and then they will try to fit in as many of their requests as they can. Mr. Turner wondered if it would be fruitful after the cost estimates are available to meet with the committee members. Mr. Goerges thought that the Board should defer the program reductions to the professionals and not have personal dialogue with the committee about them. Mr. McFarland noted that in the dialogue with the committee that they will be told that the information has been reviewed with the Board, the requests are over the allotted space. Those will be areas of concern, and they will work with each of the specific groups to discuss those concerns. For the next Board meeting the Board will receive the results of the discussions with the various groups and things mentioned at this meeting. Mr. Turner indicated that the Board does not want to receive information on Tuesday to be discussed on Thursday, and Dr. Buffington indicated that she was aware of this. However, because of the time line, it was felt that it had to be done this one time, and then, they would return to the two week cycle.

The work session was adjourned.

CALL TO ORDER: Jason Back, President of the Board called the regular session meeting to order around 8:19 p.m. with Board members and administrators present or absent as noted above.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Back led everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: As noted on the agenda, Mr. Back indicated that the Board met in executive session prior to the work session and in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7) for discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Nancy Norris moved to approved the minutes of the executive and work/regular session of February 3, 2005, as distributed. Seconded by Terry Butler. All ayes. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The following were presented for the Board's consideration:

1. Vouchers for January 20, 2005:

The Board's student representative, read the summary sheet of the February 17 accounts payable voucher register as follows:

General Fund - \$677,797.86,
Capital Projects Fund - \$75,649.31,
Transportation Operating Fund - \$33,049.33,
Retirement/Severance Bond Fund - \$595,149.17,
School Lunch Fund - \$59,457.17,
PCGB Agreement Proceeds - \$103.78,
Hobart Educational Program - \$1,703.11,
Non-English Speaking Program - \$80.88,
Technology Fund - \$1,590.44,
Title I Fund 2004-2005 - \$856.97,
Title V Fund 2004-2005 - \$422.87,
Title V Fund 2003-2004 - \$689.06,

Drug Free Schools 2004-2005 - \$10,083.81,
Title II, Part A Fund 2003-2004 - \$2,400.33,
Title II, Part A Fund 2002-2003 - \$555.90,
Title II, Part D, Education Technology Fund 2003-2004 - \$99.99,
Clearing Accounts - \$444,977.72,
Clearing/Flexible Benefits - \$2,469.56, and
Clearing/Insurance Account - \$21,972.11

totaling \$1,929,109.37 with no transfers. The January 2005 payroll distribution by the corporation treasurer totaled \$1,108,439.95.

Nancy Norris moved for approval. Seconded by David Bigler. All ayes. Motion carried.

Board members also received the following monthly financial reports dated, February 11, 2005: Summary of Balances by Account-Object, Estimated Revenue by Account, Analysis by Object, and Summary of Receipts and Expenditures.

2. Safety and Asset Protection at Hobart High School and George Earle, Ridge View, and Liberty Elementary Schools:
 - a. Application for Payment
 - 1) Walsh & Kelly, Inc. - \$25,125.00
 - b. Change Order
 - 1) Alt & Witzig Engineering - Deduct (\$15,846.00)

Terry Butler moved to approve, and Stephen Turner seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL: Ted Zembala, Business Manager, presented the following personnel items for the Board's consideration:

2004-2005 Contract Adjustments -

Rhiannon Jolliff, Joan Martin School, added gymnastics club, 11 hours, \$201.19
Peggy Keen, Liberty School, salary lane adjustment to M.S. Degree, \$47,964.12

Supervisors for Cardio Labs at HMS and HHS -

Betty Funkhouser, 14 hours, \$274.26; Phyllis Nimetz, 14 hours, \$274.26; Deb Glass, 13 hours, \$254.67; Micky Ellis, 14 hours, \$274.26; Mark Leto, 21 hours, \$411.39; Steve Schwanke, 21 hours, \$411.39; and Carmen Dulhanty, 13 hours, \$254.67

New Employee -

Food Service Department:

Judy Moses, Hobart Middle School/probationary helper, effective February 7, 2005, \$7.10 per hour for 90 working day probation period; then \$8.10 per hour

Mr. Zembala recommended approval and requested Board action.

Nancy Norris moved for approval. David Bigler seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Butler inquired where the monies come from to pay the cardio lab supervisors. He was told that the funds are budgeted and part of the ECA monies.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: There were no comments from the audience on the listed agenda items.

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL: Terry Butler moved to table Agenda Item I. -- Recommendation: Approval of Educational Specifications for New School. Seconded by Stephen Turner. All ayes. Motion carried.

ADDITION TO AGENDA: President Back indicated that there was an addition to the meeting agenda--Item #VII – Expulsion Appeal. Updates/Announcements/Reports became Item VIII.

RECOMMENDATION: ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT EXTENSIONS: President Jason Back read Superintendent Leach's recommendation for one year contract extensions through June 30, 2007, for the following administrators: Peggy Buffington, Richard Edwards, David Spitzer, Denise Galovic, Steve Peterson, Bob Glover, Pete Svetcoff, Mark Lutze, Mary Beth Ginalski, Kathy Cox, Debbie Misecko, Flora Keslin, Tony Skimehorn, and Ted Zembala. In addition, he recommended a one year extension for Peter Goerges. President Back indicated that if Dr. Leach were also given a one year extension, it would take him to June 30, 2008, which is one year longer than the other administrators.

Nancy Norris so moved. Seconded by Terry Butler.

In the discussion Mr. Back inquired whether Dr. Leach was included in the motion and was told that he was.

Vote on the Motion: All ayes. Motion carried.

President Back explained that Amy Turley received a two year initial contract and that Dr. Leach would probably recommend a one-year extension for her in June. Mr. Butler inquired about Mr. Longer's contract and was told that nothing needed to be done at this time. Since he had been forgotten before, Mr. Butler wanted to make sure he wasn't overlooked again.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TITLE IV, PART A GRANT: Dr. Peggy Buffington, Assistant Superintendent, told the Board that the school corporation has received an Indiana Department of Education Title IV, Part A, Grant which is the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Grant totaling \$12,561.00. The grant is shared with the non-public schools. Hobart funds are used to help the home school coordinators and resource officer with several different activities such as Red Ribbon Week and other safe and drug-free activities. She asked the Board to accept the grant.

Terry Butler so moved. Seconded by Michael Rogers.

Mr. Rogers asked if any of the monies goes towards the resource officer's salary. Dr. Buffington indicated that funds are used for activities to assist the resource officer in doing his job and that the police department pays his salary. Mr. Butler inquired about the non-public school participation, and Dr. Buffington indicated that the grant monies are allocated based on student enrollment. The School City received \$11,479.08 and the non-public schools (Trinity Lutheran and St. Bridget Schools) monies totaled \$1,081.92.

Vote on the Motion: All ayes. Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE: HOBART MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPENDITURES OF EXTRACURRICULAR FUNDS: Dr. Buffington presented a request from Peggy Kaiser, Band Director, and Pete Svetcoff, Principal of Hobart Middle School, for permission to spend a total of \$4,379.00 that was collected through a band fund raiser last fall to purchase the following musical equipment:

- M32 Studio 4 Oct. Marimba from Quinlan & Fabish - \$1,570.00
- Roland KR3 from Piano Solutions - \$2,059 (\$1,960 + \$99 shipping)
- Kurzweil SP88x Keyboard #13410 from Woodwind & Brasswind - \$849.00

Dr. Buffington explained that the State Board of Accounts requires Board approval for extracurricular funds to be used for educational purposes or for the purchase of equipment. She asked that the Board approve the request.

Nancy Norris so moved. Seconded by Robert Marszalek. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION: TRANSFER AND REDUCTION OF ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS: Ted Zembala, Business Manager, presented Resolution No. 2005-3 for the Board's consideration. He explained that the resolution is done on annual basis and balances out appropriations and accounts to zero balances for 2004. Board approval is needed, but nothing needs to be advertised nor does it need the approval of the Department of Local Government Finance. Mr. Zembala indicated that overall about \$255,000 was transferred or about 1.3 percent of the budget, and he said that anything within five percent is good. Mr. Zembala recommended the Board's approval of Resolution No. 2005-3.

Stephen Turner, Secretary, read the cover page for Resolution No. 2005-3 aloud:

Resolution No. 2005-3
(A copy of Resolution No. 2005-3 is available at the Administration Office.)

Nancy Norris moved to approve Resolution No. 2005-3. Seconded by Michael Rogers.

In the discussion Mrs. Norris pointed out that the percentage of transfers was "very good" from those of quite a few years ago before Mr. Zembala. Mr. Turner indicated that the transfer amount showed "a clear indication of careful financial stewardship."

Vote on the Motion: Secretary Turner called roll on the vote: Ayes - Norris, Bigler, Butler, Rogers, Turner, Marszalek, and Back. Nays - No one. Motion carried.

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST: HOBART HIGH DECA STUDENTS: Dr. Buffington presented a request from Kari Roach, high school DECA sponsor, seeking the Board's permission for fourteen junior and senior students to attend the annual DECA State Career Development Conference in Indianapolis on February 27 to March 1, 2005. Also, included with the request was a letter of support from Assistant Principal Steve Peterson. In addition to Mrs. Roach, there will be another adult chaperone. Dr. Buffington noted that this has been an annual event for the last six years, and Hobart has had students participate on the national level. She recommended approval of the request.

Michael Rogers moved to approve the request. Seconded by Nancy Norris. All ayes. Motion carried.

EXPULSION APPEAL: Terry Butler moved that the Board determine that it will not hear appeals from expulsions due to a challenge to legal settlement and that the Board withhold its decision until the matter is decided by the State Board of Education. Seconded by David Bigler. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Norris asked Mr. Goerges to explain to the high school representative what legal settlement was. He explained that a student lives with a parent/guardian and that is the student's residence. If the school corporation believes that a family is no longer residing within the school district, they can begin expulsion proceedings. If the hearing examiner determines the family is living out of the district, the parent/guardian can appeal to the Board the same as is the case in discipline cases. However, the Board has decided that it will not hear appeals for residency until after they have been appealed through the Department of Education state agency and state board of education.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- Change of Board Meeting - President Back indicated that the May 19 Board meeting has been changed May 26, 2005.
- School Information - The Board received weekly activities calendars from Joan Martin and Liberty Elementary Schools.

COMMENTS: From the administration, Dr. Buffington thanked Board members who attended or assisted with the media fair that was held last weekend at Joan Martin School and said that Hobart students did very well. She indicated that the storefront hours have been changed to 2-6 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays and 8 a.m. - 12 noon on Saturdays. The schedule was decided by the visitor attendance records at the storefront. Mr. Zembala told the Board about a couple of things that have

been included in governor's budget bill: 1) would allow school corporations to increase the tax rate in their transportation fund to replace state support; 2) extend the payments of property and casualty and utilities from the Capital Projects Fund; and 3) cap Teacher Retirement Fund at 7 percent for the next two years. Presently it is at 6.2 percent. Mrs. Norris commented that there had been a story about the new formula, but she wasn't sure how Hobart fared. It looked like we should be getting more funds, and Gary would be getting less. Mr. Zembala said he thought we would be getting more than we are now, and he noted that Hobart is continuing to grow. Mr. Zembala also complimented Dr. Buffington for her work on the new school project especially her organizational skills and keeping people focused on what they are doing. Dr. Buffington noted that everyone has been working hard on the project, but Mrs. Schoon did miss a couple of lunch hours this week.

There were no comments from the audience.

From the Board, Mrs. Norris told the Board that she attended the Junior Achievement Program for second graders at Joan Martin School. She said they were supposed to learn that the assembly line was more efficient and faster. However, that didn't prove to be the case, but she and the teacher did learn a lesson—put the right person in the right job, just like a manager would do. Mr. Bigler thanked Mr. Zembala for all that he does, and he thanked the staff and administrators for going above and beyond, and he expressed his appreciation for this. He indicated that there had been handbook committee meetings at the middle school and high school. The middle school has been doing a good job of enforcing the rules. However, there are problems with enforcement of the dress code at the high school. Not all of first hour teachers are identifying students who are not in compliance. He felt that they might need the Board's support, but he didn't think that additional rules were needed. Mrs. Norris commented that Sherry Williams used to get the ugliest t-shirts she could find for students to wear when they had on inappropriate tops. Mr. Bigler indicated that there will be continued discussion about the problem. Mr. Butler asked if he was wanting the central office to monitor the situation as to whether the administrators were not supporting the teachers in this matter. Mr. Bigler didn't think this was necessary because the teachers know that there is a problem. There will be continued discussion, and hopefully, they will be able to resolve the issue. The student representative indicated that the choir will be competing at the state level at the end of the month. The drama club is working very hard on the upcoming spring play—F.A.M.E. There will be performances on March 11, 12, and 13. He suggested that everyone attend because the students do a great job and work very hard. Mr. Butler complimented Dr. Buffington on how well the meeting ran especially in the absence of Dr. Leach and Dr. Edwards. Mr. Rogers indicated that Dr. Buffington was "doing a good job," and he told Mr. Zembala to "keep up the good work" with his financial responsibilities. He noted that the media fair was fun, and he was amazed at the technology knowledge of the students. Mr. Back extended congratulations to Mr. Butler on his new grandson.

President Back thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and there being no further business to come before the Board, he adjourned the meeting around 8:55 p.m.

**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART**

BY _____
Jason Back, President

ATTEST:

BY _____
Stephen R. Turner, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: March 3, 2005