

UPDATE ON BUILDING PROJECT

I am happy to be able to report to you that the local committee working on our Program of Requirements (POR) has completed this task. Their work has been shared with all members of our Board of Education, even though two board members are faithfully serving on the District POR Team. As a reminder to my readers, the POR team was charged with the responsibility of making sure that the square footage at each of the proposed elementary sites was allocated in such a manner as to account for the appropriate housing of all students in each attendance area. The POR plans for each building are slightly different, taking into account the differences in student population in each of our attendance areas, as well as some differences in delivering instructional services.

The board, at its November 20th meeting, passed a resolution in approval of the POR. We now have a living document that has been approved by the parties involved. Now, it's time to move on to the "schematic design" phase of the project. This will entail meetings in each of our three attendance areas. Anyone who is interested in participating is welcome to attend the meetings. The first meetings for the Peebles attendance area were held on Monday, December 4th. The remaining schedule for the first round of meetings is as follows and will be held at the present elementary buildings:

- North Adams Attendance Area – Thursday, December 7, 2006
 - Staff at 3:20 p.m. – Community at 6:30 p.m.
- West Union Attendance Area – Monday, December 11, 2006

- Staff at 3:20 p.m. – Community at 6:30 p.m.

The second round of staff and community meetings has been scheduled as follows:

- North Adams Attendance Area – Tuesday, January 16, 2007
 - Staff at 3:20 p.m. – Community at 6:30 p.m.
- Peebles Attendance Area – Thursday, January 18, 2007
 - Staff at 3:20 p.m. – Community at 6:30 p.m.
- West Union Attendance Area – Monday, January 23, 2007
 - Staff at 3:20 p.m. – Community at 6:30 p.m.

I would also suggest that you consult the P.A.S.S. website for the latest information.

That address is www.superschools.org. You can also check our district website for information on the building program. Just go to www.ovsd.us and click on the link “Building Project Updates” at the bottom of the page.

EFFECTS OF ISSUE 5

On Tuesday, November 7th, the voters of Ohio overwhelmingly approved Issue 5, which takes effect December 7, 2006. As you know, this has to do with smoking on public property, inside public spaces, and immediately outside public buildings. It has been illegal to smoke inside a public building (this includes schools) for several years. Some school districts have enacted policies to ban smoking, or the use of tobacco products, on

school property---period. The Adams County/Ohio Valley Board of Education has not passed such a policy to date.

So, what effect will Issue 5 have on adult smokers who attend events at our schools? In addition to not being able to smoke inside the school itself, it will now be against the law to smoke outside the entrances of the building. The reason being that the smoke can enter the building each time the doors open and close. Those who currently step outside the building to smoke will now have to step farther away from the building. At the high school buildings, this will be out in the area of the island, which is between the parking lot and the entrance doors.

No doubt, some are going to be inconvenienced and frustrated by this. While the school district and its officials understand this, we are required to comply with the law. Other requirements include posting signs and the removal of all ashtrays or receptacles from buildings/entrances. Certainly, if you have any questions, you may contact either me or the building principal in your area. If you would like additional information regarding this law, I would suggest that you read Ohio Revised Code 3794.02. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent