

**July 26, 2017**

**Pool Study Meeting**

In attendance:

Adam Nellesen, Pete Sattler, Mark Hoffman, Herb Hofer - VHS  
Jim Sarkisian, Kevin Cornett, Anna Hearn – Superintendent’s Advisory Committee  
Paul Knauff, Rob Behrend – VCS Board of Directors  
Deb Porter – Valparaiso City Council  
John Seibert – Valparaiso Parks Dept.  
Dion Katsouros-Skillman Corp.  
Jim Thompson, Mike Rossillo – Gibraltar Design  
Dr. Frataccia, Dr. Lauck, Dr. McCall, Todd VanKeppel, Lisa Frankus – VCS

Dr. Frataccia explained that he planned for a 25 meter pool in the referendum. At the Pool Study meeting last week it was determined that a 25 meter stretch pool would meet the needs of Valparaiso High School, but a 50 meter pool would better serve the community.

Jim Thompson and Mike Rossillo presented preliminary design concepts for a 25 yard stretch 10 lane pool, 50 meter 8 lane pool, and a 50 meter 10 lane pool.

Certain characteristics would be consistent in the pool design regardless of the size:

- The PE locker rooms need to be functionally convenient to the main high school
- Community locker rooms separate from student and team locker rooms
- Secure the pool from the remainder of the school for after-hours use
- Spectator / Public separate from athletes
- Elevated spectator seating with handicap access and new concessions
- Storage areas for swimming and athletics

Considerations of a 25 yard stretch pool – 10 lane

- 10 lanes will accommodate competition and diving including one bulkhead
- There will be up to 15 lanes for practice
- Shallow area for instruction
- Easy access from parking lot, fieldhouse & existing pool area

Considerations of a 50 meter 8 lane pool

- 8 lanes x 50 M competition and diving including two bulkheads
- May run 2 invitation meets concurrently
- 16 x 25 yd. lanes available for practice during short course season
- Large shallow area for instruction  
10 Lane Option: 22 x 25 Yd. lanes available for practice during short course season  
Greater seating capacity for spectators

Dr. Frataccia presented The Summary Report dated 7/17/17 provided by Scott Cherry of Skillman Corporation. This budget indicates **\$15,839,150** for the construction of a 25 meter pool. Mr. Cherry provided an update to this estimate as follows:

25 Yard Stretch 8 lane pool = \$14,067,674  
25 Yard Stretch 10 lane pool = \$14,857,325  
50 Meter 8 lane pool = \$16,896,076  
50 Meter 10 lane pool = \$17,905,675

Dr. Frataccia referred back The Summary Report that indicates an additional \$8,000,000 under Hypothetical Additional Funding to construct a 50 meter pool for a total of **\$23,839,150**. According to the budget it appears that we will be able to construct a 50 meter pool without any community partnerships because the hypothetical \$8 million additional dollars would not be required but less than @\$4 million additional dollars beyond the \$15,839. So a 50 meter pool could be achieved with a cost of **\$17,905,675** and not the originally estimated \$23 million.

We have been very lucky that our project bids have come in under budget, but we have also had additional unbudgeted expenses for environmental remediation. The entire district will be asbestos free when we finish with the construction projects. We also had some technology challenges that we did not anticipate that we have corrected.

Dr. Frataccia explained the 1028 Hearing that is part of the Referendum process. The tax rate is set at the 1028 hearing and that tax rate can't be changed. The established tax rate generated approximately \$160 million that we promised the community we would not over-spend. We will have a much clearer idea of how much money we have remaining after we submit our 2018 budget and all of our projects except for the pool have been bid. The construction of a 25 yard stretch pool is a certainty and it could likely be a 50 meter pool. Dr. Frataccia would like to redesign the back fields at VHS for the girls. They need a softball field, field house and washrooms.

Dr. Frataccia requested an operational cost study using the current pool as a baseline and compare those operational costs against a 25 yd. stretch and a 50 meter pool. Jim Thompson reported that they will have the operational cost study later this week. Todd reported that the current pool has had to be drained each summer to repair tiles. This has been a major ongoing expense for the past few years.

Dr. Frataccia explained that he envisions the Valparaiso Community Schools being a used regularly by the community for recreation and meetings. In the 1980's the pool, weight room, tennis courts and field house were heavily used by the community. Dr. Frataccia would like to see this happen again as well as opening the media center and café areas to provide a place for young people in grades 6-12 to gather. A community pool and common areas for students and community members to gather will be a valuable resource to the City. Providing spaces for student comradery has shown to curb drug and tobacco use among our youth and help promote friendships that some students lack.