

The purpose of this agenda topic is to update you and our community on PCBs at the BHS/BTC Building on Institute Road, and their impact on the broader ReEnvisioning Project.

Through our ReEnvisioning construction project, we found PCB's in a number of places:

- First in window caulking and soils
- Then in the block & brick walls
- Then mastics, or glue, under the floor tiles
- And most recently, we learned that the PCBs have leached from the mastic "glue" into at least a quarter of an inch into the concrete flooring.

Unfortunately, at each step of the process we find more materials with PCB's, and I am growing increasingly concerned about the cost of future remediation and the ability for the remediation to reduce levels of airborne PCB's to below the state screening levels.

We are currently planning a Pilot Remediation Project to understand the PCB contamination and this project will conclude this August. It designed to tell us if it is possible to remediate the PCBs in the building and how much that might cost. Our best estimate now is that full remediation could cost at least \$7-12m.

I am bringing this to you today so that we can begin talking more about this as a governing body in public. I'm growing increasingly uneasy about the extent of PCB contamination, and I'm worried that even if it is possible to remediate, it might not be worth it. I'm not convinced that it is of value to our students, staff, or taxpayers to spend millions of dollars on remediation as we may not get below the state screening threshold for airborne PCB's and will likely need ongoing monitoring, which comes at an annual cost.

At this time, we have \$73.6m available for the ReEnvisioning Project, but no budget for the remediation or for our Burlington Technical Center as F building is no longer a part of the project.

I want the board to know that if we move forward with remediation, we will need to identify alternative funding sources for that cost, and we will need to find a space and funding for BTC. And if we need to build a new building, we will need more than the \$70m bond that taxpayers approved in November 2018.

We don't have enough information yet to make a final decision, but I do believe it is time for us to think hard about alternatives. Timing is important because if we decide to embark on a new building project, starting this Spring could save a year.

We should plan to discuss this at our board meeting in May and possibly make a decision before the completion of the pilot project in August, maybe even next month.

I also want to remind you that a lot of this information can be found on the ReEnvisioning webpage of the school district: www.bsdyt.org. I'd like to encourage the public to visit our website to learn more and to remind you all that our Building and Construction Oversight Committee holds monthly, public meetings.