



2017 Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC)

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August 7, 2017

Dear Trustees:

On behalf of the 2017-18 Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), we are pleased to present you with this report for your consideration and discussion as you plan to meet the district's major facility needs over the next five years. The detailed FAC report represents the work of the Board-appointed citizen's committee over a two-month period and has been developed in partnership with district staff.

Through our evaluation of district facilities and demographic data, we have garnered a great deal of appreciation for the work done thus far to efficiently and effectively manage district facilities. As reported in our update on July 25, we are thoroughly impressed with the successful completion of Bond 2011 (Promises Made, Promises Kept!), stretching bond savings to complete additional projects without burdening taxpayers, and proactively studying and adjusting boundaries to ensure that Socorro ISD maximizes the use of existing facilities.

At the same time, it is undeniable that our district continues to grow at an accelerated rate and our established facilities continue to age. To proactively and equitably accommodate growth and meet the needs of our existing campuses and ancillary facilities so that the district can continue to improve upon the endless opportunities provided to every student, we recognize that a significant investment must be made by our community.

While we acknowledge that there are a number of needs and wants, each of which represent a child or employee and could be justified, our committee focused primarily on investing in our established communities to provide equitable learning environments and opportunities, the need to address growth, and ultimately investments that would improve student instruction. The total estimated cost of the needs identified by the FAC is \$615,507,650.

As a committee, we discussed in-depth the financial impact this investment would have on taxpayers; and in the end, as a group of taxpaying citizens in Socorro ISD, we feel all projects identified are worthy of your consideration. To provide the Board with additional insight as you further pursue fulfillment of the identified needs, the committee prioritized the projects based on equity, educational impact, and stakeholder input.

The complete list of findings, rationale, and recommendations are included in the report. We hope that the information provided will help guide you as you make decisions surrounding the district's future. As an advisory committee, we acknowledge our role and respect your ultimate authority to accept, alter, or not approve all or any part of this recommendation.

With a history of transparent governance, successful facility management, commitment to maintain a low tax rate, and great outcomes working with limited resources, Socorro ISD has built trust within the community. It is evident that your leadership is 100% student-centered. Thus, we fully respect and support the final direction of the Board.

We would like to extend to you our appreciation for inviting us to serve our community as members of the 2017-18 FAC. We are confident that our work, coupled with your leadership, will result in a solid plan of action that will ensure that our great district continues Leading · Inspiring · Innovating! Our children deserve nothing less!

Respectfully,

Robert Alvarez
FAC Chair