

# HERALD-WHIG

## Board hears about "FTE neutral" K-5 staffing plan

By **Deborah Gertz Husar** Herald-Whig

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QUINCY -- The Quincy School Board got its first look at the broad outlines of a staffing plan for the new K-5 buildings.

Superintendent Roy Webb outlined Tuesday night what he called a "FTE neutral" plan.

"There are no additions to staff with our plan and no deletions," Webb said. "But because of some efficiencies by bringing all the schools together, we can add some resources we feel are needed in district to support STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), some interventionists that can help kids in those areas, and to add social-emotional support."

The plan calls for one principal and two school administration managers per building along with four grade level teachers, two physical education teachers, two music teachers, approximately three special education classroom teachers and five special education teachers to team teach with a regular education teacher. Two art teachers will serve the K-5 buildings.

Each school will have one social worker, one psychologist and two speech teachers with two special education coordinators for K-5 and five additional social-emotion support personnel. Schools will have two Reading Recovery interventionists, with one Reading Recovery leader in the district, one interventionist in English language arts and math and two additional coaches.

Carol Frericks and Julie Stratman in the district's central office developed the plan which already has been seen and revised by the K-5 principals. "This is still a draft. We still seek input from teachers and staff," Webb said.

Actually assigning staff to the plan likely will take place in January, Webb said.

Teachers have another week to respond to a survey asking all certified staff what they teach now, what they've taught in the past and to give a first, second and third choice for both building and position. Staff members also can indicate an interest in the team teaching model.

Also Tuesday, Board President Sayeed Ali and Webb noted concerns raised by the community at last week's Town Hall meetings sponsored by the Boundary Advisory Task Force.

The task force proposed two plans for student attendance boundaries for the new K-5 buildings, but the public raised "very legitimate concerns," Ali said.

"The transition plan was a big concern. I think it's a good plan, but a complex plan, and the number of transitions from kids going school to school was a big concern for the community. We're going to look real closely at that," Webb said. "Parents and students that are in Monroe now and will be moved to the Baldwin site or the southwest site, those parents were kind of concerned. We're going to look at that, too."

The task force continues to meet and plans to have a final proposal for the School Board in December.

Information provided at the Town Halls and a public comment form are available on the school district's website, [qps.org](http://qps.org).

SClBIn other action, the School Board:

- ° Approved the bid from Waterkotte Construction, the lowest of three received, for the new elementary school at the North 12th Street site. The construction base bid and four alternate items totaled \$12,491,000 -- well below the initial construction budget of \$13,380,500.
- ° Adopted the levy for taxes payable in 2017. The overall levy totals \$29,578,779, 4.58 percent above last year's \$28,283,458 actual extension.
- ° Approved a resolution establishing utility corridor/easements on the North 12th Street school site.
- ° Approved a resolution to transfer \$750,000 from working cash to transportation to cover a projected shortfall because of slow state reimbursement.