The meeting opened with a discussion about the requirements of air conditioning being added to Jeff Jr. High and West Jr. High due to the new tiering system associated with the new high school. After a short discussion it was determined that adding air conditioning to the two junior highs was not mandatory however it is scheduled according to the bond issue money allocations.

Dr. Jensen opened the discussion on whether we should keep some of the district’s older buildings active. Some buildings discussed were Lee, Grant, Field, and possibly Benton.

Dr. Jensen discussed the Early Childhood need for more classrooms which would free up space at some of the other elementary schools like Parkade and Blue Ridge. As of right now the district has 10 preschool classrooms. A discussion was started on whether Field would be a possible location for Early Childhood. There are 7 classrooms with restrooms on one level which could be used and the 2nd story could be used for offices. Since Title I is not a “lunch program” a cafeteria would not be necessary.

Another option for Field would be moving the Gifted Program to the classrooms at Field.

Whatever decision is made about Field it was stressed that there is no money built in the 2009-2010 budget for Field once the students and staff are moved to Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary.

Dr. Boren and Dr. Jensen suggested finding someone to buy Field or trade it for other property. They were going to discuss with Dr. Ritter if ATKINS or Columbia College might be interested.

The committee wanted to see a breakdown of how the bond money was to be spent and a budget was provided for them to review. A question was asked if there was any money that could be used to purchase land or buildings. As of right now it is not. We have to make sure technology upgrades happen.

The committee discussed what the future needs of mobile classrooms would be once Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary is opened. Dr. Jensen said he would need to
meet with Don Ludwig to go over attendance numbers to determine what the growth is and then the number of trailers that might be needed.

The committee discussed leased property versus purchasing property. The committee would like to know the board and administration’s attitude, do they feel it is urgent. Leasing comes out of operating budget and is a large expense. One of the first leased properties that should be considered would be Bearfield. Lease purchase is an option but it is outside the bonding money.

The committee discussed the need to meet more frequently. It was decided that this committee should meet every two weeks on Thursday from 2:30-3:30 at Building Services.

It was suggested that since we were discussing the future of Field Elementary that we should tour the building. It was decided that the next meeting, April 2, 2009 would be held at Field beginning at 4:00 p.m.

The committee discussed whether other members needed to be added. It was decided that we need an Elementary Principal (Dr. Jensen will select), Linda Quinley, and Board Members (to be decided after the May Board Meeting).

Meeting adjourned.