Pawnee City School Board Discusses Facility Improvements

Much needed facility improvements were the topic of discussion for the Pawnee City School Board during a special meeting Monday night.

The board heard two presentations during the meeting. John Carlson, an architect with the firm Carlson West Povondra, gave an hour-long summary of possible building improvements. Superintendent Stephen Grizzle says Carlson detailed a laundry list of projects the board has discussed for the last two years, and also presented cost estimates for each project. (play audio :32) The building improvements include – connecting the buildings; improving instructional space at the elementary school; renovating science labs and technology work areas; renovating the kitchen and cafeteria area; a new roof for the cafeteria building; H-VAC improvements at the high school; and new windows at the high school.

Grizzle says those are projects that have been put off for several years that need to be addressed, though they may be costly. (play audio :56)

The second presentation the board heard was from Cody Wicham of D.A. Davidson, focusing on ways the district could finance the improvements.

Grizzle says the next step will be for the Building and Grounds Committee to go over the information that was presented Monday night and come up with a recommendation to the full school board at to how much they want to accomplish. That, he says, will determine whether the board will pursue a bond election or schedule improvements over a longer period of time.

Grizzle says Monday's meeting was very productive. (play audio :33)