

## **B.A. Parker Public School Replacement Project**

Community Information Meeting

Site: B.A. Parker Public School, Geraldton, ON

Wednesday, November 5, 2008 - 6:30 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

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Recorder: Patti Pella

#### 1. Welcome and Introduction

#### 2. Project Architect

Ian Hill introduced himself to the group and outlined projects his firm has done with Superior Greenstone DSB including Manitouwadge High, Marathon High, Dorion, Marjorie Mills and Margaret Twomey.

Ian: The firm has done a lot of school work, day care work, colleges and universities. They have been involved in a number of K-12 projects. They are here to listen and understand what the specific needs of elementary and secondary students in SGDSB are. Tomorrow will be a full day session to tour the schools and become familiar with the exact nature of the programming of the school.

#### 3. Discuss Stakeholder Feedback

Kaitie MacOdrum a student of BAPS presented a wish list from students including:

- Science lab
- computer lab
- shops for grade 6,7,8
- cafeteria
- gym
- new desks and chairs
- matching furniture
- technology, new computers
- brighter colours
- wipe boards vs. chalk boards
- library

Wayne Chiupka, Manager of Plant Services posed the question..."What do you like about this school and what don't you like about the school?"

Comments:

- Gym for the elementary panel is really important
- Full size gym is really important
- GYM should be high on the priority list
- Separate computer lab
- Size/better outside lighting is important
- Outside space in current layout is ample now
- Intercom system has to reach the whole parameter of the school both outside, inside, throughout hallways
- School within a school, the primary division separated from junior and intermediates
- Sense of unity and it is important to keep a sense of identity
- Fire access is very important/fire alarms/drills
- Cooperative efforts with the municipality, entrance way should be more friendly than what we are coming into here
- Welcoming entrance into the building
- Supervision, main office is not inviting and needs to be more central to the classrooms
- Like the partnership that has historically existed between the buildings, it has really been a benefit to the students and this is an opportunity for a greater partnership between the

two schools to enhance programming for kids, the kids see the exciting potential...we can carry this a long way!

- Kids are really excited about the idea of a new school
- Small community, smaller school, all the kids have access to things all of the time and there are no barriers
- Honouring space of each student group is really important
- The staff are the reason parents send their child to the school
- Teaching staff are great with the kids, what part of the school will it be joined on
- Like school spirit, staff is great
- Friendly staff with their own library with a big selection of books
- Size, new kitchen (pretty important) nutrition and environment for students, curious about how new school will offer the same concepts
- BA Parker Breakfast program with a functioning kitchen
- It is familiar that is a good thing and a bad thing, we need something different to be excited about, we need modernization
- Schools within schools and designated space in the school, a circle type thing where the classes are configured in a circle/hub around the main office/lunch area
- Cubbies, seating outside class and lockers
- Coat hangers should be in own classrooms, mudrooms promote the spread of head lice
- Don't like mud rooms
- Concern is fitting everyone into one facility, everyone has their own space, this project will involve optimizing space and making things efficient but it is important to respect space and there are no compromises
- Ian gave a history of classroom design: tall classrooms with hooks at the back of the room evolved to benches, cubbies, lockers outside classes, we do not want to reduce space so we reduce on finishes.
- Display cases/trophy cases
- Trees kept outside
- More green play space
- GCHS will be impacted, we need to focus on the discussion there and how it will impact the high school environment
- Focus on GCHS, how will that school be impacted
- Bridging opportunities and making use of empty classroom space in the secondary panel, how do you grab those rooms and make use of them in spare sessions
- Link will be created to Evans, Bertrand, Hill and Wheeler website
- Really looking forward to seeing the footprint design

#### Communication:

- W. Chiupka explained that every time the architects are out they will be sharing schematics with the municipal offices so that everyone is involved in the process and is able to provide input. The architects do "life cycle costing" which includes information about how long project would last, how much does it cost to maintain?

Heidi Lindsay asked about a timeline

Ian:

- It typically takes about a month to get a block schematic going and to begin to draft strategies of where the additions can come in. We would like to have a detailed floor plan before Christmas.

Process:

- Assess program and space and balance the wish list with the funding available
- Develop master plans
- Create preliminary drawings with a price tag attached
- The space may be the same but the shapes or layout may be different
- The schematic design process can work quickly (approximately 2 months but longer if needed)

4. Project Steering Committee

The B.A. Parker School Replacement Project Steering Committee includes:

- Chantal Barrett, Community Representative
- Vance Czerwinski, Community Representative
- Linda Penna, Principal, BAPS
- Cathy Kurish, Teacher, BAPS
- Kaitie MacOdrum, Student, BAPS
- Lisa Slomke, Parent Council BAPS
- Nancy Sutherland, Support Staff, BAPS
- Al Luomala, Principal, GCHS
- Heidi Lindsay, Teacher, GCHS
- Patti Davis, Support Staff, GCHS
- Kirsti Davis, Student, GCHS
- Julie Davis, Parent Council, GCHS
- Patti Pella, Director of Education SGDSB
- Wayne Chiupka, Manager of Plant SGDSB
- Mark Mannisto, Chair, SGDSB
- Jim Turner, Greenstone Trustee SGDSB