



Project Advisory Team Meeting Minutes

Furr High School

MEETING NO.: 002

LOCATION: Furr High School

DATE / TIME: June 6, 2013, 1:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Dr. Bertie Simmons, Principal; Marie Aguirre, Parent Engagement; Tracey Clark, Customer Service Representative; Lurleen Dixon, Community Member; Patricia Duffie, Teacher; Mary Fontenot, Parent; Cornell Gray, Teacher; Carl Johnson, Parent; Matthew Lawrence, Teacher; Rosanette Luther, Teacher; Diana Marroquin, Secretary; Fredalina Pieri, Teacher; Marjorie Martinez, Assistant Principal; Allison Copony, Teacher; Sue Robertson, HISD – Facilities Planning; Kedrick Wright, HISD, Facilities Planning; Princess Jenkins, HISD, Facilities Planning

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting was to focus on establishing the Guiding Principles for Furr High School which will be used to “test” the decisions that are made throughout the design process and beginning the Capacity model and Space Requirements.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- Creating Guiding Principles
- Begin discussion about the Capacity Model
- Begin discussion about Space Requirements
- What to expect next Project Advisory Team Meeting

NOTES:

Discussion

1. Creating Guiding Principles
 - a. The PAT brainstormed ideas about creating Guiding Principles:
 - i. What will attract students to Furr High School in the next 5 years?:
 - Current/Expected career pathways:
 - Robotics
 - Cosmetology
 - Technology
 - Health Sciences
 - Building Trades
 - Business
 - Engineering
 - Fine Arts/ Audio/Visual
 - Media
 - S.T.E.A.M. Program
 - ii. The PAT discussed ideas that give a clear vision, mission and mantra of Furr HS:
 - The PAT will use their previously developed Community Covenant as the framework for the Guiding Principles.
 - The culture of Furr HS will remain community oriented.
 - The new building should be an environment that will showcase our programs and our students.
 - iii. The PAT discussed how Furr HS is community oriented:
 - Furr HS has a welcoming and inviting atmosphere.
 - Furr extends the learning environment into the community.
 - The PAT believes the new building should break down barriers that would prevent students from coming to school.

- The PAT considers offering an on-campus daycare for teen parents a valuable asset to the Community.
 - iv. The PAT discussed ideas about the importance of Furr HS' hands-on/pathways learning environment:
 - The PAT would like the new building to offer Continuing Education courses.
 - Furr HS' ability to prepare students to be College or Career ready is important to the PAT.
 - The PAT wants to make sure the pathways offered at Furr HS are relevant in 21st Century Careers.
 - v. The Furr HS PAT brainstormed "We believe..." statements:
 - We believe each student has a different learning style. Instruction should be tailored to each individual student according to their learning style.
 - We believe space and room to move is important. Students learn better when they are able to move.
 - We believe the new school should reflect the rich history of this community.
2. HISD Facilities Planning presented a Prezi presentation of 21st Century Learning Spaces:
 - a. The Prezi was shown to help the PAT begin to visualize spaces that will be formed by their ideas, values and desires for the new building.
 - b. The Prezi showed examples of flexible spaces that can be reconfigured and modified to adapt to change over time.
 - c. The Prezi included examples of highly specialized Pathway Lab spaces which allow for an easier transition from high school to college programs.
 - d. The PAT was encouraged to use their imagination and to think outside of the box when it comes to planning their new space.
 3. Capacity Model Discussion
 - a. The PAT was shown a draft Capacity Model as a primer for the next PAT meeting.
 - b. The next PAT meeting will begin the discussion about Furr HS' Capacity Model.
 4. Other Discussion
 - a. Furr HS will offer a S.T.E.A.M. program that merges Fine Arts and Engineering.
 - b. The PAT wants a better cafeteria with better food choices for the students.
 - c. The PAT wants the new building to be a landmark for the East end.

Question and Answer

1. Will REACH be a part of the new Furr HS?
 - a. If REACH Charter High School continues to operate on the Furr HS campus, the required space would come out of the total square footage of the new building.
2. Specialized hands on spaces, such as those for Robotics are expensive. Can we work on corporate partnerships that will sponsor those of those types of facilities?
 - a. Corporate partnerships and/or sponsorships are permitted. HISD is actively engaged in conversations with various industries.
3. What can we do now to get corporate sponsors for Furr HS?
 - a. The conversations begin with discussing your educational goals and potential pathways. Then we will take a look at the partnerships HISD already has and we will go from there.
4. What are some of the important components of the new building?
 - a. The new Furr HS is a 1,100 – 1,300 student school that will support current and future educational trends and growth.
 - b. Any feature that can be used to support educational learning opportunities will be built into the new building.
5. With as many programs as Furr HS has and all the different spaces that will be needed to accommodate those programs, how will space be allocated?
 - a. Right now, square footage is our currency. Once we have established the educational program, it will be up to the PAT to decide how to use the allotted square footage.
6. Is the parking lot and outside square footage considered in the cost?
 - a. Parking and any other site work is factored into the overall Project Budget. The square footage discussed in the Space Requirements is interior space only.
7. What is HISD's plan for the cafeteria?
 - a. Cafeterias in 21st Century High Schools are not the traditional pass thru lane layout. Instead, the cafeteria will be designed as a food court with multiple food options arranged at various stations throughout the student dining commons.
8. What effect does the food court concept have on the square footage of the cafeteria?
 - a. The student dining commons will be sized to accommodate the higher end of the Bond approved program capacity for the new school.
9. How will the architect deal with the façade of the new building?
 - a. During the design process, that Architect will present several design options.

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What to expect next PAT meeting

1. Begin the discussion on the Capacity Model
2. Begin the discussion on Space Requirements

ACTION ITEMS:

1-01 Develop Guiding Principles (Furr PAT)

NEXT MEETING: July 16, 2013 at 1:00pm.

Please review the meeting minutes and submit any changes or corrections to Kedrick Wright. After five (5) days, the minutes will be assumed to be accurate.

Sincerely,

Kedrick Wright
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