

Minutes 2012 Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting Austin High School

MEETING #: 24

LOCATION: Austin High School

DATE / TIME: August 18, 2016

ATTENDEES: (those marked with a check were present)

	\checkmark	Steve Guerrero	Principal		Chris Fields	Heery/HISD
		Yadira Banuelos	Alumni Class Pres.		Georgianne Sigler	Visitor
		Covey Nash	Alumni	\checkmark	Octavio Cantu	ERO Architects
		Cruz Casiano	Teacher CTE Fam.	\checkmark	Tim Johnson	Teacher Science
	~	Rosemary Grant	Heery/HISD	√	Joe Nelson	Alumni
	✓	Marsha Eckerman	Alumni		C. Guerrero	Teacher CTE Ag
		Albert Wong	Heery/HISD		Dan Bankhead	HISD Mgr. Design
		Sylvia Wood	HISD Communication	\checkmark	Guadalupe Saldivar	SPED Teacher Asst.
	\checkmark	Angelita Henry	Parent/Alumni		Raul Asoy	SPED Chair
		Tania Roman	Student/Alumni		Chris Williams	Teacher History
		Jacque Royce	Alumni	\checkmark	Mark Kerrissey	Teacher History
		Catherine Smith	Teacher CTE Data		Jorge Medina	Assistant Principal
	\checkmark	Eli Ochoa	ERO Architects		Theresa M. Guerra	Registrar
		Eric Ford	HISD Architect		Jose Saenz	Teacher History
		Erica Deakins	HISD Director		Paul Gloria	Community Neighbor
		Tierra Harris	Parent/Alumni		Mark Janicek	Teacher CTE Fam.
		Luis Landa	HISD AP		Victor Trevino	Teacher Soc. Studies
	\checkmark	Alfonso Maldonado	Alumni		Holly Huffman	HISD Communication
		Jason Bernal	HISD CSO	\checkmark	Gary Whittle	Heery/HISD
		James Galvan	Visitor	\checkmark	Ariana Sherman	HISD AP
		Alexander Medina	Visitor			

PURPOSE: The purpose of the meeting was to meet with Project Advisory Team to update members on the proposed color scheme palette and new SPED layout for Austin H.S.

AGENDA: See attached



DISCUSSION:

- 1. Principal Guerrero welcomed PAT Members to the meeting. Rosemary Grant handed out the most current PAT handbook to Dr. Raul Asoy and he returned the signature page.
- 2. All visitors and PAT members were reminded to sign the attendance sheet.
- 3. Eli Ochoa facilitated the PowerPoint presentation on two (2) proposed color schemes and exterior images of the Lockwood St. elevation and plan updates on SPED. The following comments refer to discussions of the exterior elevations. See Item #4 for the color scheme discussion during the PowerPoint Presentation.
 - a. Mr. Ochoa reviewed the exterior elevations presented at the July 21, 2016 PAT meeting. He explained the building had been pulled back from Jefferson St., North elevation, so it would be less imposing to the residences across the street. He described the arches, in front of the gym, add depth and provide opportunities to incorporate shaded areas. Also, the one story administrative area allows for further separation from Jefferson St. preceding the 3-story classroom tower.
 - b. Question: Where are the ADA ramps for access? Mr. Ochoa identified two (2) ramps that will offer access from Jefferson Street North elevation. There will be ADA appropriate signage throughout the campus that will signify direction to the accessible ramps located near each accessible entrance.
 - c. Mr. Ochoa stated the new additions are composed of (2) 3-story classroom towers to the West of the existing 1936 building.
 - d. A rendering of the Lockwood St., West elevation, was presented which was requested at the previous PAT meeting. The Lockwood St. entry, with a ramp approach, provides access into the dining commons and the bus drop off is located at this entry.
 - e. Question: Will the special education students be dropped off at the main entrance? The answer was yes.
 - f. The drop off of students by parents would be accommodated on Dumble St., East elevation, at the original 1936 building entry.
 - g. Question: With concern towards the Texas climate, will the canopies at the bus drop off extend to the building entry? The canopies, as shown on the presentation slide, do not cover the path of travel to the entry. Mr. Ochoa will explore the possible extension of the canopies and the cost of same.
 - h. The South elevation rendering of the service drive indicated the existing school track and the relocated horticultural garden for special education students. It was suggested and acknowledged that a fence/gate should enclose the garden if used by SPED. A water source for the garden also needs to be confirmed. The existing teacher parking lot will become more visible with better lighting, parking space lines will be restriped and spaces could be designated. The parking lot will continue to be used for band practice.
 - i. Plan updates for the Special Education Department were shown and discussed. The (4) classrooms are paired and each pair share a common kitchen/ living area and a restroom with space for a changing table. Dr. Asoy stated that washers /dryers are needed and could be installed in the closet in the kitchen area. Mr. Ochoa will explore this item of interest. All rooms/areas will be wheelchair accessible. Elevator locations were identified and shown on the floor plan; the size is larger than the existing and are fully accessible.



- 4. The second agenda listing, under the PowerPoint presentation, proceeded with Interior Color options A and B. Option A colors are similar to the colorful "Greetings from Houston" signage and Option B reflects colors of the Port of Houston Authority. A discussion of both options followed.
 - a. Mr. Ochoa described the circulation on the interior of the building, which has been dramatically simplified and much easier to get around the building. The classrooms are on the East side of the building with views of the courtyard seen through the corridor windows from the West. The auditorium, with a new lobby and enhanced lighting and sound systems, can be accessed from either Jefferson or Dumble entrances.
 - b. The brigade memorial and honor wall at the Dumble entrance will remain.
 - c. Question: Where would trophy cases be displayed. Mr. Ochoa suggested the historical trophies could be placed at Dumble, or, they could be accommodated at either "main' entrance. The trophy cases could be built pending exploration of layout and cost.
 - d. Question: Will all existing windows in the 1936 building be replaced? Answer: Yes, it is planned.
 - e. The windows became a topic of discussion. Mr. Ochoa stated the classroom windows allow for light from the east windows to pass through the classroom into the corridor in keeping with 21st century school concepts for daylighting and views. Marsha Eckerman commented about the windows on the corridor wall of the classrooms could be distracting and Eli responded that mini blinds would close off any distractions. To open or close the blinds would be the teacher's choice. The north and south walls will have a glass wall and each classroom door will have (2) sidelites. The various locations of the windows will move light throughout the building so the occupants will not feel they are in a cave.
 - f. The small group areas, shown at window wall in West corridor overlooking the courtyard, as currently designed, were of concern to several members. The group enclosure could contain between 6 and 12 students. As presented, the enclosure is of opaque construction whereby the occupants' behavior, within the enclosure, will be unseen and unknown. The gathering idea was well received however the "grouping structure" enclosure" should be more transparent.
 - g. It was also observed by Steve Guerrero that students could eat in the courtyard and Eli pointed out that (2) classes could also be held in the courtyard.
 - h. After both A & B Options were discussed, Marsha Eckerman asked why the lime green was used instead of the traditional Austin HS green. Mr. Ochoa responded that the color palette was developed from the inspiration images shown earlier. It was also mentioned that pinpointing the exact Austin HS green has proved elusive since several greens were observed under different lightings. It became a consensus that the Austin HS color was more of a hunter green. Marsha also recognized that the official school colors are Kelly green and white.
 - i. Several PAT members expressed a general approval of the overall color palette but had concerns the presentation was a bit too modern. They prefer a warmer and more traditional palette. The lime green particularly is a little bright. After the PowerPoint presentation, everyone proceeded to look at the various color boards that were prepared with the actual material samples attached with Velcro. Eli and Octavio pointed out that the darker colors have a lower reflective values and should be used carefully, so as not to absorb too much light.
- 5. The members reviewed all the color boards and came to a consensus on Option A with the provision that the green would be more in line with Austin HS Kelly green. Mr. Ochoa will provide a warmer green for Option A which will become the "baseline". He will also prepare an additional palette for the PAT to consider at the next meeting, September 26, 2016, before deciding upon a preferred option.



- Half size plans of the Additions and Renovations to Austin HS project were made available and several members reviewed the plans and requested additional information that will be brought to the next PAT Meeting.
 - a. Mr. Ochoa will provide larger images of the Special Education classrooms as well as the teacher workrooms.
 - b. He also briefly discussed flex labs and he will determine the number available that could be used for varying sizes of classes.
- 7. What to expect at the next PAT Meeting.
 - a. Interior color board presentation of Option A and new Option C.
 - b. Enlarged plans of SPED and teachers workrooms
- 8. Action items.
 - a. Hand out PAT handbook and secure signatures from those absent at this meeting.
- 9. Future Tentative PAT Meeting Dates will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - a. October 20, 2016
 - b. November 17, 2016
 - c. December 15, 2016

NEXT PAT MEETING: Thursday, September 15, 2016 @ 4:00 p.m., Austin HS Library

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

Sincerely,

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