Minutes
2012 Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting
Wharton Dual Language Academy

MEETING #: 16
LOCATION: Wharton Dual Language Academy K-8 Library
DATE / TIME: December 14, 2015; 3:45 pm

ATTENDEES: (those marked with a check were present)

- Jennifer DayPrincipal
- Patricia SelinIB/GT Coord.
- Cynthia RangelTeacher
- Eric FordHISD Design
- Victor BalduilloMunoz Arch
- Raul RamosPTO Past Pres.
- Casey AnnunzioMunoz Arch.
- Michael SabouniAutoArch
- Michael StravatoParent
- Lewis WorthyParent
- Martha RangelTeacher
- Bogar VenturaPTO Pres. Elect
- Marna MarshParent
- Taryn KinneyParent
- Chris FieldsHeery
- Albert WongHeery/HISD
- Geof EdwardsMunoz Arch.
- James MetoyerHISD Director
- David FunkHISD Planning
- Adam HarrisParent

PURPOSE: Present and review updated design concepts based upon the previous PAT work sessions.

AGENDA:

- Review & discuss revised site/floor plan designs
- What to expect at the next PAT Meeting

DISCUSSION:

A. PRESENTATION OF THE REVISED SITE PLAN

0. The selected option B1 from November’s PAT meeting was shown with some minor revisions and expanded landscape planning. The scheme maintained 124 parking spaces. Different layers of site
fencing were shown so that the flex field and the north playground may be accessed by the public after school hours but may also be closed off at night.

1. The Design Team showed a revised fire truck access lane east of the Service Yard.
2. The PAT indicated that the relocated Spark Park should not be open to W. Gray St., but it should be fenced off and made accessible after regular school hours.
3. The pre-K playground was shown to the east side of the site as mentioned in the prior meeting. This allows for the courtyard to be more open and addresses the noise issue while other students are in class. Areas shown were at the new entrance, east playground, north playground/bus drop, and cross walk area from the flex field. A cross section drawing was shown describing how the flex field’s sides would slope for a double use as a storm water detention area.
4. The enlarged landscape plans showed existing trees and new supplemental trees on the campus. Enlargements also showed the transition from hardscape to sod and planted areas, with native, low maintenance plant species. Hedges and planters will be used to create boundaries and keep the pedestrian flow/play zones organized and clearly defined.
5. Native species were shown as an intended planting palette: Purple Coneflower, Buttonbush, Dwarf Burford Holly, Turk’s Cap, Cedar Elm, Gulf Muhly, Horseherb, Butterfly bush and Redbud tress.
6. A community garden area was shown at the north end of the east playground area. Space was shown for a future greenhouse as a possible way to enhance the student gardening program. This location is adjacent to the Flex Lab space in the existing building, which could support the gardening activities.
7. The PAT asked for fruit trees to be considered near the community gardens.

B. DISCUSSION OF THE FLOOR PLANS

1. Circulation was improved with various entrances/exits from the large Dining Commons area. The kitchen was rearranged to be more central to the dining seating space. An abundance of natural light to the large space became possible with the new location.
2. The patio area was revised to allow for tables and chairs in the courtyard area.
3. The Design Team revised the size of the Basketball Court to Middle School space requirements. The locker rooms were adjusted. The main entry/pre-function space leading into the gym was flipped to the north end of the gym to allow for natural lighting and a possible extended learning/gathering area. The PAT seemed to prefer this new plan arrangement.

C. EXTERIOR VIEWS

1. A covered walkway was shown at the bus drop to the north. The walkway is along the dining space. The PAT seemed to like this new covered walk and its location.
2. The covered walk helps to shade the extensive glazing on the dining room’s seating space.

D. NEXT STEPS

1. The Design Team will further refine particular areas of the floor plans, such as library, classrooms, extended learning and administration.
2. The exterior will be further studied with refinements made based on interior space revisions.
QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

A. There were no additional questions from the PAT.

ACTION ITEMS:

2-1 The Design Team to review some of the Wilson Montessori School site features for possible application to the WDLA campus.
2-2 The Design Team to further develop the central courtyard area to accommodate various school events.
2-3 The Design Team to study the fire truck access at the Service Yard and determine the best location for the dumpsters.
2-4 The Design Team to further develop the desire for a one way flow of students through the new Dining Serving Area.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE NEXT PAT MEETING:

1. Discuss and review further development of the WDLA site/floor plan design concepts from Munoz/AutoArch.

NEXT PAT MEETING: January 11, 2016 @ Wharton DLA; Receptionist to confirm Meeting Room Location.

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,

Albert Wong, AIA
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