

## **Summary of Facility Advisory Meeting** **July 13, 2009**

The first meeting got underway last evening, July 13, 2009 with just over 30 attendees, including parents, staff, administrators and city residents.

Dr. Christine Handy Collins, Principal of GHS, welcomed the group to our kick-off meeting, and then turned the floor over to Dennis Cross, MCPS Project Lead. Mr. Cross introduced the players, and turned the meeting over to Paul Falkenbury, architect from Samaha Associates.

Mr. Falkenbury expressed that the purpose of these meetings is to share ideas and build a consensus on the new GHS. Tonight's meeting is intended to lay out the "foundation" for the new building, and arrange where the BIG things are located (gym, office, café, bus loop, drop off, etc...)

Tonight's theme is the "Big Picture".

The Schematic design power point presentation was handed out to attendees, and was reviewed by Mr. Falkenbury.

There are 3 options laid out in this presentation as possibilities for the new GHS. Each option was reviewed, and comments and suggestions were given and received by all attendees in the room.

Some of the following were suggestions and comments made during the meeting:

- The building project will be certified as "LEED Silver" where it pertains to "green" building requirements. They will look into the possibility of using geothermal energy at the site. If it works, geothermal will be used.
- Where will students and staff park during construction? Still to be determined.
- Everyone happy that new design comes with new concessions area with bathrooms. School will not have to be open in order to use restrooms for athletic events.
- Each design shifts slightly the fields in back of the school. The practice field will be Lacrosse regulation size. Locations of the fields were discussed, and many suggestions were given.
- Tennis courts should not be up front by stadium. Fencing around courts would make it an obstacle. Should be located far right or far left of property.

Additional comments were made specifically towards a particular "Option" drawing. These comments are below:

### **Option 1 comments and suggestions**

#### **(main street - motor court option - lobby between gym and auditorium - café facing 355, media center on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

- Drawing shows end to Summit Avenue. Can we do a traffic study in the Fall to determine if having only one way in and out to the school (Education Blvd.) is feasible with the volume of traffic we have?
- Light cycle at Education and 355 would have to be changed
- Need to separate pedestrians and cars coming in on Summit.
- Could Summit Ave be continued around school as service road to provide another “out” for traffic?

### **Option 2 comments and suggestions**

#### **(motor court option - auditorium, café and gym on main street by bus loop, admin and guidance and media center face 355)**

- Most people want 2 ways to drive in and out of school.
- City representative reminded architect that Summit will need to provide a turn around for emergency vehicles at the least,
- Don't like service entrance and bus loop combination
- Prefer bus loading further from 355
- Maybe flip the media center and the café

### **Option 3 comments and suggestions**

#### **(no motor court - café face summit, main street with gym and auditorium media center and admin offices)**

- Auto tech next to cafeteria – problem with smell?
- Like having no auto court
- Prefer media center or cafe on 355 corner, not just classes
- Concern about students crossing over bus loop or drop off to get to building. Suggestion made to move bus loop against the fields. Will see suggestion in updated design.

The design document provided is a “dynamic” document, and the suggestions given at the meeting will be incorporated and updated before the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 27, 2009 at 7pm in the Choir room at GHS. It is open to the public. Please plan to attend.