

MOSELEY ARCHITECTS

03.11.2015

Rosemont Community Meeting 7:00pm

PROJECT MCPS Gaithersburg Capacity Study
Montgomery County Public Schools, MD

ARCHITECT'S PROJECT NO. 546134

DATE AND LOCATION Wednesday, March 11, 2015

PRESENT For Montgomery Co. Public Schools, DOC/LRP
* Mr. Rakesh Bagai
* Ms. Julie Morris

For Moseley Architects
Mr. Bill Brown
Ms. Olivia Brookman

<u>Capacity Study Participants</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Mr. James Sweeny	Rosemont ES Principal
Mr. Eugene Martin	Rosemont ES
Ms. Carrie Bohrer	MCC PTA
Ms. Silvia Gross	MCPS Interpreter
Mr. Enrique Aveleyra	Rosemont Neighbor
Mr. Steve Augustino	Gaithersburg Cluster
Ms. Reina Miranda	Rosemont Parent

DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Gaithersburg Capacity Study and what possible additions are being explored for the Rosemont ES site.

1. Ms. Julie Morris performed introductions and began the meeting by giving an overview of the Capacity Study process and how it relates to the Gaithersburg cluster. She mentioned the four school sites that will be analyzed as part of this study; Rosemont ES, Washington Grove ES, Laytonsville ES and Goshen ES. She explained that both Summit Hall and Strawberry Knoll ES have already had studies performed that will be taken along with this study as information for the BOE and Superintendent to make recommendations from. Gaithersburg ES is not being considered for any addition or revitalization expansion because it is already at full build out for a 740 core capacity and the site is not conducive to an addition.
2. The enrollment projections at all the schools in the cluster reflect a deficit projected to be over 800 students in the 2020-2021 year. This deficit has triggered the study to help provide relief through additions, a new elementary school and/or a combination of the two.

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3. This study will analyze the four schools to figure out the possible sizes and locations for additions on the sites and the costs associated with those additions. The Superintendent will review all the information from the capacity studies and cost estimates before making a recommendation to either build additions at some or all the schools or to build a new elementary school or a combination of both. This is to address the space shortages as part of the FY 2017-2022 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) in the fall of 2015.
4. Sites for a new school and boundary changes will not be explored as part of this study.
5. Moseley Architects will prepare one or more plans for each of the schools in the study and present them at the upcoming community meetings at each school. They will gather feedback from the meetings and present the final plans at the 2nd community wide meeting. Attendees will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the plans at the community wide meeting. Moseley Architects will take the comments and prepare a final Capacity Study brochure which will include the preferred design along with cost estimates for each proposed addition. The meeting dates are:
 - a. Rosemont Elementary School, Media Center – Wednesday, March 11, 2015
(3:30-5:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:30 p.m.) 16400 Alden Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD
 - b. Goshen Elementary School, Media Center – Wednesday, March 25, 2015
(4:00–5:30 and 7:00-8:30 p.m.) 8701 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD
 - c. Laytonsville Elementary School, Media Center – Monday, March 30, 2015
(4:00–5:30 and 7:00-8:30 p.m.) 21401 Laytonsville Road, Gaithersburg, MD
 - d. Washington Grove Elementary School, Media Center – Monday, April 13, 2015
(4:00–5:30 and 7:00-8:30 p.m.) 8712 Oakmont Street, Gaithersburg, MD
 - e. Public Information Meeting (Gaithersburg HS, Cafeteria) – Tuesday, April 28, 2015
(7:00-8:30 p.m.) 101 Education boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD
6. Ms. Morris handed over to Ms. Brookman to present the addition schemes for the Rosemont site.
7. Rosemont's current core capacity is 640. The building's program capacity is 561. The projected program capacity is 640. The current enrollment is 564 with a projected enrollment of 634 in the 2015/2016 school year. There are 2 program spaces in relocatables currently and the need for relocatable classroom space will increase over time based on MCPS's projections. The program calls for a 4 classroom addition and support spaces to bring the buildings program capacity up to match the core capacity of the building at 640.
8. Scheme 1 places the addition at the location where the relocatables currently are and connects to the hallway at the end of this side of the building. Parking is located underneath the addition to take advantage of the slope. A new curb cut will have to be introduced on S. Westland Drive for a drive aisle to the covered parking. The parking will have the required turnaround for vehicles and at the same time be a fix for the current erosion problem on the slope between the school and the fields. An accessible walkway from the addition to the fields is provided in this scheme. The plans allow for support spaces in addition to program spaces including; boys and girls toilet rooms, staff toilets, a mechanical room, electric room and space for data.

- a. The pros for this scheme are: It has a compact footprint. It takes advantage of the slope on site for a lower story parking which helps relieve the limited parking issue on site. It mostly preserves the play area. It also provides a good opportunity to fix the erosion problem between the upper play areas and the lower fields.
- b. The cons for the scheme are: The location of the addition does not create a loop in circulation through the building. Students in the addition will have to travel relatively longer distances to get to the other end of the building i.e. to get to spaces such as the gym and the multi-purpose room. The lower level parking is isolated from the rest of the building. The current relocatable classrooms will have to move for the construction of this addition.

(Additional studies of the parking and building relationship with existing site contours will need to be developed if this scheme is chosen as the preferred scheme.)

9. Scheme 2 locates a 2 story addition in the center of the existing courtyard, dividing it into 2 smaller courtyards. A kindergarten classroom is repurposed in order to create a connecting corridor to the addition on the first floor. The kindergarten classroom gets relocated into the addition at this same level. On the second floor a standard classroom is also repurposed for a connecting corridor and this gets relocated in the addition on the second floor. Support spaces provided in addition to program required spaces are a mechanical room, an electrical room, boys and girls toilets, staff toilets and a data closet.
 - a. The pros for this scheme are: It has a compact footprint. It is centrally located and so provides better access and circulation. Current relocatable classrooms do not need to move during construction. Instrumental Music and Dual purpose classrooms are closer to Art and Music. It attaches to the current 2 story portion of the existing building
 - b. The cons for this scheme are: The location of the addition does not create a horizontal loop in circulation through the building. Play areas will have to be relocated. This scheme does not provide the opportunity for the additional parking related to scheme 1 but it could be considered. The current courtyard is reduced to 2 smaller courtyards.
10. Mr. Steve Augustino asked where future relocatables will be placed in scheme 1. The principal stated that it has already been determined that once the back end of the school is exhausted, relocatables will be placed in some of the parking areas.

Mr. Augustino also asked about increasing the core capacity of the school by expanding the Multi-purpose room. The spaces surrounding the multipurpose room together with the location of the bus loop limits what can be done in terms of an expansion. Mr. Brown mentioned that the expansion of the Multi-purpose room will require an even larger addition on site to max out the core capacity.

Mr. Augustino went on to suggest that MCPS should build where the growth is with a good example being Rosemont.

He asked if there will be a meeting at Gaithersburg ES. Ms. Morris responded that there will not be a meeting there as part of this study, but all in the cluster are welcome to any of the meetings scheduled as part of the study. Mr. Augustino went on to suggest that it is in the best interest of the cluster to have a meeting at Gaithersburg ES to let them know what is happening. Ms. Morris will take Mr. Augustino's feedback to MCPS DOC & LRP.

Ms. Gross commended the design team on the thought put into the schemes and the effort made to make this an all inclusive discussion with the intent of collecting feedback from participants

Mr. Augustino mentioned that he would like to solicit feedback from parents who were unable to attend tonight's meeting and forward them to MCPS DOC. Ms Morris stated that the channel of communication is through the principal to MCPS at which point the information will be passed onto the architects.

11. Information on all the capacity studies will be posted at the following location as materials become available. <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/construction/studies/gccstudy/shtm>
12. Ms. Morris thanked the participants for coming out and she encouraged them to attend the upcoming meetings. The meeting was adjourned.

The above information is the writer's recollection of the discussions and decisions at the meeting. Should there be any additions or corrections, please notify the writer within two weeks of distribution for correction.

NOTES BY:

REVIEWED BY:



Olivia Brookman
Associate

Bill Brown
Vice President

DISTRIBUTION: As indicated by (*) above, also: