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AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Community Planning Meeting #1
Forest Hill Community Learning Center
Wednesday, March 9, 2005**

In Attendance

D. Mitchell	AAG
D. Spehar	AAG
J. Birath	AAG
D. James	Akron Public Schools
J. Beal	Akron Public Schools
G. Taylor	Akron Public Schools
K. Balchak	Akron Public Schools
B. Cacioppo	Akron Public Schools
C. Rakic	Akron Public Schools
J. Walker	Akron Public Schools
K. Stokes Horn	Akron Public Schools
C. Orwig	Akron Public Schools
C. MacKlein	Akron Public Schools
D. Groeger	Akron Public Schools
J. Finley	City of Akron (City Council)
T. Long	City of Akron
H. Tomic	City of Akron
C. Friedman	CPT
P. Mitchell	CPT
C. Mitchell	CPT
L. Kane	CPT
A. Luxeder	CPT
C. Yaceczko	CPT

Distribution

Project Managers	
M. Salopek	AAG
D. Mitchell	AAG
D. James	Akron Public Schools
J. Beal	Akron Public Schools
G. Taylor	Akron Public Schools
K. Balchak	Akron Public Schools
R. Jones Blum	Akron Public Schools
L. Duncan	City of Akron
T. Long	City of Akron

M. Williamson..... City of Akron
D. Krutz..... RKPS
L. Jennings..... Burges and Burges

The following is a review of items discussed at the meeting:

- D. James introduced the principal participants and gave a brief outline of the scope and purpose of the meeting.
 - D. James made a special introduction of Ward Councilman Joe Finley.
- D. James emphasized the importance of the Community Planning Team's input during the design and planning process. He emphasized that everyone must be committed to this process for its duration in order to ensure a successful Community Learning Center that meets the specific needs of the community.
- T. Long introduced the Goals and Expectations for the meeting and stated that there would be a great reliance on the community for their experience and resources. It was important to note that this was a core group which would bring expertise and more participants to the CPT.
- J. Beal discussed the master plan, particularly with regards to the various stages and the timeline. He explained the Ohio School Facilities Commission's (OSFC) facility evaluation process and the parallel evaluation process that Akron Public Schools (APS) and the Akron Architectural Group (AAG) performed. It was important to note that the team should stay consistent throughout the remaining phases of the project and not just the initial Program of Requirements (POR) phase. J. Beal noted that the existing building will be utilized during construction of the new Community Learning Center and as "swing space" for temporary relocation of other school's students during later phases of the project.
- At this time a video was presented which helped describe the Imagine Akron school reconstruction project.
- D. Spehar explained the OSFC Program of Requirements (POR) document and how this had been derived. He also reviewed some of the standard amenities that will be provided in typical classrooms, music rooms, gymnasiums, etc. He explained that it is the job of the CPT to define how the facility will be used for both the students and the community. These proposed uses will be compared with the spaces offered by the OSFC program. Variances from the POR to tailor the program to the specific needs of the community will be documented and presented to APS and the OSFC.
- An open question and answers period followed during which several questions were asked. J. Beal and D. Spehar explained that these are the types of issues that need to be brought to the AAG's attention and that future planning meetings will begin to address the specifics of the building design and site planning. The following represents some of the more detailed discussions that took place:
 - The estimated completion date of Forest Hill is in the year 2007. Ideally the Community Learning Center would open at the start of the school year but other milestone dates can be accommodated.
 - The number of classrooms was questioned for the student population. D. Spehar explained that the OSFC calculation assumes an efficiency of use through scheduling to maintain an appropriate ratio of classrooms per student. The intended ratio is 20 to 1.

- It was recommended that the building's placement on the site should minimize the removal of existing trees.
 - At this time it is not know if the building will be a multi-story facility. D. Mitchell noted that going to multiple stories does not greatly reduce the building's footprint since there are many program elements that must remain on the ground floor (administration, gymnasium, auditeria, etc.) If it is a 2 story building there will be an elevator.
 - The availability of project funds both locally and from the state was questioned. D. James explained that the funds for the first group of schools (including Forest Hill) have been secured and are "in the bank".
- D. James requested that everyone present bring along new Team members to the next meeting.
 - The next two meeting dates were set: March 23rd at 6:00pm and April 27th at 6:00pm.

The preceding is AAG's interpretation of the meeting. Any changes, additions, or clarifications should be forwarded to our office as soon as possible. Unless these changes are furnished within ten (10) working days, it will be understood that all parties are in agreement with the preceding statements.