

The Akron Architectural Group

Braun & Steidl Architects ▪ GPD Group ▪ Hasenstab Architects, Inc. ▪ Moody Nolan, Inc. ▪ TC Architects, Incorporated ▪ URS

AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Community Planning - Schematic Design Meeting #1
Mason Community Learning Center
Thursday, May 13, 2004 @ 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance

J. Wheeler.....	AAG
J. George.....	APS
J. Beal.....	APS
L. Sutherland.....	APS
D. Lombardi.....	CPT
S. Lukacik.....	CPT
A. Babich.....	CPT
C. Isenhart.....	CPT
S. Parsons.....	CPT
J. Finley.....	CPT

Distribution

AAG Project Managers

M. Salopek.....	AAG
D. Mitchell.....	AAG
D. Loomis.....	Akron Public Schools
J. Beal.....	Akron Public Schools
K. Ingram.....	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:

- J. Wheeler distributed revised PORs and a graphic colored floor plate representation of the POR area requirements. He discussed the changes since we last met...two 900 square-foot Community Recreation Center classroom spaces have been as well as enlargement of the restrooms for day-to-day use.
- J. Wheeler reviewed three presentation boards, the site plan, and two schematic design floor plan bubble diagrams. J. Wheeler presented the first L-shaped scheme that was discussed at length at

the Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meeting on April 29th. J. Wheeler discussed key components of the layout and relationships. It was noted that both pros and cons were presented in various meetings since that Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meeting. AAG has met internally and discussed the layouts and had a Touch-Point Meeting with APS design review between D. Loomis, J. Beal (APS Architects), T. Long (City of Akron Planner), and L. Duncan (Deputy Mayor). Suggestions, comments, and reviews have been offered at each.

J. Wheeler indicated that he will try to review both schematic floor plan bubble diagrams and present the pros and cons that have come from these meetings. Scheme F3B, the original scheme discussed in our Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meeting on April 29th, located the Reading Circulation Room on the northwest side of the Gymnasium facing Exchange Street. J. Wheeler indicated that he believes it to be important that, along with the Community Recreation Center, the building make a strong statement on Exchange Street for the day-to-day passersby and for identification of the School. One of the suggestions is to move this function to the southeast, adjacent to the main entrance to the building, thus strengthening the entry point. Another issue is that the student dining in this scheme is internal to the building and it would be better if it could be moved to an exterior wall, thus gaining exterior lighting. Another comment was that the large group restrooms currently on the east side of the main L-shaped spine could be moved to the Education Wing on the southwest side of the building.

J. Wheeler also reviewed this scheme's site access, control points, parking areas, main entrance for the School, secondary entrance for the Recreation Center, deliveries, bus and car circulation, as well as pedestrian access and circulation for the site. Also discussed were locations of playgrounds for Kindergarten and upper grade levels, including the separation of school playground areas from the balance of the park, possibly with fencing. Also discussed was vertical circulation of people within the building, mechanical rooms, and utilities.

- Next discussed was the board containing Scheme F3C, which is a culmination of Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meeting comments, the APS Touch-Point Meeting, and AAG internal meetings. The biggest change here is the location of the Gymnasium to an east/west access along its length, thus providing main length of the gym parallel to the length of the stage between Student Dining and the Gymnasium. This encouraged site lines across the entire Gymnasium to bleacher seating. This scheme also incorporates some of the other suggested shuffling of spaces. Student Dining was moved to the exterior wall for two walls of windows, the Kitchen, Mechanical Room, Custodial areas, and Receiving Docks were moved to the north. Reading/Circulation was moved adjacent to the southeast entry and Art and Music were flipped to give the Art Room northern light and begin to address Exchange Street with a story or story and a half space along with the Recreation Center. Also relocated and added to this scheme is a large group Restroom across from the Dining area to facilitate ease of use after lunch periods and Recreation Center use up and down the corridor spine on weekends or after hours. The Mechanical Room, Vertical Circulation, and smaller Group Restrooms are located further down the Education Wing on the south side of the building. This also incorporates some changes requested in Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meetings such as clustering for teaming of classrooms and moving the Special Education Classrooms on the second floor to the east. In-School Suspension was also moved to the second floor on the east side of the building to facilitate segregation from the balance of the School. D. Lombardi noted that its current location adjacent to the stair tower and away from the rest of the classrooms is exactly what is intended for this room's function.
- The Community Center function was discussed. The enlargement of the restrooms to 180 square feet each to provide one ADA toilet with two other standard toilet stalls and one lavatory for the Women's Room, one ADA toilet, one standard toilet, or two urinals with lavatory could be installed into the men's restroom.

A review of the Administration area was held and discussions about potentially revising the layout to internalize the restrooms and vault storage records with the potential Health Clinic located off the corridor so that students do not have to go through the Administrative Secretarial area to get to the Health Clinic. Also suggested was the Guidance Counselor moving to an outside wall with corridor access so the students do not feel that they are in trouble when going to that office.

Access to the playground was questioned. J. Wheeler responded that access from Dining Rooms could be gained via the corridor at either end of the north/south corridor past large Group Restrooms or past the Art Room on the north side. Circulation through the School was discussed and deemed to work well. Location of the Kindergarten classrooms to access the exterior was discussed.

- Discussions with regard to the Receiving area and delivery access to the School were held. It will be reviewed by Braun & Steidl Architects, but J. Wheeler wanted to know if his assumption that a majority of paper deliveries and dropoffs can come in through the main front door. Kitchen, janitorial, and School equipment supplies would come through the receiving dock. Furniture, day-to-day deliveries, and small packages would probably come through the main entrance.

J. Wheeler indicated that there are some schematic site plans reviewing access and drive-up to the site. One of the main comments with the circular drive is congestion and confusion. Most in attendance liked the single aisle crossing for any students coming from the east or south and believe that should be maintained. Discussions were held regarding staging of cars during rainy days and covered entrances. It was agreed that the site is working well. Braun & Steidl Architects will attempt to revise at least two site schemes to provide different versions to address the issues discussed.

The next meeting will be a Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meeting to discuss site and potential exterior schematic elevations to give a sense of building mass and elevation "look". Another Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. and a follow-up CPT Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 27, 2004 at 4:00 p.m.

J. Wheeler thought that the process is moving along quite well and that we should continue to have the meetings before school is over and refine the schematic design prior to the August 25th 100% complete schematic requirements. All agreed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

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.