



AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUCHTEL/PERKINS COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

COMMUNITY MEETING #3

Tuesday, February 19, 2008 @ 6:00 p.m. at Buchtel High School LRC

In Attendance

D. Houchins	Buchtel High School Principal
F. Cheatem	Perkins Middle School Principal
D. James	APS
F. Herr	APS
P. Flesher	APS
J. Peterson	GPD
M. Salopek	GPD
S. Madison	RPMI
R. Parker	RPMI
K. Madison	RPMI
Members of Staff and Community (see Sign In Sheet)	

Distribution

D. Houchins	Buchtel High School Principal
F. Cheatem	Perkins Middle School Principal
D. James	APS
F. Herr	APS
P. Flesher	APS
J. Peterson	GPD
M. Salopek	GPD
S. Madison	RPMI
R. Parker	RPMI
K. Madison	RPMI
M. Freeman	APS
K. Balchak	APS
T. Long	City of Akron
L. Duncan	City of Akron
M. Moore	City of Akron
D. Krutz	RKPS

Meeting objective was to meet with community members to validate the program space requirements and review/discuss community concerns in the design of the new Community Learning Center.

Review of items discussed:



- D. James started with an overview of the objectives of the meeting and the efforts being made for this to be a successful project as well as the challenges the design team is encountering relative to the base POR spaces and the academic requirements.
- S. Madison presented the programming diagrams to the community.
- Concern was voiced about the nursing and plumbing programs, whether they would be kept for the new design.
- There was concern regarding the student population projections; felt to be low. Crouse Community Learning Center projections were high.
- Discussed inflation and adjustments being accounted for in OSFC budget numbers.
- Question concerning including numbers for Charter schools and open enrollment in the population projections. Noted that OSFC will not design for unknown open enrollment students.
- Community comment about a new 200 unit development within the community cluster.
- Discussed closing of schools and whether proceeds from sales would be put toward new school construction. D. James noted the properties must first be offered to other government agencies or charter schools. Noted that Erie Island is scheduled to close and students distributed among Rankin and Schumacher.
- Comment about the Mayor's proposed sewer system/college tuition plan and how that could begin to increase the student population.
- Question about whether there was any discussion about renovating the existing Buchtel High School. D. James noted that the costs associated with a renovation were more than building new, and the state's budgetary calculations for a renovation were less favorable than building new.
- Concerns regarding the strength of curriculum offered in the new facility and the synergies between the middle school and high school curriculum, D. Houchins noted that the curriculums are already inline with each other and the offering of Advanced Placement classes depends on the students desire to take the classes.
- The Community mentioned programs felt to be important to the Buchtel curriculum include: Project Grad, Nursing, Plumbing, IT, possibly sports medicine partnerships, and possible construction program.
- Buchtel has a broadcast communications space, adjacent to Room 123.
- Concern about the burden of two gyms and the extra-curricular activities that are going to have to share the space, it will be difficult to attract students with average facilities.
- Discussion regarding sports programs boosting the profile of a school through exposure, some felt academics should be the priority, others felt that sports could help attract students and generate revenue through tournament play and similar activities.
- D. James noted that OSFC does not take into account after-school programs and use of the facilities after hours in any calculations.



- Question about the clusters of the schools and the strategy for the future in the grouping of the clusters.
- Concerns about the current number of special education students in the high school.
- Suggestion about video conferencing for under-enrolled advanced classes, distance learning.
- Question about the examples of the 7-12 model school in or around the City and how they were designed and operated. Design Team to research facilities applicable to Buchtel/Perkins project.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. at Perkins Middle School LRC.

The preceding is GPD'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.