



## AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Windemere Community Learning Center  
Community Meeting #1  
November 8, 2007**

### In Attendance

Patricia Durkin.....	Akron Public Schools
David James .....	Akron Public Schools
Paul Flesher .....	Akron Public Schools
Gerry Taylor .....	Akron Public Schools
Mark Moore .....	City of Akron
Steve Buschko .....	City of Akron
Mark Salopek .....	GPD
John Wheeler .....	Braun & Steidl Architects

### Distribution

David James .....	Akron Public Schools
Gerry Taylor .....	Akron Public Schools
Paul Flesher.....	Akron Public Schools
Kristabeth Balchak.....	Akron Public Schools
Laraine Duncan .....	City of Akron
Mark Moore.....	City of Akron
Tom Long.....	City of Akron
Mark Salopek.....	GPD
David Krutz .....	RKPS
John Wheeler.....	Braun & Steidl Architects

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

Patricia Durkin (Principal of Windemere), David James, Mark Moore, and Steve Buschko introduced themselves.

The goals for this meeting included providing basic information, outlining plans for the new Windemere Community Learning Center (CLC), obtaining community input, answering questions and concerns, and recruiting a community planning team.

The *Program Summary and Review of Partnerships* was presented by Mark Moore and David James discussed key components of community learning centers:

- Safe and Secure Learning Environment for Students and Teachers
- Facility Availability for Variety of Uses by Community during Evenings and Weekends, Summers, and School Hours as Appropriate

Steve Buschko discussed facility use rules and regulations.

Helen Arnold; Mason Community Learning Center; Science, Math, and Technology Academy; and the International Inventors Hall of Fame were reviewed as examples of new community learning centers and their planning processes were discussed.



This first Community Meeting and future Roll-Up-Your-Sleeves Meetings (RUS) with the community planning team will facilitate the completion of the Program of Requirements (POR) for the new school. A final community planning meeting will be held on December 13, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at Windemere. One of the future RUS meetings will be held at Betty Jane so that planning team members can tour that facility to see what can be expected for Windemere.

John Wheeler discussed the project planning milestones, reviewed the different project phases, and identified the programming through bid package as taking approximately 17 months and groundbreaking through commencement of construction as approximately 18 months. As we begin in November of 2007, if we do not change anything, the new Windemere should be available in the Fall of 2010. The design team and the Owner team are always working to complete the design component as quickly as possible.

Student capacity and programming were reviewed:

- Windemere is currently scheduled for 350 students.
- With open enrollment, the current population is 377 students.
- The current building size is 39,429 square feet.
- The proposed building size is 52,870 square feet.
- The students will swing into the old Betty Jane until the new Community Learning Center is completed.

John reviewed the 350-student POR model, identified the Locally Funded Initiative (LFI) of 9,120 square feet, and reviewed the graphic representation of the classrooms and the POR as examples of the programming process to occur in future RUS meetings.

Site standards, playgrounds, green play surfaces, hard play surfaces, bus loading, parent drop-off, staff parking, convenient visitor entrance, and a recognizable front door were discussed. John reviewed sample rooms and classroom features, technology, music and art rooms, media centers, and assembly spaces.

A question and answer session included discussion regarding pitched roofs and the fact that these roofs will most likely be low-sloped, EPDM (rubber) roofs. Gerry Taylor of Akron Public Schools (APS) discussed the benefits of a low-sloped roof. John Wheeler discussed the cost implications.

There was a discussion regarding the LFI and where its monies come from. It is part of the 41% that APS/City of Akron is bringing to the project.

Retaining wall concerns and site limitations were discussed. We are not here to move dirt, but would rather put the money into the building and leave existing site conditions as is where possible. The playground will be fenced.

There was a question about a staff lounge and itinerate spaces. John Wheeler discussed possibilities and locations for additional new spaces not currently provided but anticipated in the new design.

The air handling systems and the noise level at Voris were discussed. This issue will be addressed during the design phase for Windemere.

David James fielded a question from a parent regarding the current school being sized for 380 students versus 350 projected for Windemere. Mr. James noted the redistribution of some students will occur. Open enrollment at the existing Windemere from other locations should revert to those other schools as they are renovated.

Also discussed were a building security system, in-school suspension, storage for each floor, elevator and fire access, visiting other schools to obtain a better understanding of their programs, site access, driveway issues, fix traffic flow around the entire site, Windemere, Emerald Drive, and Emmons Avenue.

John Wheeler encouraged everyone to talk about special programs for the school, such as the Safe Arrival Program that will be continued, the after-school program of the YMCA that holds children after



school until their parents are able to come for them, and identifying community spaces and programs that should be incorporated into the new school.

One existing program that needs to be continued is the school breakfast that currently serves approximately 85 students.

Few children walk to the site, but those that do come from the south. Crosswalk discussions need to be held during the RUS meetings.

John Wheeler distributed the POR to acquaint everyone with the spaces and square footages that will be allotted to the new school. He also asked the teachers and parents to think about whether there are architectural items at the existing school that can be salvaged and incorporated into the new Windemere.

There was a question about restrooms. Large restrooms for the students will be located on both floors so that travel between floors is not required.

The next meeting will be scheduled with the Principal, hopefully for the week prior to Thanksgiving at about 3:00 p.m.

The meeting ended at approximately 7:30 p.m. with John Wheeler thanking everyone for attending.

*The preceding is John Wheeler's (Braun & Steidl Architects) 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.*