



AKRON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Windemere Community Learning Center
Community Meeting #2
December 13, 2007**

In Attendance

Patricia Durkin.....	Akron Public Schools
Gerry Taylor	Akron Public Schools
Mark Salopek	GPD
Jim Kosinski	Braun & Steidl Architects
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:

John Wheeler presented an overview of the final Program of Requirements (POR) showing block representations of the spaces grouped by their department / function.

John also outlined the upcoming steps of the process, including the phases of design, the Touchpoint meetings, and design / budget reviews.

John indicated that site planning has not been completed and will not even be developed to any more detail until the final geotechnical report and site survey are completed (the site survey is in process and the geotechnical investigation is scheduled for over the holiday break).

During the presentation of the POR and block illustrations, the teachers made the following comments:

- More file space is needed in the classrooms. Teachers now have a few file cabinets each, some being four or five drawer types. Recommended were at least a couple more two-drawer cabinets or an additional five-drawer cabinet for each room. Gerry T. suggested putting this in the project as an add alternate.
- Larger activity tables are needed than those seen at other new CLCs. Teachers now have 'kidney shaped' tables for group reading that accommodate the teacher and eight students. Gerry T. suggested putting this in the project as an add alternate.



- The first grade teacher requested tables instead of desks and chairs. This is what she now uses and believes it to be more conducive to the type of teaching performed. Gerry suggested we revisit the standards for first grade classrooms and determine what is best.
- Desks seen at David Hill CLC are much too shallow where books are kept. The slot cannot even accommodate the students daily use books. Also, chairs do not have a book shelf under the seat, so there is no extra book storage space. It was recommended that different furniture be specified.
- Chairs at David Hill are leaving black marks all over the floors! It was recommended to obtain different chairs or different glides on the feet. Gerry indicated that this is being reviewed and revised.
- The desire for pull-down scroll maps of the United States and the World was expressed. John and Gerry indicated that the maps should be available via the central technology network or via the internet for all teachers to use. However, teachers believe their computers are so old and slow that it is not practical to use this method. John and Jim Kosinski will investigate what equipment is being installed in the new CLCs and how this should function in the future. Will data be available from a central location? Will it be available via the Internet? Scroll maps are not slated for relocation to the new CLC.
- Some indicated that "Betty Jane (located on a main street) looks cold and industrial", while "Forest Hill (on a more residential street) looks more warm, inviting and 'residential'". Although the staff is open to a more contemporary aesthetic, they do not want the "industrial" look and want the new CLC to fit the neighborhood.
- The Clinic MUST have an outside window with operable ventilation units. Gerry confirmed this for this school.
- The Mail / Work / Copy area in the Admin area should be a separate space of its own. Admin spaces should not have to travel through it and it should be away from private offices to reduce distractions.
- The Reading Room at Forest Hill was described as nice and pleasing, while not so at Betty Jane. Furniture (chairs) is much too heavy for young children to move / use easily.
- Library shelving should all have backs (even where back-to-back shelves are used) so books are not pushed through by students.
- John described how new programs would be integrated into the design (such as shared community use of the facility) while existing programs will also be continued (such as the School Psychologist, Breakfast Program, and After-school Care Program).
- The path forward on the project will include reviews of the concepts with the City, a Touchpoint meeting, completion of the site survey and geotechnical report, and development of the Schematic Design Concept. The next meeting with this group can be expected in about two months.

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.