



**Sehome High School Replacement Project  
Community Meeting Minutes  
May 24, 2016**

A community meeting took place Tuesday, May 24 at 6:00p.m. in the Sehome cafeteria where the Sehome Educational Specification and Design Advisory Committee, (Ed/Spec), with Dykeman Architects presented proposed preliminary plans for the Sehome High School Replacement Project.

From 6:00p.m.-6:30p.m., community members had the opportunity to view an architectural site plan, floor plans, elevations, and renderings and speak with Ed/Spec committee members, Dykeman Architects and Dawson Construction. Those in attendance had favorable comments about the presented plans and overall project.

Sehome principal Michelle Kuss-Cybula opened the meeting, explaining the process the Ed/Spec committee went through with architects from Dykeman to reach the project's plans that were presented. Initial information gathered in order to achieve their goal was provided through a visioning process that included a community meeting, an online survey, meetings with middle school students and meetings with Sehome's staff and student body. [Guiding Principles](#) were developed by the committee that helped steer the direction of the design.

Committee member and Sehome sophomore Oliver Trulock, shared that student work binds classmates together. He supports showcasing student art work encouraging occupants and visitors to feel at home. Art is a great thing to experience and brings teachers and students together.

Member Mark Peterson stated that a portion of the design came from the community and committee members. There are many exciting things going into this school, and sustainability has been kept at the forefront. A few features include orienting the building to take advantage of natural light, LED lighting and great controls so that energy use is monitored. Dawson understands this well, and has pledged to raise \$100,000 towards a sustainability feature in the project.

Zach Ham, Dykeman architect, shared the proposed site plan, stating that it took five different schemes through a site diagramming process to reach this plan. The school will take advantage of the views and daylight and offer a strong community presence. It will be roughly 40' away from the existing structure, allowing the project to be built without phasing. They will maximize design goals of light, connection to the outdoors, clear private/public separations, building presence with a three story structure, and fields for student and community use.

Zach introduced a floor plan, and guided the group through renderings to get an inside perspective of interior spaces.

Steve Clarke addressed the group, asking what they loved about what was presented, what they were not sure about and what else the committee might consider.

Positive community comments included appreciation of the southerly view, the beautiful floor plan, and the site lines, with varying heights where students can see each other and connect.

Questions emerged from the community, wondering if the theater was large enough, a concern of passive solar gain with the abundance of glass, acoustics, and whether or not there would be lockers.

Steve Clarke stated that Bellingham High School's theatre will seat 800, but it is not used very often. Most of the high schools the Ed/Spec Committee visited seated approximately 300-400 students. Ron Cowan added that we wanted a space that would be used more frequently, and chose to spend the budget in other areas that would receive more use on a daily basis.

Tim Jewitt of Dykeman responded to the passive solar gain concern, stating that they were looking at exterior shading and interior roller shades, and there will be operable windows providing some ventilation. The exterior building envelope will be well insulated.

Zach commented that the ceilings will be high, but they have an acoustic engineer, and will work with treating the walls, ensuring appropriate sound levels.

Michelle discussed her research on the need for student lockers. She found that the main use of lockers is to store athletic equipment and instruments and she will work with her team to get those items stored elsewhere. Not as many lockers will be necessary with students using more electronic devices. There will be space allocated for approximately 600 lockers, (approximately half of the student body).

Steve Clarke concluded the community meeting by stating that if anyone has additional comments, they may address them through the district's online survey or completing a written survey. Comments should be directed to Lisa Hust in Communications.

The Ed/Spec committee will be convening after the community meeting to decide if further adjustments need to occur prior to making their recommendation to Superintendent, Dr. Greg Baker. Dykeman Architects will be meeting over the summer to refine the design. There will be future committee meetings as the design progresses as well as additional community updates.

Meeting Adjourned 7:30p.m.