



Lowell Elementary Community Meeting

April 7, 2014

Design Advisory Committee Attendees:

Ron Cowan	BPS Asst. Supt., Fin. & Ops.	Melanie Flink	PE Teacher, Lowell, Happy Valley
Missy Ferguson	Lowell Elementary Principal	Korinne Getz	Lowell Parent
Mike Anderson	BPS Director, Bldgs. & Grounds	Laura Smith	Music Teacher, Lowell, Geneva
Lisa Bottcher-Law	Lowell Parent	Kelli Smith	Dykeman
Mark Dalton	BPS Food Service Director	Doug Hofius	Dykeman

- Ron welcomed parents and community members.
- Kelli described the project, its purpose, possible addition locations, their pros and cons, and the project schedule.

Questions

- Is the project code compliant? *Yes.*
- Will the project improve pick-up and drop-off? *Probably not.*
- Is it possible to have additional models giving materials and color choices? *Perhaps.*
- Will the ramps at 15th be removed? *Probably not.*
- Will Solar power be a component? *It is not currently planned, though we can look into it.*
- What is the design? *There will likely be some brick or masonry. The walls will have parapet caps. Windows and doors will take some cues from the existing building.*
- Is it possible to drop the building to alley level? *Yes, though accessibility, program, and cost will all be affected.*
- Will the mechanical system be ugly or noisy? *No. All HVAC will be enclosed in a mechanical room.*
- What will the roof look like? *It will likely be a single-ply (TPO or PVC) roof, which are typically gray or white. Some vents will penetrate but no major mechanical equipment will be on the roof.*
- Is it possible to better graphically depict the change of views? *We will look into this. Current drawings are basic massing studies, not finished designs.*
- What is the timeline until design is finished? *Likely a month to 6 weeks.*
- Have you read the South Hill Neighborhood plan? *Yes, we are familiar with it.*
- Will the building be air conditioned? *No.*
- What is the Budget? *Approximately \$6 Million total project budget.*
- Will there be additional parking or underground parking? *No.*
- Could the community provide additional design feedback? *We will look into this.*
- How will construction affect the school? *We will develop a plan. Some projects use construction as a learning tool with high visibility of progress, providing student tours, etc.*
- What is the height limit? *There is no height limit for public facilities. Typical schools, such as Birchwood, are approximately 35' maximum height. Height limit for residential in this neighborhood is 35'.*
- What is the height of the building? *The building is not yet designed, but we are anticipating that the gym will be between 22 and 25 feet high.*



Comments

- The project's architecture should mimic the existing building.
- Pick-up and drop-off works well one parent noted.
- A covered play area is desired (multiple comments).
- West option does not work. Suggest working to lower north option.
- If 35' is standard height for these buildings, limiting the height to 25' sounds good.
- Re-build wood ramps at 15th.
- Suggest clerestory windows around gym to allow views in and through.
- Suggest green roof.
- Suggest the project fits in with existing, but doesn't try to mimic the original (multiple comments).