



Meeting Minutes
BSD – Sehome High School Advisory Committee Meeting No. 1
November 17, 2015

Members Present:

Allen, Jeff	Jewitt, Tim
Anderson, Mike	Johnson, Kevin
Baker, Greg	Keck, Kacy
Brawley, Jacqueline	Knops, Gail
Clarke, Steve	Kuss-Cybula, Michelle
Cowan, Ron	Lawyer, Curtis
Criez, Kevin	Schenck, Corrine
Cushman, Colin	Schubeck, Grace
Dalton, Mark	Smith, Dana
Denton, Julie	Snyder, Craig
Dominguez, Kristi	Stinson, Jonah
Gazow, Kurt	Tetrick, Jeff
Ham, Zach	Trulock, Oliver
Hankinson, Amy	Williams, Rachel
Hasenjaeger, Kathy	Yurko, Amy
	Zender, Martha

Members Absent:

Ashby, Melissa
Diehl, Gus
Haberma, Mike
Peterson, Mark

Dr. Baker opened the meeting welcoming committee members and thanking them for their participation. He stated that this Sehome project has generated the largest number of applicants interested in serving on an Ed Spec advisory committee. He requested that each committee member introduce themselves and share why they chose to participate. He encouraged members to bring their own perspective and share that perspective, but also to step back and look at the bigger picture. It is important to listen to the each other, particularly listen to the students, to get everyone's viewpoint.

Michelle Kuss-Cybula, Sehome High School Interim Principal, discussed committee norms. She shared a list of collective norms for this meeting:

- Be Present and Attentive
- Assume positive intent
- Include all voices/opportunity to be heard
 - Safe space
 - Critical thinking
 - Ability to be vulnerable.

She encouraged everyone to think about what norm they wanted to focus on at this meeting and share that with someone.

Michelle then had the group participate in 'Wish and a Wonder', where each member wrote down one wish and one item that they wondered about for the future of the project. Michelle asked that the committee members keep these for future reference.

Ron Cowan, Executive Director of Capital Projects and School Facilities, spent a few minutes clarifying the committee's role and responsibilities. He reviewed pieces of [The Bellingham Promise](#) and the [Committee Template](#). He said that the district deliberately wanted to reach a broader group of people so there were visioning meetings to get community, student and staff perspective and feedback on the project. He also indicated, as committee members, we review and provide feedback on the actual design of the building, but won't actually design the school. Rather we will be giving the architects information so their design responds to the information we give them. Finally he reminded members that in terms of the decision making process, we are the advisory group making recommendations to the superintendent.

Ron then discussed the project parameters. The school sits on 40 acres, and will be approximately 175,000 square feet, with an enrollment of 1100-1200 students. The budget for the project is \$73 million. The plan is to build a new school while students remain on campus. He also indicated that the new school will include sustainability elements, be energy efficient, and a healthy, safe and secure place for students and staff.

Tim Jewitt from Dykeman Architects was introduced. The district is very excited to be working again with Dykeman who provided outstanding service on Whatcom Middle School, Birchwood Elementary School and Lowell Elementary School projects. Tim said that it takes about 4 years from concept to completion to build a high school. He stated they are very much a clients' architect and are here to meet community and student needs. He shared an [Initial Project PowerPoint](#) which included information on project opportunities and challenges, and how Dykeman has responded to similar challenges on several of their other projects. He talked about ADA accessibility, parking, site topography, ingress/egress, utilities, phasing and that the school will remain operational throughout construction. Ron Cowan added that with this project we have roads, sidewalks, water and sewer, all items we don't have to bring in as extra costs to the project, meaning more dollars can be allocated to the school itself.

Tim shared some examples of recent school projects Dykeman has designed. He noted that we want a school that will be flexible, open, and transparent; a school that will not get in the way of curriculum, with multi-use spaces, and to create a structure that supports a number of different teaching and learning styles. Sustainability and energy efficiency will be a focus to help minimize ongoing operating costs.

The group took a site and building tour. The committee reconvened and Steve Clarke led a discussion sharing some 'ah ha' moments that members found on the tour. The meeting wrapped up with Michelle Kuss-Cybula asking everyone to write down what they felt worked at the meeting, and what would be something that didn't, to assist in planning the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1st at 2:45p.m. at Sehome. Room to be determined.

Meeting adjourned: 4:45p.m.