

West Seattle Elementary School Renovation and Addition SCHOOL DESIGN ADVISORY TEAM

Workshop #5: School Tour Review & Design Concepts Workshop

Date: 11/20/2019

Attendees:	Pam McCowan-Conyers	Principal
	Shanica Washington	Assistant Principal
	Kyle Tunstall	Teacher
	Amber Simonton	Teacher
	Phil Sweetland	Volunteer
	Abdi Ali	Social Worker
	Lisa Enriquez	Bilingual IA
	Paul Wight	Project Manager, SPS Capital Projects
	Brad Miller	Principal, Miller Hayashi Architects
	Laura Maman	Principal, Miller Hayashi Architects
	Mark Tilbe	Landscape Architect, Murase Associates

Initial Items:

WSES has a School Dinner planned for Tuesday evening, 12/17. Team discussed details and format for presenting the project to the parent group.

Site Concepts Images:

Murase reviewed images of site concepts: Rolling hills, sloped surfaces for play, movement and coordination, safety, low maintenance ways to incorporate color, colored concrete, concrete with textures or words, asphalt with colorful patterns.

Walking Tour:

The group walked around the school grounds to review the existing site areas.

Comments during site tour included:

- The perimeter of the playground has a large area of vegetation that is overgrown, it's a nuisance and not maintainable.
- The south stair is still used to access parks area above for after school programs. It should be maintained or rebuilt with a locking gate at the top
- The group agreed that the bottom section of the driveway ramp should be gated off from play area for safety.
- An SDAT parent pointed out that the stairway across from the main entrance at the north property line is often used by families. A concrete wall blocks views through the stair. They suggested creating more open sight line to improve visibility and safety.

- The emergency supplies storage container is a nuisance on the playground. Team discussed ways to improve that, including possibly moving to perimeter or to be adjacent to loading area.
- A dumpster enclosure should be provided for the existing dumpsters.
- Playground design should account for some quiet areas of respite.
- WSE staff explained the K-2 pick-up stations at the west near the parking lot. SDAT members thought this would be a useful location for covered canopy area.
- SDAT members agreed that the pull out at the east side of the parking lot isn't useful. A wider sidewalk would be more useful there.
- An SDAT member thought that there should be more ADA parking closer to the building entrance.
- All agreed that a new canopy should extend from entrance to be visible from the west approach.
- WSE staff pointed out that the school garden is often not well maintained and should be designed with ease of maintenance or alternative use in mind.

Site Design Concepts:

MH and Murase presented site analysis and landscape design concepts. Discussion followed:

- SDAT supported the proposed concept of removing nuisance shrubs and plants from the perimeter of the playground and replacing with grassy bowl. Those areas are the most difficult to supervise. Lawn areas will add play space and are preferred by SPS groundskeepers.
- WSE staff clarified that the south stair that leads to the gate at the parks department fields are used occasionally for WSE programs and should be maintained/improved.
- WSE staff recommended that if rain gardens are provided that they should be separate from play area. They are difficult to supervise and maintain when in play areas.
- The SDAT team really appreciated and supported addition of the running loop.
- WSE staff recommended swapping the locations so that older student play equipment is closer to the basketball courts.
- WSE pointed out that the basketball hoops are in need of replacement.
- WSE prefers to not install new tetherball courts.

- WSE staff identified that space under the existing covered play is at a premium when there are two classes outside. Rebuilding a new covered play is not included in the scope of this project but would be addressed in the future if student dining and gym were expanded.

NEXT STEPS: **Meeting #6 – SDAT Findings and Summary – Dec 4th 1:30pm**
 Meeting #7 – School Dinner – Dec 17th

The foregoing minutes represent the architect's understanding of discussions held and decisions reached in the meeting and constitute the formal record of this meeting. Meeting participants with amendments to these minutes should provide comments to the architect within five working days of the transmittal date.