

Northgate Elementary School Design Advisory Team – Meeting #5 -Workshop

Meeting Date: December 4, 2019

In Attendance: *~~strikethrough~~ means did not attend

~~Eric Becker, Seattle Public Schools~~

~~Vince Gonzales, Seattle Public Schools~~

~~Kristi Jones, Seattle Public Schools~~

~~Any Kopiloff~~

~~Feben Ghirmatzion~~

~~Guillermo Carvajal~~

~~Jessica Ziparo~~

~~Laura Root~~

~~Linda Sinni~~

~~MaryAnn Johnson~~

~~Melie Ros~~

~~Sarah McFarland~~

~~Sheryl Lynn Grater~~

~~Nicole L Sud~~

~~Tatiana Apostolou~~

~~Oman T. F.~~

Dedy Fautleroy, Northgate ES Principal

Kevin Flannigan, NAC Architecture

Matt Rumbaugh, NAC Architecture

Amy Jain, NAC Architecture

~~Boris Srdar, NAC Architecture~~

Giselle Altea, NAC Architecture

Emily Spillar, NAC Architecture

Discussion Items

1.0 Welcome and General News

- SPS has selected a General Contractor for Northgate Elementary
 - Lydig Construction
- The Design team will come back to the SDAT group for some follow up meetings in the new year. Dates will be scheduled later.

2.0 Recap of the Design Mandate & Guiding Principles for the new School

- Superintendent Juneau's priorities:
 - All students should be able to read at grade level by grade 3
 - Targeted Universalism: *Unapologetically address the needs of students of color who are furthest from educational justice. This will help all students reach the collective vision.*
- From previous Northgate SDAT discussions:
 - Northgate should have a Non-Institutional feel
 - School Motto is "Courage, Compassion, Connection"
 - A building with a Strong Sense of Community would help capture this motto in built form
 - The design should focus on creating a strong sense of community even if it is composed of multiple smaller neighborhoods.
 - A need for an Exceptional Tapestry of Spatial Choices and a high quality, varied architectural experience
 - Encourage Curiosity
 - Curiosity is the starting point for an interest in reading

3.0 What are the characteristics or types of spaces that support Reading?

- Encourage Curiosity (in the Building and through Teaching)
- Distributed mini-Libraries (like Little Free Library)
 - Located in nooks near Learning Commons
- Spaces suitable for working with tutors or para educators and small groups
 - Small group rooms, learning commons (consider acoustics)
- Nooks for independent reading
- Library should be welcoming

4.0 Introduction of Prompts for Group Conversation:

- What are the Spatial Characteristics that Support all students, especially those with trauma?
- What are the characteristics or type of Spaces that support reading?

5.0 Criteria for Evaluating the Design

- Restorative and supportive
- Celebrates and encourages Curiosity
- Facilitates Community
- Contains a Tapestry of Spaces
- Feels Non-Institutional

6.0 Design Comments from the Previous Meeting that apply to all building Options:

- Parent drop-off on 120th street is preferred – it is a less busy street.
- Art room should be able to have an outdoor space immediately adjacent to the room
- The Library should be celebrated
- Special Ed suite should have some level of privacy.

7.0 Presentation of Preliminary design schemes

NAC gave a brief recap of the design schemes and conversation from the previous meeting. The team then broke into small groups for review and discussion of the updated Schemes A & C. After 20 minutes the whole team came back together to review the schemes and to vote on the final scheme to be selected for development.

Scheme A

Features

- Building Entry on N 120th Street
- Gym and Commons located at West end of site on upper terrace.
- Library located on upper floor with view of city skyline and Mt. Rainier.
- Childcare located below the classrooms on the East End of the building, opening out to the lower terrace.

Comments

- Special Ed teacher loved the Special Ed location at the end of the building with its own backyard and the fact that no walls are shared with other classrooms
- Staff did not feel the location of the Gym and Commons on the upper terrace was problematic. Parents however, were concerned it was too far from the play area and



would make supervision of kids at family events more difficult.

- Like the art terrace.
- Like having the parent drop-off on 120th.

Scheme C

Features

- Building Entry on 1st Avenue
- Floor plan with classroom groupings that are less 'pod-like' and more open to the central shared use / circulation space
- 2 story library space – can look down into library from level 2.
- Curving interior walls and hallways
- Gym and Commons located on lower terrace
- An option showing the Entrance on 120th Street was also presented

Comments

- Principal really likes having the family Room next to Administration and likes having ChildCare on the same level as the rest of the building.
- One team member noted that she liked the library having a view of a courtyard rather than a vista.

Decision

- This scheme was the team's favorite scheme and will be move forward in design.

Other Things to Study

- Special Ed layout and outdoor spaces
- How to make communal events seem not so loud, noisy and overwhelming.
- Location of the community Kitchenette – in the family room? In the commons? Somewhere else?
- Reading nooks / window seats in the classrooms
- Exposed wood ceilings as a feature in some spaces
- Location of washer / drier

If there are any corrections to these minutes, please notify the Architect within (7) days of receipt.
Prepared by AJ.

