



Meeting Notes

Powell SIT Meeting

2/4/2016

9AM

Powell ES, 1350 Upshur St NW, Washington, DC

Facilitator: Toussaint Webster

Overview:

Objectives:

To introduce Toussaint Webster as SIT Coordinator; To review SIT structure and communication plan; To deliver a site overview and communicate updated timeline

Attendance:

1	Wendy Evora	15	Christine Miller
2	Deysi Vasquez	16	Sanam Toosi
3	Tessy Pineoa	17	Erika Lindo
4	Teresa Flores	18	Cassandra Sanchez
5	Damien Rivera	19	Keysha Luckey
6	Estefania Cruz	20	Novella Brady
7	Mia Paustian	21	Rick Schneider
8	Andreima Laffargue	22	Reeve Johnson
9	Ken Forsburg	23	Tim Martin
10	Carla Ferris	24	Sean Garganio
11	Rani Harrison	25	Toussaint Webster
12	Amy Vota	26	Patrick Davis
13	Yanira van der Broeck	27	Christina Weaver
14	Teresa Rivas	28	Cassandra Sanchez

Notes:

Issue	Comments
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SIT Coordinator Toussaint Webster had attendants introduce themselves (name and connection to Powell) ▪ SIT Coordinator Webster introduced himself and communicated meeting guidelines/expectations and the SIT model/purpose.
SIT Structure and Communication Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members must understand that SITs were created for feedback and transparency, not necessarily final decision making power. School leadership makes some decisions and DCPS Central Office has the final say. ▪ The SIT as a whole, communicates out to broader community that they represent (i.e. parents, teachers, staff, neighbors, community members, etc.) ▪ Toussaint emphasized feedback vs. decision making→Sometimes your exact idea may not be implemented, but it will always be taken into account. Show us the blind spots! ▪ To accommodate families that start work close to AM-5PM, we proposed starting meetings at 8:10AM or 6PM. It will be up to the Powell Community to decide between the three ▪ Minutes/Notes/Agenda/Slides sent after SIT meetings in Spanish/English. Occasionally, after major project updates, Powell leadership may convene evening meetings to brief stakeholders who can't attend morning meetings, or vice-versa
Site Overview and Timeline	<p>Subcontractors/Trades Currently Secured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sitework ▪ Structural Steel ▪ Concrete ▪ Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing ▪ Windows/Exterior Curtainwall/Glazing <p>Upcoming School Construction Activities: February – March 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site Surveying/Stakeout: Projected Start Week of February 8th ▪ Installation of Erosion Control: Projected Start Week of February 15th ▪ Excavation for Basement and Footings: Projected Start Week of March 7th ▪ Installation of Foundation Piers: Projected Start Week of March 21st <p>Projected Completion Date: December 2016</p>

SIT/Community Q&A	<p>SIT Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can there be a second SIT meeting in which DCPS staff presents again for stakeholders who couldn't make this particular time? <i>Unfortunately DCPS does not have the resources to hold two meetings in a day for one school. Powell school leadership will share everything that was presented in the original SIT meeting.</i> <p>Outdoors/Backyard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will parking be considered for families? How soon will it be available? <i>The current design includes parking for school staff only. Our goal is to provide parking upon completion of the Building D phase in December. We are working to provide a more accurate timeline on the availability as the construction progresses, and will communicate more information at future SIT meetings.</i> ▪ When will the playground be open? <i>Our goal is to provide the playgrounds upon completion of the Building D phase in December. We are working to provide a more accurate timeline on the availability as the construction progresses, and will communicate more information at future SIT meetings.</i> ▪ Will the playground be available before the interior is complete? <i>We cannot say yes at this point. We want more accurate information as the project progresses.</i> ▪ Will there be a pickup and drop off area considered with the parking lot addition? <i>Our plan currently shows 2 parking areas—1 with 10 spaces and a second with approximately 40 spaces all for Powell faculty and staff.</i> ▪ Will there be space for a parking garage in future projects? <i>Our plan does not take a future parking garage into account at this time.</i> ▪ Given the amount of traffic on Upshur, will there be another entrance for drop off—14th St. perhaps? <i>The plan placed exits all over the building, but for security purposes, only one entrance.</i> <p>Building D Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will there be a rooftop garden? <i>Yes, a rooftop garden is included in the plans for Building D.</i> ▪ Will a gym be included in the Building D? <i>No, a new gym space is not included in Building D. The kitchen/cafeteria services will move from the existing Building B Auditorium space into a new kitchen and cafeteria in Building D. The Building B Auditorium will then function as a multipurpose space (auditorium & indoor gym space).</i> ▪ Can we see schematics/layout of Building D? <i>Floor plans for Building D are included in the presentation slides.</i> ▪ Will there be an auditorium in the new construction? <i>No, Building D does not contain a new Auditorium. The existing Building B Auditorium will remain and function as a multipurpose space (auditorium & indoor gym space).</i>
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- **Given the amount of questions in this meeting that were already addressed in the original design, have plans changed that significantly?** *No, the plans have not changed significantly from the original design. Building D still contains the specialty spaces that were originally intended: kitchen, cafeteria, media center, computer lab, art lab, and music lab.*
- **Will there be an impact on Buildings A, B, & C during construction? At construction completion/transition into Building D?** *There will be no impact to Buildings A, B and C during construction. Upon completion of Building D, some spaces that are currently housed in Buildings A, B and C will be moved. Specifically, Building D will now include the kitchen, cafeteria, media center, computer lab, art lab and music lab, along with other administrative offices/spaces.*
- **Will there be space/time to give design feedback on the library?** *Yes, we will seek input on library furniture and layout.*
- **Will there be more adult restrooms?** *The plan will add an additional boy's restroom where the current kitchen is (alongside the current auditorium/gym/cafeteria). The new building will also include other adult bathrooms, two on the First Floor and one on the Second Floor.*
- **Will the new Building D cafeteria design consider Pre-K-1st grade student sizes and spacing since they will be sharing the room with older students now?** *We will review the current cafeteria design with the school team to seek input.*
- **Will there be stairs for students who are claustrophobic and don't like elevators?** *Yes, the atrium stairs will remain in addition to a new staircase in the south corner of the new addition.*

Building D Schedule

- **When is the start/finish of building D?** *Construction of Building D will begin in mid-February. The completion date is now December 2016.*
- **When will the auditorium be finished?** *The auditorium will be completed with Building D in December 2016.*
- **When will the boiler room be an acceptable space for the custodians? If not, will there be an alternative space?** *We will be reviewing plans for the Building B basement (aka "boiler room") with the school team, in efforts to create a better space for the staff.*
- **Is the funding in, or are we still waiting?** *The funding is available and ready to be deployed.*
- **Will there be a closer bathroom for the boys instead of them having to go all the way upstairs?** *The plan will add an additional boy's restroom where the current kitchen is (alongside the current auditorium/gym/cafeteria).*
- **Can fruits be cut for smaller children?** *This question should be answered by the Powell team.*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the Fall, we heard from members of the Twin Oaks Community Garden that they were told not to move their materials just yet. They said that there was a construction delay. If you knew in the fall, why are we just hearing today? I'm not mad that there is a delay. Things happen during construction. I'm angry that you knew since fall and did not communicate until now. DGS made an agreement with the gardeners in early October 2015 to give them more time to relocate their items and transfer plants to the new garden in Upshur Park. The communication with the gardeners was that we would hold off on reclaiming the space where their existing garden was located and would allow them to complete their transfer by the end of October 2015. The delay was specifically related to reclaiming the garden space, which isn't included in the overall Building D site work footprint. We didn't know about the delay until a few weeks ago. We scheduled a meeting as soon as possible. The snow pushed that meeting back another week. In reality, the architecture, engineering, electrical, mechanicals, plumbing, security, and kitchen drawings were complete, but had not been synthesized and coordinated. Based on complications related to lack of synthesis and coordination in the most recent construction phase, we wanted to be sure not to repeat the same building problems. ▪ If the staging on site and funding is there, why is there a delay? <i>Similar answer to above: More time was needed to fully coordinate all aspects of design: drawings were done independently by the architect, structural engineer, mechanical engineer, electrical engineer, plumbing engineer, security consultant and the kitchen consultant. The additional time was needed to ensure proper coordination between all aspects of design, to ensure that there would be a better progression of construction once the project starts.</i> ▪ I wonder if they could attach dollar figures to this year's spending and next fiscal year's spending and tell us whether it is being budgeted and requested of DC Council. <i>The costs associated with Building D and submitted for DC Council approval is approximately \$10.8M. These funds have already been allocated to the project and do not expire at the end of the fiscal year.</i>
Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contact, with questions and concerns: toussaint.webster@dc.gov and www.engagedcps.org ▪ Next meeting: Early March