



## Watkins ES SIT Meeting Minutes

FINAL April 22, 2015

### 1) Attendees

- a) DCPS – Renard Alexander
- b) DGS-DCPEP – Sarah Hasselmann, Adnan Mamoon, Meagan Miller, Deanna Newman
- c) DPR – Brent Sisco
- d) DGS Communications Team – Darrell Pressley
- e) Perkins Eastman – Sean O'Donnell, Mary Rankin, Peter James
- f) Teacher Representatives – Currie Renwick, Christine Kurtz
- g) Parent Representatives (Watkins & Peabody) – Lindsay Miller, Joe McNamara, Kevin White
- h) ANC6B04 and Chair ANC6B – Kirsten Oldenburg

### 2) Schematic Plan presented, PEDC gave overview of the latest updates to the drawings

- a) Further refining needed on the cafeteria / gym / kitchen / loading relationships
- b) Lobby
  - i) Wider, ceilings higher, about twice the size as the existing space, more open and inviting
- c) Food Prints garden
  - i) Returned to the SW corner of the site
  - ii) Considering retaining wall with a fence on top to outline the garden
  - iii) Current layout attempts to match the existing gardens square footage
- d) Gathering Space
  - i) At front plaza
  - ii) "Meet and greet" area before and after school
  - iii) Gracious steps around front plaza could also be seating for Gathering Space
- e) Cafeteria
  - i) Targeting 3 lunch periods / seating with generous after-hours seating capacity
  - ii) 238 loose seats in presentation mode, or 738 if operable wall is open
  - iii) Kitchen and servery relationship are still being refined
  - iv) Stage
    - Platform with a few gracious steps wrapping around
    - Stage could hold lunch tables to seat 1/2 the students at lunch
- f) Gym
  - i) The current budget precludes a full-size gym
- g) Media Center
  - i) Refining some of the connections between the program elements
  - ii) Looking at operable wall opportunities between computer lab and library
- h) Outdoor Classroom
  - i) Integrated to the specials area on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
  - ii) Starting to incorporate some of the DCPS standards for shading, power, etc.
- i) Green Roof
  - i) At 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor (above Library)
  - ii) Windows will provide views out to green roof on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Floors
  - iii) Will be accessible for maintenance only, not intended for Food Prints garden, the garden having been returned to the SW corner of the site
- j) Parking
  - i) Have 2 parking spaces over the required zone-dictated minimum
  - ii) The trailers at Watkins need to be removed from site; trailers need to be cleaned out first
- k) Pool

Action Items are shown in **RED**

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- i) DPR will be using a general Pool Maintenance budget to fix up the pool and the pool building
- ii) Aquatics personnel will be doing an assessment of the facility to see what it needs
- SIT has requested a timetable for the pool/pool-house assessment, list of current programs at Watkins and future programming opportunities
- Timing: Brent Sisco will check and provide feedback
- iii) Dr. Lannette Woodruff lannette.woodruff@dc.gov is the DCPS POC for after-school programming; she is also interested in DPR programming, both current and future
- iv) Community would like access to the pool-house restrooms from the field and without having to enter pool space (and after pool hours and after pool season)
- i) SIT: some will be happy to hear pool is getting updated, and some will still be questioning about the lack of the a full-size gym
- ii) SIT: Can the toilets be made accessible to the community using the fields?
- DPR: We will be studying that as part of the assessment.

### 3) Update on Geotechnical Investigation

- a) Drillers were on site last week
- b) Collecting samples for testing structural bearing strength and infiltration testing
- c) Will help team determine correct balance between green roof and underground systems

### 4) Update on the replacement windows

- a) Scheduled for delivery in mid-May 2015
- b) DGS will work with school administration to begin as much of the work as early as possible

### 5) SIT Q&A

- a) SIT: Canopy at entrance?
  - i) PEDC: Yes, we hope so. Depth will be a negotiation with zoning and DDOT
  - ii) Historic Preservation does not have to review or approve the design
- b) SIT: Likes the synergies of the outdoor classroom & surrounding uses
  - i) PEDC: There will be guardrails surrounding at perimeter
- c) PEDC - We are looking at shifting the servery over to wrap behind the stage
  - i) SIT: should kids queue out in the hallway and enter servery on west end, or should they queue up along the east window side?
- d) SIT: How many kids can stand on the stage?
  - i) DCPS: Ed Spec sized stage is over 800 square feet, which is about the size of a classroom
  - ii) PEDC: The steps that wrap the stage also act as "risers" that you can line the kids up on for choir, etc.
- e) DCPS: Will there be curtains on the stage?
  - i) PEDC: Yes, there will be curtains
  - ii) Acoustical shells over stage will assist with pushing sound towards the back of the room
- Not quite to that level of detail yet
- PEDC has a really great acoustician on the team
- f) SIT: School has some vocal risers. Where could they be stored?
  - i) PEDC: there are two areas of Gym Storage near the Gym and Cafeteria
- g) SIT: The school would use the full gym + cafeteria combo space for:
  - i) Back-to-School night
  - ii) PTA meetings
- Usually try to rotate venue
- Currently always end up at Stuart Hobson ES because they have the space
- h) PEDC: Would like to schedule a meeting with the Watkins and DCPS Library personnel to work out more of the details
  - i) SIT: Please include a sink in the Media workroom
- i) SIT: Will there be natural light in the cafeteria?

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- i) PEDC: Yes, through a combination of clerestory windows on the south edge and larger windows along the east side
  - j) SIT: Phasing?
    - i) DGS: Have started to come up with big picture ideas, but really need to have the builder on board to work out the logistics
    - ii) It is on the priority list
    - iii) Overview:
      - Windows = Summer 2015
      - Start of renovation: Summer 2016
      - Continue through school year 2016/2017
      - Completed August 2017
  - k) SIT: Will the parking counts be reduces?
    - i) PEDC: No, Parking quantities are staying at current levels
    - ii) SIT: Parking lot is used for DPR pick-up after hours
- 6) Recurring Meetings
- a) Next meetings
    - i) **Community TBD**
    - April/May/June/July/August TBD
    - ii) **SIT TBD**
    - April/May/June/July/August TBD