



WAUWATOSA SCHOOL DISTRICT
McKinley Design Visioning Neighborhood Meeting # 2
Site Charrettes
April 18, 2019

Agenda:

1. Recap Project Approach – What has been done to date? – 5 Mins.
2. Thought Exchange Report – 15 Mins.
3. Site Organization Charrette – 30 Mins.
4. Team Report Out – 20 Mins.

Summary:

The architect team shared the main takeaway from the online community conversation hosted on ThoughtExchange regarding what participants felt were the most important features for the exterior of a building:

- Safety (*This will already be part of the design, per pre-referendum communication about community priorities*)
- Natural light
- Traditional exterior
- Central entrance
- Community space
- Of special note: Contemporary design was absolute last with lowest score.

**Note: Thought exchange is an online conversation tool utilized to gather additional input from stakeholders who may not be able to attend the in-person meetings. In the Thoughtexchange, one single question was posed asking what architects should consider when it comes to the exterior design of the building. Participants could leave open-ended thoughts and respond to others' thoughts by ranking them from strongly agree or disagree with the thought.*

Other notes:

- Existing temporary one-way traffic around site during school drop off and pick up times.
 - Salvage and reuse bike racks and site pavers from previous donation efforts.
 - Sensory rooms required
 - Possibly reopen another thought exchange session.
- Site massing charrette exercise:
 - 4 groups each with a site plan, puzzle pieces, trace paper, and markers.
 - 44 total community members attended, not including WSD admin, PRA, VJS, or School Board.

Group 1: Site Considerations Report Out

- Building centered on site.
- Drop off both sides of site (east and west).
- At first floor, a ground level plaza with 1 main entrance, though 2 sides of drop off. This was described to be a breezeway plaza, with building above. Not drive lane under building above, only pedestrian space.
- Axis centered on site, with entry/exit on each side (east and west) adjacent to a pickup/drop off lane each side.
- Playgrounds primarily on south side, green space on remaining space to north.
- Gymnasium mostly wrapped with 1-story building elements. Narrow face to south and drop off.
- Commons, Gym, Art, and Music all open to each other and centrally located.
- Tiered security. Community can access just gym, or just commons without the rest of the school.
- Less concerned with a single entry/exit, more concerned with 2-sided vehicle traffic on the site.



Group 2: Site Considerations Report Out

- Building centered on site.
- Drop off both sides of site (east and west).
- 3-story classroom mass on each side of center commons. Plaza or green roof on commons.
- If not plaza or green roof, 2 or 3 story commons atrium.
- Maximize setbacks. At least what houses are set back from road now.
- Maximize green space.
- Building to be as tall and skinny as possible, tallest in the middle of the site.
- Specifically identified, no parking on site, only drop off lanes.



Group 3: Site Considerations Report Out

- Building centered on site.
- Drop off both sides of site (east and west).
- Main entry on 89th
- Underground mechanical to minimize footprint.
- PTO storage at McKinley is significant. Underground space.
- Storm shelter noted if underground space provided.
- Playground split into two sides intentionally. Kindergarten one side, older kids on the other side.



Group 4 : Site Considerations Report Out

- NOTE: See sketch of other layout provided by community member.
- Building centered on site.
- Drop off only on one side of site, but not just a curb cut like all others, a drive lane 2 lanes wide.
- Some people noted headlight concerns of cars pulling out of drive lane.
- Salvage and reuse pavers.
- The island between the drop off lanes and the road could contain pavers, landscaping, and art.
- Landscaping and trees in island would help stop headlights.
- Only open drive lane for drop off and pick up times during daylight hours.
- Still potentially considered a second drop off curb cut on other side.
- Planning for 'soft landing' inside, where kids come into commons instead of out in the playground.



McKinley - Sketch:

