

**Community Meeting for Lexington
February 22, 2010
6:00 PM Redwood Estates Pavilion**

Richard welcomed everyone and explained the plan for Lexington during construction. He explained that the timing would be school year 2011 -2012 and we will be going out for a bond measure in June of this year.

San Jose Water Company is working on getting us a water line to hook up to for fire suppression and domestic water and have given us a final cost proposal and plan to begin pulling permits and put solicit bids for the construction portion of work. SJWC estimates the work will be completed in July of this year.

Melinda was introduced by David Freed and a slideshow was given to give a summary of what the Lexington site committee has done to further the design of the school site. David Maglaty then presented the slideshow on architectural design.

He explained that design is topography, how the sun tracks across the sky, views, how it fits into the community.

The first element is to provide comfort and shelter. The second element is to make it constructable durable and maintainable. The third element is it needs to meet the budget.

There is so much more though, such as making it appropriately scaled to the intended purpose, utilize current design and construction technology, respond to and support the program functions. The multipurpose has to support the right size and height, as do all the buildings.

Responding to the site and environmental conditions is important too. The windows need to provide view but also need to be at the right angle so as not to get too hot. The buildings need to evolve organically and colors need to be in harmony with the site. And being a source of pride for the community is the ultimate goal.

What the architects did was talk a lot about the opportunities and how the views flowed and the sun tracked in the sky. The trees were important and the existing parking lot was kept as is for the entry point to the campus. When you entered, it made sense for the multi and admin to be the gatekeepers to the campus and they were placed right up front.

There could be a plaza between them for dropping off students and a place to talk before and after school. The plaza can also be a staging area for all kinds of events, bake sales, staging for performances, gathering space for the school. It also then seemed natural to take advantage of the north direction to place the classrooms so that they could face north and the majority are placed in that direction.

The kinder and classroom building were placed with the northern direction in mind.

The library building has the library on the second floor to take advantage of the great views.

David suggested using some wood on the exterior to give a warm feel. There's a new wood with silica infused into it to make it fire retardant and durable.

David showed a concept drawing of what the admin lobby could look like and a three dimensional photo of the campus showing how the roofs would look and the covered walkways would look.

We have south-facing roofs that would work well for solar panels. That is currently not budgeted in, but we are looking at alternative ways we could add them, stated David Maglaty.

We would need to do a study to see what the pay back time would be for this expenditure.

Melinda explained that early in March the district and architects would be attending a presentation about sustainable features and how we can incorporate some of them in our design.

We will be refining window sizes, spacing, shading, etc. There is still a whole lot of study to get to that level, said David. As we get more sure about where we are going with this, it will evolve.

A question was asked about whether we are having site built vs. modular buildings. David said we are not just taking a building off the shelf, we are designing them to be custom to meet our needs. Meehleis (our modular contractor) has assured us we will not be able to tell the difference between the pre-fabricated buildings and the site built buildings.

There is a huge cost and time savings going with the pre-fabricated buildings, he stated.

David Freed explained that the site committee has been working hard on how to arrange the areas to best serve our needs. HMC has heard a lot about our needs and have incorporated them into the design.

The footprint – currently there is about 16k sf at Lexington and you will be getting 26k sf in the new campus, stated Melinda in answer to a question. There will be a lot of growth in the entire school.

So how do we get this bond to pass asked a community member.

If we wanted to add classrooms later on to accommodate growth, we could make a full around courtyard, said Melinda. It would decrease the views, but we could potentially accommodate 300 students.

We are inviting a landscape architect to come to the site committee meeting on Thursday to talk about the play space, the grassy areas and how the upper playground space will look.

A community member said that Lexington is a community space where kids learn to ride their bikes and so it is important how we lay out the open areas.

A community member said that play space decreases in the area and it is important to keep as much as possible. David Freed said we will consider better use of the lower field area and a stair case leading down to it for a gathering space and to use as bleachers.

With the library on the second floor, we will have an elevator to get books upstairs. There could be some book storage on the first floor too. The view was one of the reasons the library was placed upstairs.

The site committee wanted the library on the 2nd floor to take advantage of the view of the reservoir when it has water in it.

Melinda explained that Meehleis has built a LEED Gold building in Merced and they have that capability. Anything that we ask them if they can do it, they can. There is a cost associated with it of course. But we can specify any interior or exterior building material we want.

Richard told the group that there is a three dimensional model on display for people to look at and David Freed explained that there will be three more site committee meetings that are open to the public. The committee meets twice a month. And there will be an unveiling at some point too, either before a staff meeting or at some other time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ordner
Facilities Modernization Project Coordinator