

**Construction Site Committee Meeting**  
**October 29, 2009 - 6:00 PM**  
**Lexington ES - Room 1**

*In Attendance:* Melinda Lum, Mary Morris, Geri Markey, Kim Gardner, Kathy Ordner, Michelle Strachen, Alex Chapman, Kathryn White, Lauren Honda, Claudia Heuser, David Freed, Wayne Huck, Ryan Kennedy, Eric Anslinger.

Guests: Ray Davies, Gale Gordon, Lisa Huck, Vaughan Huck.

*Welcome and sign-in*

David opened the meeting and welcomed Claudia Heuser, our fourth grade teacher and new to the district, to the committee. And Kim Gardner, who joined the group as a community member and former parent.

*Melinda – review Argonaut tour*

Melinda led the review of the Argonaut tour. She stated she loved the openness of the front office, a little glare though. Lauren liked the pinwheel effect of the admin building. David liked the multiple exits that all lead to the center. Square footage was something we talked about too. A question was asked, “If we don’t use all the 5,000 sq ft allotted to the admin building could it be used somewhere else?”. The Argonaut office is 4,240 square feet. Melinda shared the floor plan of Argonaut to remind us what we saw and passed around a breakdown sheet showing the square footages of each item needed within the space and the square footages comparison to Van Meter and Lexington as planned. Discussion followed on the comparison between Argonaut’s space vs. planned Lex space; nurse’s office space should have room for 2 beds and a dedicated restroom.

Speech and language room is planned for 200 square feet. Argonaut does not have speech and language in the admin building. A question was asked if speech, language and psychologist could share an office. We have one day a week for our psychologist and a day a week for speech. David said this might not be a good idea as when the psychologist is in, no one else can be in the room. English as a second language would share with speech, stated Lauren. David said ESL should be taught by a credentialed teacher and not by a pull out teacher. There still could be a person but not the space. That person would come into the classroom.

The storage space is 200 square feet and workroom is scheduled for 500 square feet. The faculty lounge is scheduled for 500 square feet. Argonaut has 905 square feet for their faculty lounge, but this included a big meeting space with kitchen separate off to the side.

Mary said the board is interested in hearing a recommendation from the committee. "That doesn't mean you can have anything you can dream up and I can't tell you what they will do with those recommendations but they would like to hear about the specific space needs of the school. If there are additional comments regarding feedback, this is the time to bring those forward", she stated.

David suggested, let's maximize teaching and learning spaces and live with as little as possible in other spaces. Lauren said we need to be careful with that kind of planning as we may get, let's say, seven more teachers and then would not have enough space for them. Mary said according to our demographic study we would not be getting seven more teachers in the future.

Kathryn stated that she felt really cramped right now and is interested in seeing that more space is allotted to the teachers.

Kim asked about emergency preparedness supplies and where they would be stored. Melinda replied they are in a tuff shed in other school locations in the district and a tuff shed would house them here. So no square footage was allotted to this in the Lex building plan.

Regarding furniture, David commented that we would be wise to choose furniture that allowed us to maximize our space. Kathy explained that we have a district standard on classroom furniture. Classroom furniture is standard throughout the district.

Comment was made as to size of the staff meeting room with growth in mind. Geri asked what square footages we have now for comparison. Mary and Melinda will get those numbers tomorrow to David to share with the group.

Melinda explained that there are placeholder spaces for PE storage, data hub, custodial office, & music storage, as we know we will need to have them somewhere on site, but don't know if they will be in the admin building or not.

If the board accepts the recommended square footage is there flexibility for how space will be used, asked Michelle. David explained they would approve a program or a footprint. Mary said that the planned square footages are not exactly as they will be in the end, but the total square footage will be exact.

David said we are the only school with Spanish and will need to plan for the second language space. The cafeteria gets used for music at the other schools too, said David.

In terms of information that's coming out, David has a preliminary demographic report and the board will make some decisions based on that information. There is some projected growth but Richard wants to collect even more data before planning. We can plan on birth rates over the past five years because we know the

numbers of births in the last five years. It looks like there will a need for a second kindergarten space based on this information.

David said class size would be a determining factor. Will we be mandated in California on the number of students per class? 20 square feet per student is mandated by the fire code. That's not the education code though, which is mandated by other guidelines.

Lauren asked why kindergarten space is larger than other classroom space. Mary said it is a district standard. The California Dept of Education sets out those standards and guidelines as well. It seems that kinders need more space for the extra things they need for learning. Educational goals also dictate space needs.

David said that we need twelve classrooms if we add another kinder classroom. Mary said we might not need 12 classrooms. We may take another classroom and add space to it.

We are going to leave room on the site for the addition of classrooms, if we need them. If demographics tell the board something else, then the board will tell the architects to plan for something else. Right now the plan includes 11 classrooms. The board has not approved a budget yet.

Mary asked that we summarize a recommendation to the board and be clear about what the recommendation is. One is the belief that the group all agree we need two dedicated kindergarten classrooms. We would then go from nine classrooms to 10 classrooms; a total of 11 classrooms, plus a flex room making the total 12.

Dan recommended taking 500 square feet from storage and use it for kinder space when needed. Kathryn stated we already have enough kinders to make two classes.

If we added another classroom, it would be a typical 10x80 square foot classroom recommendation.

David asked the committee to confirm their goals, as he understood them.

#### Goals

- Build the greenest school possible
- Build a school that truly supports the IB format
- And build a school that will fit in the mountain agenda.

#### Image discussion - Wayne Huck

Wayne is a design strategist and thought it would be a good idea to build meaning into a design. He built a design model to look at as a practice. With IB attributes in mind, we might be able to manifest these into the building design. We aren't talking about class size, per se, but how things work and function within the school.

He started with kids and worked out from there with “learn”, “play” and “grow”. From there they invent and interact by playing, they practice theory by learning and they grow their mind and body.

We started with adventure as a heading and added a stage (performance area), garden (mud), sports field/playground, flexible spaces, roaming space for kids, vertical spaces, self-proclaimed territories, track, sculpture garden (native), bridges, harvesting (eco-systems), grass (open space).

Critical thinking was next as a heading and outdoor chess set, library, outdoor reading area, flexible learning spaces, investigation areas, technology, display areas, kid’s own space (student curated space), child’s mediation area (peace place), continents or global image (campus layout reflecting the globe), raw materials, community temporary art, interesting reading spaces was added.

Character was the last heading and peace place, quiet games (reflective) and loud games places, a lake (reflective pool), country school setting, ball wall, responsibility – tools, recycling area (accountability), global citizen area, building as a teaching tool (sensory/scientific interaction area), team aspect area, accessibility of all playground equipment that all kids can use (basketball hoops), appreciation of special needs kids (tolerance benevolence) were all added to the category.

Next meeting dates

Board workshop November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Board meeting November 10<sup>th</sup>

Construction Site Committee Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November at 6:00 PM. Meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> cancelled.

Construction Site Committee Meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ordner  
Committee Member