



ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Eagle River High School Community Meeting Minutes

TIME/DATE: Tuesday October 1, 2002, 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Gruening Middle School
ATTENDEES: On file
PREPARED BY: Kathleen T. Vermaat, Project Manager

I. Introduction

- A. Kathy Vermaat briefly reviewed the schedule for the project noting that the School Board would review the Schematic Design submittal on October 14, 2002 followed by Municipality of Anchorage Assembly review on October 15, 2002. Pending funding through passing of the MOA General Obligation bonds, the project would go out to bid in November 2003 with construction starting in the spring of 2004. Completion would be expected by the fall of 2006.
- B. Jim Huettl presented a three dimensional, computerized rendering of what the school and site would appear like from above, and as you would walk around the exterior.

II. Plan Presentation:

- A. USKH presented the site layout and building floor plans.

The site is 50 acres. A 100' vegetative buffer will be provided along the east and a portion of the south lot lines. Site runoff will be controlled by an on-site storm system. Parking lot runoff will be routed to a detention pond while field runoff will be distributed along the large greenbelt at the back of the property.

The building is 182,000 square feet and will house 800 students. There are two main entrances with counseling and administrative offices in close proximity to provide supervision. Each floor of the academic wing consists of a house containing 13 classrooms, a counselor, two science rooms, and an extended learning area large enough to seat 90 students. The gym, cafeteria, IMC, choir, and Commons complete the school.

Modifications to the prototype during Phase I include relocation of art to the second floor of the academic wing, installation of a kiln in close proximity to the art room, and the installation of a folding platform in the cafeteria in the absence of a stage.

Questions and comments regarding the site and floor plans were noted as follows:

1. Q. Is there only one storage room for band? Is there another storage area for large percussion?

- A. Yes, one storage area shown. Additional storage is located in the choir suite.
2. Q. What changes take place in Phase II?
A. Academic houses 3 and 4 are added. A small theater, band room, ROTC, and Art areas are added and existing programs occupying temporary locations in Phase I are relocated to the new areas.
 3. Q. Will there be natural light in the classrooms?
A. Every classroom has three windows with the exception of the computer intensive classroom that has 30 data drops making it difficult to lose wall space to windows. Natural light is brought into the Commons and IMC also. For the temporary Art room, a clerestory has been added to the prototype to bring in natural light.
 4. Q. Are counselors centralized or decentralized in the plan?
A. Counselors are decentralized with one located in each house.
 5. Q. Will the IMC be accessible by the public for evening use?
A. Yes, a door for evening access is included in the plan.
 6. Q. What will be used on the cafeteria ceiling? Care needs to be taken to install products that will absorb noise.
A. Currently acoustical tiles are called out in the design. The design team will review the concern about noise in the cafeteria.
 7. Q. Does the Band Room have risers?
No, the floor is flat. Flat floors are preferred as they provide a realistic setting for performances.
 8. Q. Is the school being built on a fault line?
A. No, an 800' long trench was dug on the site this past summer and there is no indication of a fault line.
 9. Q. What is the assessment impact to homeowners that the sewer passes?
A. Unknown, although the water and sewer extensions are adjacent to Municipal and state owned land, not private landowners.
 10. Q. Will the parking lots have oil separators?
A. Yes.
 11. It was recommended that work to include a turn lane at the Eagle River Loop Road in the long term Capital Improvements Projects be started.
 12. The site is separated from the dump by several hundred feet at a minimum and sits higher than the dump. ASD test wells give no indication of any methane on the school site.
 13. Q. Are the bleachers part of Phase I? Is there room on both sides of the field to install bleachers?
This would enable the school to charge entrance fees to the games, etc.
A. Though all the athletic fields shown will be included in Phase I, the bleachers are likely to be an additive alternate. There is enough room to put bleachers on both sides of the field.
 14. Q. Will the football field be fenced?
A. Though not shown, the football field could be fenced.
 15. Q. What accommodations are being made for evolving technology?
A. All cable trays have excess capacity. Docking ports are being installed in the extended learning areas. Each classroom has 12 – 16 computer drops.
 16. Q. What is exterior lighting like? Will there be lights for the football field and parking lots?
A. Yes.
 17. Q. Does the plan include snow storage?
A. Yes, there are several areas noted for snow storage.
 18. Q. What will the exterior look like?
A. The colors have not been selected yet but the exterior will be a mix of ground-face and split-face CMU block and EIFS.
 19. Q. Other than the limited entrances, have any other security measures been incorporated into the building?
A. New schools are being roughed-in for security camera installation at a later date if that direction is adopted by ASD. (Cameras would monitor the parking areas and entrances.) Rough-in for security card entry is also included in new school designs.

III. Program Presentation:

- A. Four alternative programs currently offered within ASD were briefly presented. Handouts describing each program were provided to attendees (see attachments). At the next Community meeting four additional programs will be presented. Options are being presented for community consideration in development of the program(s) to be offered at the Eagle River High School. Presentations included:
- Stellar Secondary School
 - Benson Secondary School (SEARCH/SAVE II)
 - King Career Center
 - West High School (School Through the Arts)

Questions and comments regarding the building were noted as follows:

1. In order to carry the project forward, the program to be offered needs to be defined.
2. Q. What are the boundaries for the new school?
A. It is premature to establish boundaries at this time. When it is time to establish them, it will be a public process.
3. Q. Why are the General Obligation (GO) bonds so important to Anchorage and Eagle River?
A. If the GO bonds pass it will automatically institute a revised capital reimbursement program that will qualify all school construction projects for 60% state reimbursement even if the projects do not meet State DEED requirements.
4. Q. How was the size of the school determined? Will there be an opportunity to readdress the population served when the school is expanded?
A. The Board recently reviewed and reduced the size of ASD high schools from 2000 to 1600 students. Consideration of building costs and program availability (more students translates into more program options) are just two considerations that go into determining the size of student population per school.

IV. General

- A. Kathy Vermaat announced that tours of Dimond High School are available. Interested persons can log onto the ASD website to obtain more information or schedule a tour.

V. Meetings

- A. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Attachments: 1. Steller Secondary School handout
 2. Benny Benson Secondary School handout
 3. King Career Center handout
 4. WHS School Through the Arts handout

Cc: Attendees
 George Vakalis, ASD
 Jan Christensen, ASD
 Mike Price, ASD