

# MEETING NOTES



Meeting Date: January 26, 2024  
 Project Name: Lexington High School  
 Project Number:  
 Subject: Exterior and Interior Focus Group Meeting  
 Attendees:

| Present | Name             | Affiliation                           | Present | Name                  | Affiliation                      |
|---------|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓       | Kathleen Lenihan | SBC Chair & SC Member                 | ✓       | Timothy Lee           | Design Advisory Committee        |
| ✓       | Michael Cronin   | SBC Vice-Chair & LPS Facilities       | ✓       | Henrietta Mei         | Permanent Building Committee     |
| ✓       | Julie Hackett    | Superintendent                        | ✓       | Todd Rhodes           | Sustainable Lexington Vice Chair |
| ✓       | Cynthia Arens    | Sustainable Lexington Committee Chair | ✓       | Elizabeth Yan         | LHS Student                      |
|         | Mark Connor      | Tree Committee Co-Chair               | ✓       | Luke Yung             | LHS Student                      |
| ✓       | Jeff Harris      | Computer Science Teacher              | ✓       | Lorraine Finnegan     | SMMA Project Manager             |
| ✓       | Jon Himmel       | Permanent Building Committee Chair    | ✓       | Matt Rice             | SMMA Project Architect           |
| ✓       | Chris Bouchard   | Project Engineer                      | ✓       | Brian Black           | SMMA Design Architect            |
| ✓       | Rachel Jayson    | Performing Arts Teacher               | ✓       | Alicia Kosasih        | SMMA Interior Designer           |
| ✓       | Wendy Krum       | Permanent Building Committee          | ✓       | Michael Dowhan        | SMMA Architectural Designer      |
|         |                  |                                       | ✓       | Mike Burton           | Dore + Whittier                  |
|         |                  |                                       | ✓       | Christina Dell Angelo | Dore + Whittier                  |
|         |                  |                                       | ✓       | Rachel Rincon         | Dore + Whittier                  |
|         |                  |                                       | ✓       | Elias Grijalva        | Dore + Whittier                  |

| Agenda Item | Description   |
|-------------|---|
| 1.          | <b>Introduction:</b> Refer to attendees list.   |
| 2.          | <p>Please refer to attached presentation for meeting reference.</p> <p>SMMA introduced team:<br/>                     Lorraine Finnegan Project Manager<br/>                     Matt Rice Project Architect<br/>                     Michael Dowhan Project Landscape Architect<br/>                     Erin Prestileo Project Civil Engineer</p> <p>SMMA team states that the first meeting today is to go around the room to each focus group member, hear what they are concerned about, what they want to talk about and goal at next meeting is to answer the questions and concerns.</p> <p>Focus Group Timeline:</p> |

At the first meeting the agenda is to listen, at the second meeting to review and respond, at the third to confirm and recommend, and the fourth to reconvene with all of the focus groups.

SMMA explains that the project is currently in the PDP phase with the MSBA. They explain that a PDP is the Preliminary Design Program process. During this project the District and its team collaborate with the MSBA to:

- Document their educational program
- Generate an initial space summary
- Document existing conditions
- Establish design parameters
- Develop and evaluate alternatives
- Recommend the most cost effective and educationally appropriate preferred solution

SMMA reviews slide regarding design thinking. This includes:

To Emphasize, Define, Ideate, Prototype, and Test

SMMA reviews the design goals and aspirations of today's meeting:

What objectives do you want to address in this process?

How will we measure success?

C. Arens:

Chair of Sustainable Lexington Committee

Comments from kids yesterday regarding design

Want to accommodate and consider:

Lighting

Hallways

Certain spaces need for students

IDP

Waste reduction

Not just from cafeteria and food service

Dishwashing vs plastic or paper

Mealtimes are compacted

Staff and faculty lounge areas

Student spaces

LABBB needs

What else is out there that reduces waste from the building

Red list materials

Using green list materials

Make sure groups have spaces when they need them

D. Barneschi:

Digital design

Before look at a lot of print outs

Love same opportunity for kids and people to see onsite

Only so much can gather online

Want to tour buildings that people have done

M. Connor:

Reinforce idea when designing the building we look into the context and relationship to environment

Sensitive to sight and environment around it

Can't just be the school, it has to fit in and feel like a part of the town  
Have some character  
Environmental features to site insert them  
Walking paths leading from other common areas and incorporate flow

L. Jensen:

Has SMMA had good experience with utilizing same space for multiple purposes?  
Think about using cafeteria and auditorium are the same space  
Would like to visit other schools to see visually  
Not just SMMA designed schools, but relevant and similar complexity

J. Harris:

Biggest concern is that student population is growing  
Whatever we build is going to be a full school right away  
Create a design that has the potential of growing  
The way the school entrance presents is important, should be something people want to see

J. Himmel:

Hybrid building  
Such an investment for town  
Everything identifies for kids, and town  
Before and after education hours  
Hourly building use study and maximizing building use  
Refer to Attachment A of the IDP (Integrated Design Policy)  
Health, natural lighting, materials, etc.  
Building that's flexible with new teaching times  
Pandemic may happen again in future  
Building needs to be responsive to remote learning in its design  
Building possibly 400k sqft+  
Challenging  
One tends to lose identity in a building that big  
Interesting going through corridor and branches and places to eat and always something to discover  
Building of this size everyone in town should have access to it to walk around  
Full student access during teaching hours, reduced accessibility in the evening  
Separate access  
Tied to the site  
Costs: as you collect these ideas nice to be able to differentiate between must have and want to have  
Orientation and design should be responsive to SLC (Sustainable Lexington Committee)  
New building responsible to wells fore geo  
Solution that does not distract during construction  
Expandable design  
Design done in a way can increase classrooms by 4  
Expansion

R. Jayson:

Waltham is 400,000 but population of Lexington is greater  
Would like to see models of similar size buildings  
Urban schools  
Want it to have a sense of place

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| <p>Should be intuitive to move through</p> <p>Walked us through her layout design idea</p> <p>Create wings that can be separated from main building to be open to community</p> <p>Athletic wing needs a parking lot</p> <p>Performing arts wing needs a parking lot</p> <p>Flexible cafeteria space, food court style space that can be used for a performance</p> <p>Slightly risen area as a stage and movable furniture</p> <p>Food appropriate space where students can study</p> <p>Things that everybody needs to go in the center for</p> <p>Sports and performing arts are on opposite ends of the building with their own entrances</p> <p>Use of color, place that people want to be</p> <p>Should have a personality</p> <p>W. Krum:</p> <p>Curious as to how the design will balance the tradition of open campus along with necessary security and</p> <p>How fields incorporated into the design</p> <p>Been through center construction</p> <p>And how construction will affect students and town access</p> <p>Importance of site and natural qualities</p> <p>Can be a natural space where students can gather</p> <p>Interior design should incorporate natural light and colors to add life and vitality and wayfinding</p> <p>T. Lee:</p> <p>Act as a liaison and make recommendations to town to abutters and community at large</p> <p>Looking at everything scale, etc.</p> <p>Where coming from as a committee</p> <p>Echo many things that people have said</p> <p>Great process</p> <p>Interesting looking at pros and cons to all ideas</p> <p>Site utilized as a classroom and make interaction natural environment</p> <p>Incorporated as much as possible</p> <p>Building and site work harmoniously</p> <p>Impact on larger environmental is important</p> <p>Location of the site is important and center of lex</p> <p>Spaces that connect well</p> <p>T. Rhodes:</p> <p>Challenge with dealing with committee/community challenges and constraints</p> <p>Exterior has a big impact on energy component</p> <p>How many floors will the building be</p> <p>Orientation etc. all play into larger environmental impacts</p> <p>As part of the process seeing what the ideas are and how able to address the usage points with operational utilities, etc. solar, geo, and sustainability aspects</p> <p>T. McBride:</p> <p>Representing school resource officer</p> <p>Taken in consideration embodied carbon</p> <p>In demo as well</p> <p>Site building for solar</p> <p>Function flow and waste</p> |
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|    | <p>Safety and security and parking teachers parking and ability to access for teacher's vs students<br/>Students make use of quad<br/>Emphasize use of outdoor space for size and scale</p> <p>B. Pressman:<br/>50 year resident<br/>Echo what W. Krum comments regarding the site<br/>Has existing conditions identified sqft of site compared to amount of open space to the left of the field house?<br/>What is available space to build on?<br/>Can new structures be spread out or do we have to go up?<br/>Would be interested in learning about schools that go up in structure</p> <p>SMMA reviews next steps from their presentation:<br/>What to expect in meeting #2:<br/>Objective:<br/>The design team will speak on the topics below as well as the priorities brought up by the focus group today</p> <p>Topics:<br/>Lexington's IDP (Integrated Design Policy)<br/>Potential material and system palettes<br/>Educational visioning input<br/>Building orientation<br/>Technical requirements<br/>Precedents-recent high school designs<br/>Lexington design vernacular/content</p> <p>When and where:<br/>Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 1-3pm<br/>Estabrook Hall, Cary Memorial Building</p> <p>SMMA presents a draft LEED scorecard example that will be reviewed at the next meeting.</p> |
| 3. | <p><b>Close</b><br/>The exterior and interior focus group meeting will be held on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm.</p>   |
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**Sincerely,**

**DORE + WHITTIER**

Christina Dell Angelo  
Project Manager

Cc: Attendees, File

The above is my summation of our meeting. If you have any additions and/or corrections, please contact me for incorporation into these minutes.