

May 18, 2004 6:00 PM
Chamberlain School

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mark Adams
Ms. Catherine Dodge
Ms. Deb Farrago
Ms. Vickie Gaylord
Mr. Jon Goodwin

Mr. Billy Hunter
Mr. Jeff Soifer
Ms. Jackie Strong
Ms. Cathy Wilson

Others Present: Barbara Eretzian, Superintendent; Jude Cyr, Business Manager; Tom Morrill, Assistant Superintendent; Steve Blatt, Architect.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting began at 6:10 P.M.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Jon Goodwin and Ms. Vickie Gaylord gave an update from the Public Relations Committee.

Mr. Goodwin reported that the list of questions and answers are being finalized and would be ready tomorrow to post on the website.

Ms. Gaylord stated that the May Fair was very successful. A site map of the new elementary school was posted and many people stopped to look and ask questions. There was a supportive response. Attendance at the fair was not limited to Lake Street Neighbors. Other community members were present and showed an interest.

Mr. Goodwin reported that the Committee is planning a meeting with all PTO Officers for the end of May. The Committee is also working on a phone survey to try to identify the feelings of the population. Mr. John Cleveland is checking into facilities where this could be done.

Mr. Goodwin asked if we could schedule another meeting for abutters to present their questions and concerns to the Blasting and Traffic engineers. Mr. Cyr noted that we did agree to meet with the abutters again and Mr. Blatt could also be present to address buffer concerns. The committee agreed to hold this meeting on June 3, 2004, 6:30 PM at Chamberlain. They also agreed to inform abutters by sending letters by U.S. mail, sending notices home with Lake St. School students, putting a notice in the newspaper, and posting it on our website.

III. DISCUSSIONS

A. Mr. Blatt discussed revisions of the Concept Design.

Mr. Blatt stated that he received a letter for the State Board of Education in response to our presentation of the Concept Design. He discussed the design as shown at the last Building Committee meeting briefly pointing out different areas on a map of the inside of the new school.

Mr. Blatt read a few of the concerns the State Board had with the Concept Design:

Teachers' opportunities to observe the main hallway will be difficult because it meanders. Mr. Blatt addressed this concern by straightening it out a little. It now has fewer corners. He asked the Building Committee to take a look at both designs and decide which one they like the best.

The building is 7000 square feet larger than the state guidelines. Mr. Blatt reported it might be difficult to get closer to the guidelines because of some of the other suggestions the State is making.

The State asked if we considered adding bleachers in the gym. They asked that we give this further consideration.

The State asked that we review the size of the cafeteria and the kitchen. They feel that the kitchen seems large and cafeteria seems small. Mr. Blatt stated that we set the cafeteria up for 100 students to eat at a time so they could eat in shifts. Guidelines for a production kitchen call for at least 1200 square feet and that is what we have done. He stated that we could not make the kitchen smaller, but we could make the cafeteria larger.

The State liked the project room in the daylight basement but asked if this was causing some of the overage.

The State was concerned that noise from the Gym would affect the library. Mr. Blatt stated that he spoke with an acoustic engineer and they have given some ideas of how to ensure this will not happen and noted that we could work that out.

The State thought that part of the overage was due to larger Pre-K and K classrooms; however, they support the larger rooms.

The State asked for clarification on what programs one of the Special Ed. Classrooms would serve. Mrs. Eretzian noted that this room should be labeled a Diagnostic Classroom. This room would be for students who are not meeting standards and would be used for tutoring, mobile population, etc.

The State thought the Special Education spaces exceeded the standard. This may be part of our overage. They have asked us to identify anything that is designated for students system wide.

Mr. Blatt noted that the State has told us we are over the square foot guidelines; however, they like what we have. He stated that we are limited to what we can do because of the site and we must keep the school concise and efficient. Mr. Blatt stated that he would meet with the State again next week and find out what suggestions they have for lowering the square footage.

Ms. Farrago asked if we could have a list of some recently finished schools that are comparable to this one. Mr. Blatt stated that the following schools are comparable: Mass Landing School in Freeport, Helen Thomas School in West Gardiner, Union 44 (Sabattus) is almost done constructing a grade 3-8 school, a K-5 school in Madison, one in Searsport, and Rowe School in Warren. He stated that we could call ahead of time and someone could give us a tour.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings:

June 3, 2004, 6:00 P.M., Chamberlain
June 8, 2004, 6:00 P.M., Chamberlain
June 8, 2004, 7:00 P.M., Chamberlain
June 10, 2004, 6:30 P.M., AMS

Abutters Meeting
Lake St. Building Committee Meeting
Lake St. Public Relations Committee Meeting
Straw Poll

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.