

Minutes 2012 Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting Pilgrim Academy

MEETING #: 7

LOCATION: Pilgrim Academy K-8 **DATE / TIME:** March 3, 2015 4:00 pm

ATTENDEES: (those marked with a check were present)						
•	/	Diana Castillo	Principal	√	Edna Chible	Parent
	/	Andrew Casler	Dean of Students	√	Carrie Flores	Assistant Principal
-	/	Jim Teater	Community	✓	Romerico Romero	Teacher
-	/	Andrew Camann	Teacher		Eric Ford	HISD
-	/	Don Kerl	RDC Architects	✓	David Funk	HISD
-	/	Stennis Lenoir	RDC Architects	✓	Albert Wong	HISD

PURPOSE: Prepare for the upcoming Pilgrim Academy Design Charrette by reviewing examples of 21st Century Learning Environments

AGENDA:

- Review and discuss examples of 21st Century Learning Environments
- Prepare for the upcoming Design Charrette
- What to expect at the next PAT Meeting

DISCUSSION:

- 1. At the beginning of the meeting, Eric Ford, HISD Facilities Design PM, was introduced to all the attending PAT members. Mr. Ford will remain with the Pilgrim Academy Project throughout the remainder of the design and construction phases.
- 2. The Architects, Stennis Lenoir and Don Kerl, presented their images of Middle School projects, with their interpretation of 21st Century Learning Environments. These should include the following features:
 - A. Effective Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creative Problem Solving.
 - B. Neighborhoods of either grade grouping or school grouping, with each neighborhood providing basic skills of teaching.
 - C. Learning Centers, with central collaborative areas and support areas.
 - D. Room to adapt for many teaching activities.
 - E. Ability to teach the kids core skills, leadership and responsibility.
 - F. Modular furniture and exterior exposure for windows and natural light.
 - G. Some extended learning areas have expensive moveable partition systems, such as NanaWalls.



- 3. There was mention of SEED, which stands for Sustainable Education Every Day.
- 4. There was some concern about the exterior appearance of the new addition to the existing building. Should it blend in, architecturally, or have a totally different motif, such as a "stand alone" design.
- 5. There is recognition of the "I-10 Main Corridor" through the existing school building which establishes certain circulation constraints, making sense to tie any new addition to this major circulation pathway.
- 6. There was discussion of the following spaces and desired features:
 - A. Collaborative Teaching Areas or Learning Centers, with associated learning spaces.
 - B. Learning Commons or Main Library area, with Extended Learning Areas throughout the building.
 - C. Open Lab areas, with exterior daylighting views and a possible outdoor learning space connection.
 - D. Science Labs, with moveable furniture for maximum flexibility and fixed perimeter countertop cabinets and sinks.
 - E. Technology integration, occurring every five years, with access to the Grid to allow for technology changes, with interactive smartboards or tablets.
 - F. Flexibility to get into the walls and ceilings for access to install new technology; minimum of Cat. 6 cabling, with either fiber or wireless; no inaccessible walls or exposed conduits.
 - G. Any additions or renovations will be built to current HISD Design Standards.
 - H. Building will be utilized as a Teaching Tool, with classes grouped by teaching content, such as Science, 5th Grade, etc.
 - I. The existing Multi-Purpose Room can be extended to accommodate a 50' X 84' basketball court and portable bleachers. There may not be sufficient width to allow for 10' wide overrun areas but a 5' wide overrun may be sufficient, if designed correctly and safety matting is provided where needed. This gymnasium would be used by the local community during the school after-hours.
- 7. The T-Buildings currently house 10 Middle School classes, two 5th Grade classes and two Science Classrooms.
- 8. The Design Charrette cannot occur during Dead Week (March 30 April 3) but may be scheduled later in April. Some possible dates are April 9 and 10, 2015. There is an expressed interest in having the Pilgrim Academy Design Charrette occurring with another school for comparison and discussion.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

1-1 None.

ACTION ITEMS:

2-1 Prepare for Design Charrette.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE NEXT PAT MEETING:

1. Preparations for the upcoming Design Charrette

NEXT PAT MEETING: Tuesday, April 7, 2015; 4:00 pm, Pilgrim Academy

(Confirm date for possible conflict with Design Charrette)



Please review the meeting minutes and submit any changes or corrections to the author. After five (5) calendar days, the meeting minutes will be assumed to be accurate.

Sincerely,

Albert Wong, AIA

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