



## Minutes 2012 Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting Wharton Dual Language Academy

**MEETING #:** 13

**LOCATION:** Wharton Dual Language Academy K-8 Library

**DATE / TIME:** September 15, 2015; 3:45 pm

**ATTENDEES:** (those marked with a check were present)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Day	Principal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Martha Rangel	Teacher
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patricia Selin	IB/GT Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Raul Ramos	PTO President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cynthia Rangel	Teacher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marna Marsh	Parent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rosemary Grant	Heery/HISD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taryn Kinney	Parent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Victor Badillo	Munoz Arch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Cole	Community
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Funk	HISD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Albert Wong	Heery/HISD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Casey Annunzio	Munoz Arch.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geof Edwards	Munoz Arch.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lewis Worthy	Parent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Abrego	Parent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Stravato	Parent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amelia Bravo	Parent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kris Taylor	Parent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adam Harris	Parent

**PURPOSE:** Present and review updated design concepts based upon the previous PAT work session.

### AGENDA:

- Review & discuss current conceptual updates from the previous design work sessions.
- Review & discuss exterior design inspirations and materials.
- What to expect at the next PAT Meeting

### DISCUSSION:

#### A. PRESENTATION OF THE REVISED SITE PLAN

1. The PAT requested sketches and general estimates for different scenarios involving the removal and/or relocation of the existing Little League baseball field.

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2. The back corner playground is an area of concern. Some PAT members and parents did not like the size, proportion or location of the playground for the upper grade students.
3. The PAT members and some parents requested information from the District about the lease agreement between Near Town Little League and HISD.
4. The PAT and parents expressed concern about fly balls and the new building being so close to the baseball field. They asked about impact resistant glass, netting for fly balls, or if it will be designed as a windowless box.
5. The number of parking spaces may barely be enough for day-to-day use by staff, but not for any school events.
6. The PAT wanted it on record that they have repeatedly asked for an HISD representative “decision maker” to attend the meetings and answer questions about the baseball field.
7. The playground size between existing wings was mentioned as a concern and school distraction. This playground area is for Pre-K and K. Scheduling issues may exist with play time and class time.
8. It was asked if the plaza would be big enough to hold all the students at once. While it is large enough to accommodate a “fall festival”, it may not be large enough to handle all the students at once.
9. The number of students attending the school greatly exceed the number of kids using the field.
10. The running track, as currently proposed, may not be as useful and is awkward at certain points
11. They would like space for gardens and different “pocket areas” located around the campus would be beneficial for learning and teaching activities.
12. The PAT requested refinement of the fence and gate configuration, particularly at the east entry.
13. The Architects were requested to go on a site walk by Principal Day and stake out the new building.
14. There would be access to different parts of the site through the courtyard/covered walkways.

**B. DISCUSSION OF THE FLOOR PLANS**

1. The PAT members really liked the glass doors at the art wing in the existing cafeteria.
2. The classroom doors will be located where teachers can monitor each other’s rooms.
3. The Pre K and K Extended Learning Area near the Art Storage may be too small. Windows are needed for passive supervision.
4. For restroom access from the library area, kids can go to the gym bathrooms unaccompanied but a security door must be moved to accommodate this access.
5. The storage rooms for classrooms were removed. A PAT member asked if cabinets will be enough for storage needs.
6. The PAT would like to separate the teacher planning areas and lunch areas. The program does not provide enough space.
7. There is a need for two separate gender bathrooms at the existing entry. A family toilet room could also be located inside the school.
8. Steps/tiers at the foot of the gymnasium stage were also requested.

**C. EXTERIOR DESIGN**

1. A couple of PAT members requested that there be more color in the exterior design.
2. There was a request to make these site/floor plans available to the public.
3. One teacher liked the angle in the façade previously shown on the library.



4. A PAT member said that the current window setup may not allow enough natural light into the building and that the NW corner looks dark.
5. 21<sup>st</sup> century learning spaces need a lot of natural light, but the PAT didn't want to lose too much wall space for display or work and marker boards.
6. The entry façade is at the west side. There will be adequate sun shading to reduce heat gain.

#### **D. NEXT STEPS**

1. It was requested by the PAT to reschedule the next PAT Meeting from October 5<sup>th</sup> to October 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>. The final date will be confirmed by Principal Day.
2. The Geotechnical Engineers are under contract and have begun their work.
3. The PAT asked Albert Wong to carry the message from the PAT asking for an HISD decision maker's involvement in meetings regarding the baseball fields.
4. A couple of parents and PAT members said they would contact their assigned trustee for more discourse about the baseball field.
5. HISD is continuing to investigate a single phased delivery option during construction.
6. The Design Team will come to the next PAT meeting with requested exterior revisions and revised floor plans with PAT comments incorporated.

#### **QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:**

- A. There were no additional questions from the PAT.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- 2-1 The PAT members and some parents requested information from the District about the lease agreement between Near Town Little League and HISD. This will be forthcoming from HISD.
- 2-2 Confirm the date of the next Wharton DLA PAT meeting. This was set for October 8, 2015.
- 2-3 Prepare for the upcoming Wharton PAT Meeting on October 5, 2015.

#### **WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE NEXT PAT MEETING:**

1. Discuss and review further development of the WDLA design concepts from Munoz/AutoArch.

**NEXT PAT MEETING:** Monday, October 8, 2015; 3:45 pm, Wharton Dual Language Academy

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

Sincerely,

**Albert Wong, AIA**

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