

**OGS Feasibility Committee Meeting Minutes
GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DATE: 09-14-2020

PLACE: Virtual Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

BOE Member

Karen Kowalski

BOE Administration:

Toni Jones

Dan Watson

Jen Bencivengo

OG Staff and Community

Carolyn Petersen

Todd Mickel

Jennifer Webb

Tiffany Vaccari

Frank DeLuca

Architect:

Russ Davidson

1. Meeting Opening

Call to Order – 6:03 pm

2. Discuss Previous Work and Task to Get Done

Educational Goals and Objectives

Student centered learning environments (put out by the CSDE)

OG is a more traditional layout environment (not open spaces or flexible spaces)

OG is moving towards a blended learning environment (trying to work in more project based or flexible spaces for learning)

Blended Learning Spaces- In most years OG has had the Innovation Space which has been centered in the library. Some years it's a science lab, some years it's media center. Committee member comments supported a blended space per floor.

Model Program- what is existing has been done. The spaces were utilized in creating the master plan. Most of the small group rooms and common transition spaces have been considered. The committee may want to be specific in priorities.

Committee members commented on the following:

Having the science lab as a classroom space, and taking the Innovation Space for its own space would be more effective for the instruction in the building.

Something that may be beneficial is having a space which is not somebody's classroom space to pull a grade level together for a variety of activities.

Smaller spaces are in limited numbers at OGS.

People who are working in what were intended to be offices and not classrooms need to be provided more. Literacy needs book storage and instructional space, ELL/Spec Ed, and psych/speech need offices.

The half-size classrooms would be a good place for some smaller instructional spaces. Would still need some separation with doors or dividers.

Spaces are becoming more open (co-teaching, looping) Moveable walls (shared space)

Prefer more wall and door as opposed to the old accordion type doors.

Would not advocate for an accordion door. Doors/openings are much more advanced and noise reduction is much better now.

Enrollment- Is fairly stable at OG. Projected enrollment at 459 is the high point. Enrollment is currently at around 367, however COVID has impacted enrollment shifts.

Accessibility

There are two rooms which sit in the floodplain and flood.

The two rooms are Kindergarten classrooms. Options to correct the situation will be shown at the next OGS Feasibility meeting.

The architect noted that there are several locations where an elevator can be added. At one level, the elevator could go through the media center which may not be well received by staff members.

Elevator utilization and location was discussed by the committee.

ADA compliance at the main entrance and the restrooms were discussed.

Educational Specifications- The reason why you are going to build something

The architect addressed the education specifications, commenting on the following:

Scope of the project. Addressing only what needs to be corrected.

Traffic flow at OGS. Will not be altered.

HVAC system must be upgraded in order to improve ventilation. Central air for the gym and auditorium

What has come up since COVID is to focus on retrofitting heating and cooling systems to provide more

fresh air, and to be able to filter that air to a higher level

Fire protection system must be upgraded (the building is partially wood frame.)

Attic space. It does not seem to have ever been a teaching area.

The building does have older plumbing fixtures, built in casework, and bay windows. Some of the built-ins need to be updated

There are issues with the masonry around the building. The window units have been dripping on the masonry for years and years. There are also many different roof levels. Masonry and roof updates also need to be done.

Handicapped access to the gym is important for ADA

Committee discussion followed the architect's comments. Committee comments included:

Courtyard access.

Stage size and utilization.

Gym and stage technology.

Increased number of adult size toilets.

Internal courtyard for outdoor learning.

3. Next Steps

Committee members will complete a prioritization sheet.

4. Adjournment

Meeting ended at 6:57 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Toni Jones