



# State College Area School District

**Randy Brown**

**Finance and Operations Officer/Open Records Officer**

240 VILLA CREST DRIVE • STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA • 16801

TELEPHONE: 814-231-1021 • FAX: 814-466-6068

To: Curtis Johnson  
 From: Randy Brown, Mike Fisher, and Karen Wiser  
 Subject: Districtwide Facilities Master Plan and Park Forest Middle Update  
 Date: May 2, 2024

The administration would like to provide an update to the district wide facilities master plan and the Park Forest Middle School (PFMS) project. Since the update to the Board in April, there have been many meetings, school visits and community forums.

Mike Fisher and I have continued our weekly meetings with Crabtree Rohrbaugh and Associates (CRA) regarding the DWFMP. Further work on cost estimation and building a timeline for the maintenance projects will continue throughout the summer.

CRA also met with district administration regarding the PFMS project. In addition, several PFMS faculty along with district administration and Board members completed tours of five middle schools. The tours provided an opportunity for discussion surrounding desires for our new school. There has been a steering committee meeting and also two community forums. Comments from the tours, committee and forums are included in Attachment A.

Next steps in the process includes:

- Continue development of the educational plan for coordination with the building plan
  - Including common space desire and adjacency
- Continue development of site plan including township and appropriate zoning officials
- June 12 Steering Committee
- June 17 Community Forum (6pm prior to Board meeting)
- Facilities and Assessments review - August/September
  - Includes review of conditions and capacity of all district buildings with consideration of future use for Fairmount and Park Forest Middle School
- Playgrounds and athletic facilities assessment and review
  - Includes recommendations for maintenance and improvements as well as timeline for completion
- Sustainability initiatives are on-going in the DWFMP and building projects as well as looking to new opportunities in school district operations

## Attachment A

### **Findings from Middle School Tours**

- Indoor track for physical education and decompression activity space
- Various types of collaborative spaces and different sizes
  - Separate spaces for small groups up to multiple classrooms of students
  - Spaces adjoining multiple classrooms for multi-classroom collaboration
- Cafeterias configuration
  - Open-concept vs. center of the building with no wall separation
  - Outdoor seating
  - Variety of seating options i.e. booths, high top seating facing wall; round tables
- Student book/bag, instrument, and athletic equipment storage
  - Lockers generally provided for all students, most noted not used
  - Locker alternatives
    - Cubby spaces
    - Built-in instrument storage
    - Athletic bag room/drop
- Use of color
  - Only school colors vs. variety of colors
- Secure access
  - All schools had secure access, limiting ability to go directly into the building without going into office
  - Access from secure vestibule - avoids parent/visitor entry into building
    - Nurse suite
    - Conference suite
- Distinct parent and bus drop off areas
- Main Street allowing for open space near entrance of building
- Learning towers/pods for each team with courtyards on first level
- Fenced outdoor learning spaces
- T.V. studios for morning announcements, video editing, green screen
- Garage doors (front exterior) for rooms leading into a common space
- Amenities for field maintenance
- Student bag and gear storage - How many lockers? Type of lockers? Bag room?

### **Steering Committee and Community Forum Discussion**

- Valley Vista traffic study.
- Grade level teams/departments.
- Shared equipment concerns/elevator access.
- Natural light/shortage of private spaces due to windows.
- Department spaces for conferences, PLC's, etc. vs. larger classroom spaces.
- Cafeteria - student quiet space, proximity to fields for outside time during lunch, administrative supervision
- Nursing/administrative/counseling layout.
- Conversation with CRPR regarding the adjacent park.
- Traffic flow onto and from site
- Pedestrian traffic
- Bus and parent drop off locations
- ADA accessibility for entrances, common areas and bathrooms
- Cafeteria location for access to outside for recess
- Floor assignment in building for each grade
- Natural lighting for all classrooms
- Construction time period to completion
- Building shade and glare
- Security measure consideration during design
  - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Stage access from an exterior entrance
- Circleville Park collaboration