



State College Area School District

Districtwide Facilities Master Plan Community Forum Park Forest Middle School Tuesday, February 27, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Brown convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending. He introduced Mr. Jeff Straub and Ms. Madison Renna from Crabtree Rohrbaugh and Associates and Mr. Mike Fisher and Mr. David Parmelee from the district's facilities office. Mr. Straub provided an overview of the three potential sites for Park Forest Middle School and the potential concerns raised by the Steering Committee on February 20, 2024. Everyone broke out into three groups and provided their comments/concerns regarding the three sites.

Site Option 1:

- Narrow entrance
- What to do with 700 kids during construction
- Concern with building on top of an old building
- Flooding/drainage is a challenge
- HVAC is dated
- Parking is limited
- Losing play areas/not as much play area
- No natural light
- Impact of phasing
- Student disruptions
- Noise and dust during construction
- All three years students in construction
- Not developing a new site

Site Option 2:

- Concern over unnecessary parking – bikers/walkers are abundant
- Adjustments to Little Lion Drive
- Potentially safest option
- 2nd access to site – split up buses and parents – would township agree to allow access through Circleville Park
- Hardscapes and parking: parking on the lower level of multi-story building eliminates snow removal.
- Tennis courts used a lot – what will happen to them?
- Impact to existing park
- Use of existing building/site if option 2 is chosen?
- More natural light options.
- Sinkhole concern
- School-security, views down corridors/no hidden areas, hallway connections to larger portion of school
- Least impact on students, teachers and community
- Relocate school to other end of site; less disruptive to existing park
- Ability to expand in future: classroom wings
- Are there open opportunities for collaboration with park?
- Traffic study? Concern of back up on Valley Vista.

Site Option 3:

- Serious concerns about traffic and runoff from removing the forests' ability to absorb rain water
- Coordinate road crossings with energy services and township – possible closing
- Concerns about removing trees (possibility of replanting in existing school site?)
- Cost of clearing land
- Impact on community: noise, traffic, pollution
- Concern from students crossing a road and parking lots to play
- Reduce parking footprint; seek minimal amount of parking (variance from township)
- Cyclist and pedestrian impact on safety

Mr. Brown advised that the district will hold another community forum on Thursday, February 29 at 6:00 p.m. at the Radio Park Elementary School.

The meeting ended at 7:11 p.m.

Lynn Tressler
Recording Secretary