

**South Kingstown School Building  
Committee Community Forum/  
Workshop Saturday, March 18, 2023**

1.

**A. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Lucas Murray called the meeting to order. A roll call was not done; Mr. Murray announced that some members of the Committee were present but that some also were unable to attend due to other obligations.

**B. Introduction, welcome remarks, and general project status update**

A community forum took place on Saturday, March 18, 2023, to discuss the school building project. Lucas Murray opened the meeting and updated the audience as to the general project status update.

**C. Project presentation by Studio JAED**

Phil Conte of Studio JAED gave his presentation. Items discussed were the recommended project approach to the \$125,000,000 building project and the activities that are scheduled for this workshop. There will be four activities that will be looked at and the outcomes for each activity will be discussed.

**D. Workshop exercise - designing a new high school building, campus, athletic fields, and related appurtenances. Interactive session with participants.**

Time was given to the audience to meet as groups and discuss their ideas, thoughts, and concerns with the school building project.

**E. Facilitated community comment/Q&A session**

At the conclusion of the workshop discussions, Mr. Conte asked for a representative to share their thoughts and findings.

**Group 1** discussed items such as accessibility, parking for the auditorium, gymnasium, administration, and the nurse's office. They also discussed the mechanical and food service areas, interior open space design, green space in the middle of the building, and collaborative space interspersed with classroom space. Their design was a two-story building. They would like to see accessibility and easier traffic patterns for the community to use the auditorium and gymnasium areas.

**Group 2** discussed having green space in the center of the building. Accessibility was also discussed as well as parking. Larger spaces were grouped towards the back of the building. School Street would be the front entrance. Administration would be on the bottom floor and the building would be two stories. The classrooms would be on the second floor.

**Group 3** discussed access to the gymnasium and auditorium. They found it hard to visualize without seeing the open space. Courtyard was placed in the center. The Administration Office would be on School Street, as well as the nurse's office. Music would be connected to the Auditorium. Food services were lined up for easy access; technology and construction on the first floor. The second floor contained classrooms with a lot of collaboration spacing between the groupings. They also had a nice open window section for the visual arts studio and media arts center. CTE has its own wing with science and the remaining core classes were in the middle and guidance was in the back but accessible to everyone.

**Group 4** discussed a campus-like setting where you face the Hazard Building and have the gymnasium in the back corner facing the athletic field and the masses of the classrooms being in the back corner. Another entrance for parking would be on the School Street side and courtyards would be in the middle. Public uses would be in the front and side areas and then the students would walk through areas and courtyards to get to the classrooms.

**Group 5** discussed a narrower and longer model having a grand entrance with the auditorium behind it as well as the music space. The building would be two stories. The gymnasium would be in the center. The classrooms would be upstairs with a third floor on half of the building.

**Group 6** discussed a conceptual perspective of light everywhere for the students. They would like the architects to design an inspiring building that solves what needs to be solved. They do feel parking should be in the back and would like to know how they design the facade to integrate into the neighborhood. They would like the space to be used effectively so that the project is more cost-effective.. Parking also needs to be considered. Solar panels - will they be used in the project? Collaborative spaces should be open and visually accessible to the adults in the building. Landscaping should be planned as well.

**Group 7** discussed their main focus was parking spaces being accessible for the auditorium and gymnasium as well as the green space area. All these on the first floor make sense. Classrooms and collaboration spaces could be on the south side to catch the light and potentially some open space around the building and in the interior as well.

**Group 8** discussed parking on the School Street side going into Administration with maybe something on the facade to lighten the building. They would like to see science integrated with other programs so that everyone is together and programs are not separated. They would like to see some land available to open space for outside learning and experience.

## **F. Review of next steps and closing remarks**

Mr. Conte gave a review of the steps that will need to happen to get to the next step in the application process.

Mr. Murray thanked everyone for coming. He asked if there were any other questions. There was a question about parking and available spaces. Mr. Conte explained that this will be looked at more intensely in the future. Mr. Murray also gave possible options of what parking might look like and reiterated that this is a project in planning.

### **NO VOTES WERE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING**

## **2. Adjournment**

### **A. Adjournment**

The forum was adjourned.