

**KITSILANO SECONDARY SCHOOL 08/09**

PAC MEETING MINUTES 06

26 February 2009

**EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING TO DISCUSS SCHOOL RENEWAL / SEISMIC UPGRADE****PRESENT:**

- Alex Grant, Principal; Karen Coflin, teacher
- Executive members:** James Burton, Cathy Goodban, Lisa Herrera, Mary Chipman, Andrew Larigakis
- PAC Members:** Ginny Saunders, Paul Edgcumbe, Karen Gilmore, Thomas Winkler, Diane Montgomery, Lesley Wright, Wyeth, Lynn Sackville, Elene Vanderpas, Alison Bailey, Daniel Kamin, Gwyneth Edgcumbe, Tracy Monk

Location: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Staff Room - Kitsilano Secondary School, 7:30 pm

	<b>Minutes</b>	<b>Action</b>
6.01	-Meeting convened to discuss the PAC Proposal for the School Renewal and Seismic Upgrade of Kitsilano Secondary School to go from PAC to our MLA, Gordon Campbell, at our March 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2009 meeting with him.	Info
6.02	-the revised draft Proposal developed by the School Renewal Seismic Upgrade Committee was tabled for discussion and comment. -revisions and clarifications were made collectively to the Draft 1 Proposal with input from those in attendance as well as input from one PAC member, Paige Axelrood, who was not able to attend.	Info
6.03	-a vote was taken by PAC members present to endorse the Proposal as amended. All PAC members present voted to endorse the Proposal with the exception of two abstentions.	Info
6.04	-The agreed final wording is attached below as Appendix A.	Info
6.05	-discussion ensued regarding who would attend the meeting with Gordon Campbell. (He had requested to meet with a small group of two or three representatives). -the merits of including various individuals was debated. -Karen Coflin felt the Principal should attend the meeting. Others felt that since the Proposal was coming from the PAC, it was not appropriate for the Principal to attend. -some felt that, since the intent of the meeting was to present and advocate the written Proposal, it did not matter much who attended.	Info
6.06	-a motion was put forward that James Burton (PAC Chair), Andrew Larigakis (PAC Secretary) and Tracy Monk represent the PAC to put forward the Proposal at the March 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting with Gordon Campbell. Motion passed.	Info

**End of Minutes to meeting of 26 February 2009**

Minutes by Andrew Larigakis

## Appendix A

### General Design Parameters and Performance Specifications for the Seismic Upgrade, Renewal and Additions to Kitsilano Secondary School

(rev.2) 26 February 2009

These recommendations are the result of extensive discussion and debate within the Parent Advisory Committee and its subcommittees in consultation and cooperation with Kits students, Kits Teachers, Parents from feeder schools, Alumni, and other Kits community members. Informing these recommendations are the results of a Survey run by the PAC, and a Workshop and Open House facilitated by outside consultants.

#### Ensuring Best Possible Educational Facilities

*First and foremost, the school community views the renewed Kits as a people-focused place, with students and teachers as priority users. We envision Kits to be a great learning and teaching environment that achieves learning excellence and supports experiential learning. The learning environment is to be one that embraces diversity, creativity, individuality and critical thinking. As well, the Musqueam First Nation's culture should be recognized in the new facilities.*

- 1.1 Ensuring the best possible facilities to deliver educational programs is our highest priority.
- 1.2 Spaces must be appropriately designed for their intended uses and be adequate in size.
- 1.3 Essential human needs must be properly met, ie. thermal comfort needs to be achieved at all times of the year and all times of the day since the school is a community facility used at all times (physical discomfort disrupts and diminishes learning); good, controllable, ventilation is necessary in all spaces and opening windows and good day-lighting are required; good acoustics are essential for the learning environment, and sound attenuation needs to be an integral part of any design.
- 1.4 21<sup>st</sup> century technology needs to be integrated into the school design, and flexibility to accommodate future technological developments must also be incorporated.
- 1.5 Post-disaster functionality for a significant portion of the school should be incorporated into the design.

#### Space Needs

*Space allocations outside of current Ministry of Education standards need to be included in light of Kits' role as a community facility.*

- 2.1 An auditorium has been central to the history, culture and spirit of the school and is also important to the wider community. An auditorium *must* be included in the renewed school. The auditorium should be at least as big as that which we currently have, and be fully equipped for the full range of drama, music and other activities that occur there.
- 2.2 The sports program at Kits is important to the spirit and well-being of the school community. Being adjacent to the Community Centre and Connaught Park means school and community sports facilities are shared and fully utilized. New school facilities need to have allocated more space to gyms and athletic facilities than the school currently has. Since the existing facilities are currently used to capacity, and often insufficient to meet the current needs, and there is now a requirement for daily physical activity for students, additional gym space to what we currently have is desired.
- 2.3 Multi-purpose spaces as well as small and large gathering and social spaces (like an atrium) should be incorporated into the school design for informal learning and community building. Such spaces would include a Cafeteria and student social spaces.
- 2.4 Adequate teacher prep and storage spaces need to be included.
- 2.5 Technical education spaces are important in the new school and these facilities need to be carefully considered.
- 2.6 The design team hired to do the new school needs to consult with the school's teachers and administrators to determine the specific needs for the comprehensive courses and programs offered at the school.
- 2.7 We would like to see full-size lockers for students.

#### Heritage Retention

*The school community has identified the old school building as iconic and important to both themselves and the broader Kitsilano community. While groups in the Visioning Workshop provided a variety of*

*suggestions for how to integrate old and new, every group stated the need to recognize and preserve Kits heritage.*

3.1 As expressed in the community Visioning Workshop, Open House and Survey, the majority of participants expect to see the 1927 Classroom Block retained, seismically upgraded and modernized. We would like to see *the rest built new*, and the whole designed to meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup>-century learning environment. However, if we cannot achieve our educational goals incorporating a refurbished 1927 Classroom Block, the community needs to be consulted about retaining and re-purposing this building.

3.2 The current school has met the needs of the community for up to ninety years. The new and renewed school should be designed as at least a fifty-year facility.

3.3 The street facades of the 1927 Classroom Block are important to the community, and to the City as a whole, and should be sensitively renovated.

### **Minimizing Disruption During Construction**

*It is very important that the health of students and staff at Kits, and the education of students, not be compromised during the period of construction.*

4.1 Students should not be split up during the construction period.

4.2 We advocate that sufficient time is allocated for the design and planning process to ensure that the construction period be made as short as possible.

4.3 We wish to see the school board look creatively at all options that will enable construction to be completed within as short a time frame as possible. These options would include a form of construction contract that favours an aggressive construction schedule.

4.4 Provide adequate staff support for school administrators during planning and construction so that their responsibilities to students educational and other needs are not compromised.

### **Green Design**

*The Kitsilano neighbourhood is the birthplace of Greenpeace, the home of the Suzuki Foundation, and we wish to continue our tradition of leadership on environmental issues. It is the view widely held by parents, teachers, students and other community members that Kitsilano Secondary and its site be a showpiece for sustainable design.*

5.1 Within the Neighbourhoods of Learning our school could be a hub for education related to ecology and environmental sustainability.

5.2 We wish to see Kits meet or exceed the LEED Gold standard required for schools.

5.3 Opportunities should be explored to achieve energy efficiencies and operational savings by making the school a part of a District Energy system. For example, the waste heat from the adjacent Ice Arena should be utilized to heat the new school and ground-source geo-exchange (geothermal) systems should also be utilized.

5.4 The renovated 1927 Classroom Block needs to be upgraded to meet the requirements of the 2008 B.C. Green Building Code. Existing walls must be insulated. A secondary, interior glazing system should be installed if replacing the existing single glazed windows with matching double-glazed windows is cost-prohibitive.

5.5 The school itself should be a teaching tool for sustainable design. Where full-scale implementation of new green technologies is not financially viable, demonstration samples (like photo-voltaic panels) can be implemented on a small scale.

5.6 Recognition of the school grounds as part of an eco-system should inform thinking about the site design.

### **Innovative Ideas**

*Innovative ideas could be explored to achieve the best possible educational, recreational, and community uses of the Kitsilano Secondary school site and Connaught Park for optimization of green space and the sustainable design of buildings.*

6.1 Reclaim Larch Street from 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue for non-vehicular use.

6.2 Provide underground parking

6.3 Green Roofs

6.4 Interconnected Indoor / Outdoor spaces

6.5 Outdoor classroom

6.6 Eco-garden

6.8 Combination of covered and uncovered open-air tennis courts.

