

For your information, below is the proposed agenda for the November 13th (2:30 pm Media Center) Facility Design Committee meeting along with the response to questions raised by Committee members.

At the meeting on the 13th, committee members will be asked, after two minutes of advocacy, to vote on their choice of the **four** programmatic areas the renovation should address. Since information has been provided by Mt. Hebron's teachers indicating that there are a many more than FOUR deficient programmatic areas in existence at Mt. Hebron, committee members asked what will happen to all the areas unaddressed in the renovation. HCPSS responded that there is no plan to resolve any of the unprioritized areas' limitations. They will remain unaddressed for an indefinite period of time.

In addition, the Committee discovered that information provided by HCPSS to the Committee regarding square footage, number of teaching stations, and assigned areas of the school is incorrect and in need of correction. This faulty information along with the potential impact of leaving areas unaddressed indefinitely, has caused certain Committee members to protest the proposed method of reaching a decision via a vote based on inadequate information. (Go to <http://www.mhhspts.com/8.html> for Help Mt. Hebron's 11/8/07 testimony by Committee members before the BOE on these issues).

If you would like to observe the meeting on the 13th, please feel free to attend. The meeting will be in the media center at 2:30. Observers are not allowed to speak, observe only.

Mt. Hebron High School
Planning Advisory Committee Meeting #3
Media Center 2:30-4:30 PM

November 13th, 2007

Outcome: By the end of the meeting, participants will have advocated for different programmatic needs and prioritized areas of the building to be included in the renovation based on those needs.

- Welcome and recap of last meeting (Ken)
- Clarification of athletic facility needs (Jeannie)
- Advocacy of program needs (All voting members, two minutes each)
- Vote for priority needs (All voting members)
- Next steps (Gail/Ken)

- Wrap up (Ken)

November 8, 2007

**Mount Hebron High School
Planning Advisory Committee
Response to additional parking lot questions:**

1. Do we have quantified data on circulation patterns (i.e. pedestrian counts/projections?)

We do not have quantified data relating to student circulation patterns. We do have reported data of areas in the school where circulation problems occur. This information will be documented in greater detail and additional input regarding problem areas will be solicited and confirmed through direct observation.

We do have total student population information and enrollment projections as determined by HCPSS. We also have the necessary information to determine the student occupancy load of the school to be used to determine the required capacity and associated size of all exits and exit access components (corridors, stairs, etc.).

2. How are school corridor widths sized? (Industry standards)

Basic minimum dimensions for corridors are set by building and fire code standards and further regulated based on occupancy loads and other code requirements. Past experience tells us that the code minimum sizes are usually well below what is optimum for practical school facility design. Ultimately once the code minimums are determined, the size of various building components such as corridors, lobbies, gathering areas, doors etc. are designed based on use, anticipated occupant flow, and general configuration. Certain rules of thumb for square foot allowances per person can be used to check the maximum occupancy of planned spaces.

3. How do existing corridor widths compare to design widths based on projections and industry standards?

The existing corridor widths at Mount Hebron High School are well within typical dimensional standards for average school conditions. Corridor widths in educational facilities are typically 6'-0" wide at minimum. The more typical corridor width is usually 8'-0", while corridors in areas anticipated to be more heavily used or that are lined with lockers may be 10'-0" wide or wider. These typical corridor widths are usually quite adequate where facility layout promotes equal circulation in opposite directions and there are multiple convenient routes to traverse the most heavily used portions of a building.

At Mount Hebron High School the majority of the corridors are between 8'-0" and 9'-0" wide. The corridor in front of the main office is almost 10'-0" and at the entrance doors is 14'-0". The other wide corridor is in front of the media center which is also almost 14'-0". The corridors in the English classroom area are the narrowest at 6'-0". The corridors in the most congested area of the school near the media center, in the center of the academic area of the school, are approximately 9'-0" with a section toward the media center expanding to 12'-0".

This location is where the back longitudinal cross corridor intersects the main corridor which runs front to back of the school. This is also where the most centrally located stair connects the first and second floor of the building. Since this location is the virtual center of the academic classroom portion of the school and is the intersection of the most commonly used horizontal and vertical circulation components, it can be surmised that every student probably passes through this area several times a day. With some renovations in this area these corridors could be widened to alleviate this congested condition.

4. How would student traffic be affected when evacuating the building? (i.e. fire drill)?

Any added construction to Mount Hebron High School would be done in such a way as to either maintain existing egress paths or to provide new exits with equal or better accessibility and at least equal if not more egress capacity. As part of receiving building and fire department approval which entails designing to meet codes to receive permits it must be shown that all travel distances and egress capacities are adequate to meet current safety and evacuation standards.

5. Would it be necessary to maneuver around an annex to be a safe distance away?

Anytime new building construction is located in proximity to an existing structure, whether it is an annex, a building addition, or enlarging existing spaces, the configuration must be studied to assure that there is adequate open space within appropriate distance to the completed facility to allow sufficient, accessible, area of safety. Through the planning stage of all building modifications the school administration is consulted in order to coordinate plans for building safety, security, sheltering and evacuation. Building expansions are coordinated with safety and security requirements and adjustments to the designs are made throughout the phases of project development as needed.

6. How will traffic circulations in front of school be resolved?

The vehicle and pedestrian circulation pattern that was proposed with the previous design solution appeared to address many of the problems with the present traffic configuration and could be used as a basis of design for the current planning process. Any proposed site circulation solution may also be influenced by the location of planned new building construction. It is the intent that the final design for the traffic circulation will be shaped by the input of the advisory committee.

7. Is connector air conditioned and enclosed?

The design of the circulation connections to new building construction is very much dependent on the specific location, design and configuration of the construction as well as the proximity to the existing structure. It is the design objective that if at all possible any new building construction will be connected to the existing school by at least one connecting link that is enclosed and conditioned.

8. Why is there only one architect presenting a plan? What does architect of record mean? Why wasn't this committee a part of the choice?

Per Board policy, Smolen-Emr was selected for this project based on previous experience on HCPSS renovation projects, workload considerations and understanding of the requirements in

the proposal. They were selected following an interview with the former Director of School Construction, Dr. Bill Brown. The "architect of record" holds the prime agreement for the complete architectural and engineering building design. The architect as a licensed, registered professional in the State of Maryland, signs and seals the construction design documents for submission to the appropriate approval and permitting agencies. The architect certifies that to the best of his knowledge and belief the building is designed in accordance with all applicable codes and regulations. In this capacity the architect issues drawings, signs contractor change orders, processes requests for information, and certifies contractor payments.

In all construction and renovation projects, the planning advisory committee is formed well after the selection and formation of the design team and has no role in the selection of the architect