

## JoAnn Leleck Elementary School at Broad Acres Community Meeting #4

Date: March 22, 2023  
Project: 21086

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1. Dr. Baber thanked the community and staff for attending this meeting. The architect is here to present the design of the new school and needs feedback from the community so you can help plan the future of this community.
2. Jim Determan, Craig Gaulden Davis, presented the site and floor plans.
  - a. At the 3 previous community meetings we have presented multiple options of site locations for the school and floor plan layouts. The design team has combined your feedback with concerns of others including MCPS and Parks Department, and we have a proposed plan to present tonight. The option the community selected was to build the new school on the existing site. This will require the existing school to be demolished and the students will go to a holding school for the 2-year construction duration. The holding school will be the Fairland Center.
  - B. Site Plan
    - The school will be located in the southwest corner of the site. This will allow maximum visibility from the road to the park and play spaces.
    - The bus and vehicle drop offs will be located in the same locations they are currently. There are 100 parking spaces provided.
    - Play spaces are located directly outside the Multipurpose Rm, Gymnasium, Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms. There are courtyards where students can have informal play, but play equipment will be located in play spaces outside the building.
    - The main entry is located between vehicle and bus drop-offs. There is a large paved plaza in front of the entry that can be used for community events.
    - A separate public entry for Linkages to Learning and the school-based health center is provided.
  - C. Floor Plans
    - A security vestibule is provided at the main entry.
    - Adjacent to the entry is the administration suite. This includes the Principal's office, counselling and school health suite. Linkages to Learning and the school-based health center are adjacent but separated by lockable doors.

- The plan diagram is 2 parallel bars. The north bar contains the shared spaces- spaces all students will go to every day. These include the Multipurpose Rm, Gym, Media Center, Music, Art and the Dual Purpose Room.
- The south bar contains classrooms and is a 3-story wing. The stair/elevator are located adjacent to the lobby.
- The first floor contains Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms.
- The second floor contains the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms. There is a staff lounge and workroom so staff supervision is maintained on this floor.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor contains the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. An Art classroom is located on this floor to be shared by the upper elementary students. There are staff development offices to maintain staff supervision on this floor.
- Every floor contains small group instruction spaces.
- There are spaces for every program at this school. All spaces currently in portables will now be in the building. This will be a state-of-the art school with the latest technology and building design that fosters better learning.

D. The design is progressing. We are currently meeting with MCPS supervisors for detail design. We are working on designing the building exterior. Design should be complete by spring, 2024. Construction will begin summer, 2024 and be complete in summer, 2026.

E. The following is a recording of questions and responses.

**Question** Where is the cafeteria?

**Answer** 1<sup>st</sup> floor center of the north bar. A benefit of this plan is that all classrooms are close to the shared spaces. There is a short walk for students to the cafeteria, gym and media center.

**Question** Is the main entrance accessible for wheelchair users?

**Answer** Yes, there is an accessible path from the handicapped parking to the main entrance. There are no stairs or ramps.

**Comment** Will the school hours change when students go to the holding school?

**Answer** Dr. Barber anticipates that this will remain a Tier 1 school so the hours should remain the same. Parents will be notified if that changes. We will transition from a walking community to a bussed community. There will be buses servicing Northwest Park, Hampshire West Ct and Forest Park to transport students to Fairland.

**Question** How many elevators are there?

**Answer** One. Elevators are used infrequently, when there is an occupant that has a mobility impairment. Elevator use is controlled by the staff. Only one elevator is needed.

**Question** Where is the holding school?

**Answer** Fairland Center is holding school. It is 7.5 miles northeast of the current school and is about a 20 minute drive.

**Question** Where is the 5<sup>th</sup> grade located?

**Answer** 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

**Question** When will construction begin?

**Answer** Summer of 2024. Dr. Barber indicates this will be our last summer in this school building. The ELO (Extended Learning Opportunities) program next summer will be at Fairland Center.

- Question** Is the area of the new building larger than the area of the existing school plus all the portables?
- Answer** The new school is larger than the existing school. All programs that are currently in portables will be included in the new school building. The new school capacity is 925 students. The typical elementary school capacity is 740. Dr. Barber indicated that in the last 7 years the largest capacity has been 894 students. Now the enrollment is between 790-800. Dr. Barber anticipates future growth but the school has never been over 900 enrollment. 925 capacity is the largest elementary school in Montgomery County.
- Question** Will buses pick up students from the site of the existing school or will buses pick up students throughout the neighborhood?
- Answer** This is yet to be determined. There is more than a year to resolve pick up locations. The school will communicate this as soon as there is a plan. Students will not be picked up from the existing school site as that will be a construction site.
- Question** Will construction impact the park or existing play space in the park?
- Answer** No.
- Question** What will change for the students? How will they start the school year. When will they start, in June or September?
- Answer** Dr. Barber indicated that as far as we know now, there will be no deviation from the MCPS calendar for traditional schools. We will communicate with you via email, Connect-Ed, letters and website if there is any change. You will know this well in advance of the start of the school year. As information becomes available we will use multiple platforms to communicate with the school community.
- Question** Will all the students go to the holding school?
- Answer** All students will go to the holding school. And all teachers will go as well.
- Question** How will the move to the holding school impact students doing SSL (Student Service Learning) hours?
- Answer** Dr. Barber indicated that students will have to find a new location to do SSL hours. It may be too far to go between White Oak and Fairland. Counselors at White Oak will work with students to find new locations for this work.
- Question** Where is the holding school located?
- Answer** Fairland Center is near Tech Rd. The K6 bus drops you off at White Oak and that is the final stop. The Z2 bus takes you closer to Fairland Center. If you get to White Oak it is about 3 more miles to Fairland Center.
- Comment** Another way to get to Fairland is to take the Ride On 20 bus and then the 10 bus. It will take you right to Fairland Center.
- Question** If a student gets sick at school how do we transport the student home? Will there be someone from the school to bring them home?
- Answer** The parent will be responsible to get the student from the school. Dr. Barber repeated the bus routes from the neighborhood to the school.
- Question** Will school buses take the students to the school?
- Answer** Yes. Buses will take the students to and from the school.
- Question** Will we have enough buses for all the students?
- Answer** Yes.

**Question** What are the after school programs that will be offered at the new school?  
**Answer** Dr. Barber indicated we have not had the conversations yet about what after school programs will be at the holding school site. But he will advocate for these programs to continue at the holding school. These programs help students learn and grow. If we need community support to advocate to keep these programs Dr. Barber will communicate with the community.

Thanks to all for attending and expressing their interest in this project.

These meeting notes were prepared by Craig, Gaulden Davis, Inc. for the purpose of recording the information covered during this meeting. Should anyone object to any statement or interpretation contained herein, please inform Craig, Gaulden, Davis, Inc. within seven days or the meeting notes shall stand as written.

**CRAIG GAULDEN DAVIS, INC.**



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Jim Determan, FAIA  
Principal