Community Meeting Notes 4.4.23

12:00-1:30 PM - Girls at Work Meeting

Early Afternoon Community Meeting

Three identical Community Educational Visioning Meetings were held on April 4, 2023, to begin the process of establishing initial educational and architectural priorities for MSD's Facility Master Planning effort. Meetings were held at different times of day to accommodate community members' schedules, with an early afternoon meeting taking place at Girls at Work, a mid-afternoon meeting held virtually, and an in-person evening meeting taking place at the Beech Street Elementary School. Approximately 30 community members attended the early afternoon meeting (see attendance list below). Project architects SMMA and educational programmer David Stephen (New Vista Design) presented a range of information about the master planning process and collected community feedback on what they see as the key educational and facility development needs of the MSD community. Topics covered in the forum included:



- An overview of the Facility Master Planning process and schedule
- Community Priorities Brainstorm
- Community Design Priorities Brainstorm

A digital polling platform called Mentimeter was used to view and assemble participant feedback. The following meeting notes present an overview of the community feedback collected during the meeting.

Participant List

1.	Ivette Arroyo	AmosKeag Health
2.	Jason Bonilla	Director/Equity Leaders Fellowship
3.	Amina Chiboub	BFL
4.	Karen DeFrances	Administration
5.	Nicole Doherty	Exec. Director
6.	Sue Hannan	Pres. Of Teacher's Union
7.	Vance Freymann	CONSIGLI

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8.	Josh Gagne	Facilities
9.	Jennifer Gillis	Superintendent
10.	Carla Giorgi	Parent
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 Aimee Kereage Manchester Proud
 Rob Kleiman Principal, Adult HS
 Mark Lehoullier Comm. Member

15. Maxine Mosley
16. Jim O'Connell
17. Molly Lung Owen
18. Board of School Committee
19. Future parent

Molly Lunn Owen Future parent
 Lucy Peña AmosKeag Health
 Marcus Ponce de Leon /Journalist

20. Nicole Ponti
 21. Chris Potter
 Distr.Admin, Comm Member
 Board of SC, Comm Partner

22.	Bahera M Shukun	Bilingual Liaison
23.	Karen Soule	Board of School Comm.
24.	Mike Soule	Community Member
25.	June Trisciani	Alderman-at-Large

26. Andrew Toland27. Julie TurnerDirector of Communications, MSDParent/BOSC member

28. Leslie Want Board of School Committee

29. Jenn Wilson Bilingual Liaison

Design Team

30.	Martine Dion	SMIMA
31.	Lorraine Finnegan	Design Team Project Manager, SMMA
32.	Michael McKeown	Dennis Mires, TA
33.	Dennnis Mires	Dennis Mires Architects
34.	Andy Oldeman	SMMA
35.	Rosemary Park	Educational Planner, SMMA
36.	Phil Poinelli	SMMA

37. Erin Prestiteo SMMA
38. Matt Rice SMMA
39. David Stephen New Vista





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Greatest Hopes

When asked to share their greatest hopes for MSD facilities master planning process, meeting attendees share the following responses, which have been grouped thematically.

Inclusive of All Stakeholder Voices

- My hope is that all parent's voices are represented
- That our plan includes all stakeholder voices, including families whose primary language is not English
- Process: inclusive & equitable—need to be intentional to connect with all stakeholders
- That this project will be embraced by the community
- Create an environment where we can derive input from our community and build a world class educational system that serves our diverse population
- To develop a plan based on community input that provides equitable access to all, is sustainable, and will be supported long term by the community
- A plan that's tailored to our community's needs and aspirations

Long Term Planning

- The development of a thoughtful and sustainable longterm facilities plan
- Quality facilities that help all students achieve lifelong success, transforming Manchester's future
- A plan for our facilities that lifts both what is happening in our schools and the physical structures that hold learning
- Central location for all schools to share information

Support for Inclusion and Equity

- Equity throughout the district
- Schools that provide space to learn and differentiate while sustaining educational best practices in its structure
- Welcome centers
- My hope is to have 100% of our EL success and the best learning and comfortable environment
- CHWs have a private seating area (office) to be able to assist families in need
- Inclusive and creates excitement for the future of MSD
- My hope that the students can attend school and have their education completed. Also, parents are able to get feedback from the chool
- A pathway to equity, affordability, and sustainability including improving health and wellness
- I want all our students to have the equitable opportunity to reach their full potential and be the best they can be functioning contributing members of the school community

Sustainable Facilities

- Green and energy efficient facilities
- Reliable, efficient, and sustainable systems
- Healthy, energy efficient, light-filled buildings

A Place Families and Students Want to Be

- Hoping to bring the best learning environments to our children
- Truly moving towards community school formats
- Buildings that can be utilized for multiple opportunities for students as well as the community
- Schools that all families would want to send their children to
- I'm hoping that all parents are aware of the school situation and both parents and students understand the importance of educating their kids and having good communication with school staff and teacher
- Innovative learning spaces that are easily accessible to our learners

Collaborative Spaces

- Collaborative learning spaces
- Our schools provide common planning pods for teachers
- Conference rooms for planning
- Language Labs







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Project Priorities

The following list of educational, architectural, and community priorities and considerations for the master planning of MSD programs and facilities were brainstormed by participants during the early afternoon Community Meeting. Priorities have been grouped thematically. If you have additional priorities that you would like to add to the list, please email them to David Stephen at: david@newvistadesign.net

Educational Priorities

Equity and Inclusion

- More equity and inclusion
- Equitable access across the district
- Reflecting the diversity of cultures in MSD
- Students have access to the same classes
- Equity, safe and inclusive environments
- Eliminating barriers & supporting lifelong success for ELL students, Special Ed students, students in poverty, and students of color
- Make sure that kids are going to school for our kids to make their lives better and succeed
- Wrap-around supports, including SEL instruction
- Equity and inclusivity for all populations, not just for K-12
- Equity supporting multiple pathways personalized learning
- Differentiated learning
- · Learning libraries in all schools

STEAM and STEAM

- MST (Math, Science, and Tech) Labs
- Including MST access to computer labs for students and parents

Student Centered Learning

- Whole Child approach
- Learning pathways for all students-whether college or workforce bound
- Offer the most flexible holistic learning for our children with a large variety of programs
- Access to appropriate and adequate information based on the children's needs
- Cooperative learning and teacher cross curricula lessons
- Student focused
- Student growth
- Cell phone restrictions

Real World and Hands-On Learning

- Hands on learning
- Competency based education
- More opportunities to students, more experience with outside careers and more college accessibility
- Connecting students to meaningful & remunerative employment HERE in Manchester

Outdoor Learning

- Outdoor Education/Incorporate nature
- Seamless integration of outdoor and/or experiential learning

Community Building

- Facilitating a sense of community and belonging among students
- Community use of buildings, adult learners
- Maximize community and parent involvement in school
- Community buy-in. Helping the community see what is possible in MSD!

Post-Secondary Success

Professional Collaboration and Development

 Staff who have time to meet with colleagues, and have excellent professional learning opportunities







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Architectural Priorities

Welcoming and Inspiring Spaces

- Modern welcoming spaces
- Spaces students will want to take pride and ownership in
- Create attractive environments for educators and students
- Transparency for accessibility to and excitement around learning

Safety and Welcome

- Safe while also welcoming
- Welcome centers at all schools
- Accessibility
- Students are getting more comfortable space to work in and study and feel comfortable when they're learning valuable skills

Cultural Sensitivity

- Reflecting the diversity of cultures in MSD
- Reflecting Manchester's indigenous past/present/future—Amoskeag
- Ensuring we have specific spaces catering to our demographics, their religions (praying space for our students who are Muslim), and overall identities
- Cooperative learning spaces that are welcoming to a diverse population

Flexible Spaces

- Convertible spaces that allow for multi-disciplinary learning
- Design that accommodates future changes to allow more than 50 years of successful use
- Open spaces to allow movement
- No wasted space, no glass walls
- Flexible learning spaces
- Freedom spaces where students can play anything

Sustainability

- Clean energy & efficiency—and students working on those
- Materials that are sustainable and green
- Energy savers like solar panels
- Green spaces and better daylight
- Lots of natural light
- Healthy & efficient building materials
- Easy to maintain

Safe Community Use and Access

- Community use of buildings, adult learners
- Welcoming to community members, flexible for safe community use
- Facilitating community, belonging, and mentorship
- Community partners have space to collaborate with educators
- Outdoor design that mitigates impact of snow and ice on campuses and approaches
- Build for Year-Round school

Adequate and Appropriate Spaces

- Separate gym and lunchrooms no more multipurpose rooms
- No staff on carts, space for all programming
- No portables

Student Support Spaces and Services

- Spaces for community support programs
- Shower facilities for students experiencing homelessness
- Laundry facilities for sports teams and homeless
- Space for wraparound supports—"community schools" model
- Community closet for coats, clothes, food pantry

Collaborative Spaces

- Collaboration teaching & learning spaces
- Collaborative teaching planning room for professional learning

Breakout and Quiet Spaces

- Relaxation/quiet spaces
- Meeting/small group workspaces
- Quiet testing rooms for standardized state testing
- Materials used that enhance quiet spaces

Performing and Fine Arts Spaces

- Performance art and visual art gallery spaces
- Adequate and appropriate spaces for fine arts, music, and dance

STEAM and STEAM

- MST (Math, Science, and Tech) Labs
- Including MST access to computer labs for students and parents





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Architectural Priorities Continued

Career Technical Opportunities

- Space for workforce development
- CTE relevant to workforce needs in Manchester

Outdoor Connections and Learning

- Community gardens
- Community greenhouses, water conservations
- Green spaces accessible to students
- Outdoor learning spaces
- Outdoor connections (bearing safety in mind)- plan for courtyards, gardens, beehives, ponds, etc.
- Outdoor public gardens
- Biophilic, immersive natural light spaces

Improved Connectivity

Outlets which are accessible for PBL

Library Media Centers

Great libraries

Afterschool Spaces

Ample space and opportunities for after school activities

Varied Food Options

- Food courts that can service people with food allergens, religious diets, etc. these can be partially staffed by Culinary students
- Kitchens in every school to allow fresh and appropriate foods made on site
- Foods that represent diversity

Meeting Spaces and Offices

- Appropriate office spaces for specialists and
- Confidential space for therapists

Good Storage

- Student storage that is well spaced
- Storage for cell phones

Community Priorities

Safe Community Use and Access

- School as community hub
- True community schools
- Schools as drivers of community engagement
- Flexibility of spaces to be safe and used after hours
- Full-day, year-round use: Daycare facilities for community members, before/after care, summer camp use
- Enhance and support community partner opportunities
- Ease of use for small and large group needs
- Community meeting spaces
- Bright spot that the community is proud of
- Community recreational place
- Parents and community partners can access facilities safely
- Welcoming
- Schools that are safe & secure but still connected to the surrounding community
- Parking lot and entry's EASILY accessible
- Warm and welcoming to a diverse community
- Separate entrances for community activities

- · Viewed as safe facilities to learn and thrive in
- Ability to "book" spaces as a community member or group for meetings, parties, etc
- Space planned for community events
- Ample space and opportunities for after school activities
- Create spaces/uses to engage taxpayers who do not have children in schools - showing value to these groups
- Access to classes for credit and/or enrichment for community members
- Community engagement opportunities on Election Day! The best chance for community members to visit schools

Career Tech Education

 Connections to employment that's meaningful and profitable, and develops the Manchester economy





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Community Priorities Continued

Increased Family Engagement and Supports

- More family event engagement and creating parent spaces for discussion
- Family resource center
- Inclusion of multilingual and limited English-speaking families
- More opportunities for parents to tour the schools
- Electronic message boards for each school in multiple languages
- Resources to help others with mental health issues and anxiety disorders and support people with special needs culture

Student Engagement and Success

- Lifelong success for EVERY student
- Offering educational programming that is tied to the future regarding career pathways

Attracting and Maintaining Students and Families

- Increase the number of students drawn to our excellent schools
- March our educational facilities to the expectations of the new vibrant Manchester
- Raising up the reputation of the MSD and the educational staff
- Make folks want to live in our city so they can attend our schools
- Producing Manchester citizens who stay here and are equipped with social-emotional and career skills

Universal Pre-K

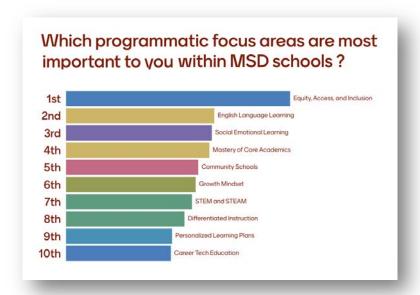
Community Support and Buy-In

- Facilities that will be supported long term by community and be warm and welcoming to all
- Not so expensive that we can't afford instruction or send tax rates through the roof

Community Priority Educational Focus Areas

During the Community Meeting, the design team introduced a variety of educational focus areas that have been identified by the district as being of key importance to programming within MSD community School. Participants then had the opportunity to rate these focus areas based on their own priorities, resulting in the following priority listing.

- 1. Equity and Access
- 2. English Language Learning
- 3. Social Emotional Learning
- 4. Mastery of Core Academics
- Community Schools
- 6. Growth Mindset
- 7. STEM and STEAM
- Differentiated Instruction
- 9. Personalized Learning Plans
- 10. Career Technical Education







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Additional Community Priority Educational Focus Areas

When asked to share additional educational focus areas that are most important to them, meeting participants shared the following focus areas which have been organized thematically.

Special Education

- Universal Design for Learning
- Special education (2 mentions)
- Tier 2 small group & 1:1 interventions
- Tier 3 intervention spaces

English Language Learning

- Personalized learning ELL multiple pathways
- Special education for EL students (2)

Attracting and Retaining Staff

- More teachers
- Staffing ratios
- Attracting and retaining staff of color
- Affordable housing for staff (2)
- Affordable and accessible childcare for staff
- Professional Development
- Resources

Universal Pre-K

Preschool and Universal Pre-K

Mental Health Services

 Mental health/counseling support for all students on a regular basis



Hands-On Learning

- Kinesthetic learning
- Project based learning
- Inclusion of hands-on learning

Expanded Opportunities

- Clubs & activities
- Extra-curricular programming
- Magnet programs
- Gifted and talented programs
- Adult learners

Career Technical Education

- Mentoring
- Competency based learning
- Internships at local businesses
- More career pathways at the middle and high school levels
- Connections with community agencies and businesses

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor and experiential education (2)

Cultural Awareness

Family Engagement

Physical Education





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Priority Design Patterns 1.0

During the meeting, the group was introduced to 16 "Design Patterns" that represent priorities for and approaches to the design of 21st century school facilities. Participants had the opportunity to vote for and then collectively prioritize which design patterns they thought were most important to consider when renovating or designing new MSD school facilities. The following listing is in priority order based on the number of "votes" it received. It is notable that the relatively small difference in votes from the top and bottom vote-getters indicates that all of these design patterns are meaningful to meeting attendees.

- Safety and Security (48 votes)
- Safe Community Use and Access (47 votes)
- 3. Welcoming Arrival and Drop-Off (46 votes)
- 4. Professional Work Areas (46 votes)
- Natural Light (46 votes)
- Heart of School (45 votes)
- 7. Enrichment Spaces (45 votes)
- 8. Outdoor Learning and Play (42 votes)
- Wayfinding and Streetscapes (42 votes)
- 10. Media Center Learning Commons (42 votes)
- 11. Agile Classrooms (40 votes)
- 12. Maker Classrooms and Makerspaces (40 votes)
- 13. Career Tech Spaces (40 votes)
- 14. Extended Learning Areas (39 votes)
- 15. Sustainability/Building as Teacher (38 votes)
- 16. Classroom Neighborhoods (38 votes)













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Blue Sky Ideas

When asked to share their Blue-Sky aspirational ideas for renovated and/or new MSD school facilities, meeting participants shared the following ideas which have been grouped thematically.

Green and Sustainable Buildings

- Solar panels on all schools
- Net Zero energy
- Shades for the windows (considering all the natural lighting)

Year-Round Use

 Add cooling so we have the option for year-round school

Bathrooms

Gender neutral bathrooms

Outdoor Learning and Play

- Playground in the middle of school
- Athletic/play space
- Community garden
- Green space & land management
- Minimal pavement
- Roof garden, ponds, beekeeping, rainwater barrelsways for city students to connect with nature every day at school
- Trees/outdoor shade
- Community Garden and Agricultural Center are the two main sites for community student center for welcoming students with their parents (seeing light and nature is the most important part)
- Drone port on roof

Sufficient Staffing

- Appealing workplace so we can fill all our staff vacancies
- Full staff without the need for itinerant ("traveling") educators and therapists

Sensory Spaces

- Sensory deprivation space
- Therapy rooms

Student and Family Support

- Welcome Center
- Wraparound services so every student is prepared & able to learn
- Health centers at each school

Student Mentoring

 Facilitating mentorship, every student having someone in their corner

Community Center

 "Community center" like at a college: meeting rooms, food, and study spaces off the central heart of the school - with a piano!

Podcast/Recording Studio

 A space for our students to have podcasts/space to record music

Joyful Classrooms

Bigger and joyful classrooms

Diversity and Inclusion

 Visible celebration of our diversity (backed up with real student voice and leadership, not tokenization)

Display and Exhibition

- Lots of display spaces for students' work
- Keep artifacts and relics from our older buildings and keep them in newer buildings to keep them familiar to alumni

Athletics

- Indoor track
- Natatorium
- Climbing wall

Weather Stations

Weather bug hub

Community Schools

- Community gathering space
- Connecting community groups with the schools: fresh start, Manchester grows, Manchester moves, etc. so teachers don't have to be experts in everything
- School as center of the community
- Community activities (and child care??) at schools on Election Day: that's the only day many community members visit schools
- Stronger partnerships with community services
- Community health centers at each school







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Blue Sky Ideas Continued

Community Partnerships

Community partnerships, including employers

Safe Pedestrian Access

Pedestrian access & neighborhood integration

Parking and Transportation

- Enough and safe parking
- Transportation options
- Bike rentals
- Electric scooters
- Encourage biking to school- bike paths & racks
- Bus routes that don't drop kids off before school opens
- Schools that are walkable to most students
- Covered bike parking at every school



