

Broad Rock Elementary School

Meeting Recap

April 21, 2010

We know that many of you probably wondered exactly if, and how, your input during the March public meeting would be used. We are confident that you were pleased with the work done by the architectural and planning teams as they shared the construction plans. It was clear to all in attendance that your ideas, suggestions, and concerns were taken into consideration. In case you missed this public meeting, we were able to show faculty, parents, and community members initial renderings of the new school that proved that when they talked, we listened.

We were pleased to have Principal Carmen Rush at the meeting to share how pleased she was at seeing “how things have come together.” Also sharing in the excitement was Richmond Public Schools Chief Financial Officer, Jim Damm who made an effort to help those in attendance realize how special the meeting, and the process, was. “You are the first group to see preliminary plans... and you’ll be the first to see results in the fall of more finalized plans” he shared. Also in attendance were Kim Bridges, RPS School Board Chair and District 1 Representative, and Dawn Paige, RPS School Board Vice Chair and District 8 Representative.

Project Manger, Mike McIntyre added that this project was special to him. He explained to everyone that the planning process was in Phase IA, the schematic design phase. He went on to encourage everyone to continue to give their input, thoughts, and ideas as construction begins in November. After breaking ground in November, construction will continue to take place until the school opens its doors in September of 2012. The point was stressed that the school would be equipped to handle technological changes and trends for the next 15+ years.

Based on the renderings shown at this meeting, each grade level would have 5 classrooms, each measuring about 800 ft², with restrooms in each individual class for grades K-2 and hall restroom facilities for higher grades. Some shared concerns were that sidewalks be made available around the perimeter of the new school and that the surrounding community be beautified in some way in order to compliment the building of the new school.

Many in attendance were pleased with the planning process thus far. One attendee in particular, Mr. Jerry Scott, Sr. a local resident and community investor, shared his excitement saying, “I’ve been around over 38 years, and it actually looks like something good is about to happen.”

If you missed this meeting, you still have the opportunity to share your ideas and express your concerns. Please visit the Building a Better Richmond website at: www.buildingabetterrichmond.com, for more information and also to give any feedback.