

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: October 9, 2007, 5:00 p.m.

PLACE: Greenwich High School

PRESENT:

Board: Mrs. Colleen Giambo, Chairman
Mrs. Leslie Moriarty, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Nancy Weissler, Secretary
Mr. Steven B. Anderson
Mr. Michael C. Bodson
Dr. Susan S. Ellis
Ms. Virginia L. Gwynn
Mr. William G. Kelly

Administration:

Dr. Betty J. Sternberg, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Susan Wallerstein, Asst. Supt., Business Operations

Other:

Mr. Rusty Malik, Mr. Ron Quicquaro, architects, Perkins & Will; Dr. Jeffrey Spector, Program Coordinator, Art and Music; Mr. Alan Capasso, Greenwich High School (GHS) Headmaster; Mr. Patrick Taylor, GHS Music Department Head; Mrs. Genny Krob, Mrs. Janice Gardner, Mrs. Lillian Eng; Friends of High School Performing Arts (FHPSA); Mrs. Laurie Heiss Grealy, GHS PTA Co-President; Mrs. Marianna Cohen; Mr. Ken Borsuk, Greenwich Post.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Giambo, Chairman at 5:05 p.m.

1. **Review of the Greenwich High School Auditorium and Music Instructional Space Project**

Perkins & Will architects Ron Malik and Ron Quicquaro made a presentation on the proposed GHS Auditorium and Music Space project, reviewing proposed program space, draft designs, and cost estimates:

Proposed Space: Mr. Malik explained that proposed program space was based on an estimate of student enrollment for each program (based on meetings with the GHS faculty) coupled with the use of an industry benchmark, such as square footage allocated per enrolled student per class. The program enrollment figures assume modest growth from current levels. The space standards used are those of Wenger, a vendor, and are also consistent with those used by Perkins & Will in similar projects. The estimated GHS space requirements are based on the low end of the Wenger range. It was noted that the new auditorium will be able to accommodate dance performances on the stage.

Retrofit of Existing Space: A Board member raised the question of the possible use of some of the woodshop and technology space, which abuts the Science wing and totals about 7,000 square feet. Mr. Malik indicated that they had discussed this possibility with Mr. Capasso, but they were not pursuing it for now due to the difficulty of reconfiguring this space and the difference in elevation versus the new auditorium. However, he indicated that this issue could be revisited in the A&E phase.

Parking: Mr. Malik reviewed the proposed parking plan for the project, noting that it was based on a preliminary discussion with P&Z.

Demolish vs. Repurpose Option: Mr. Malik discussed the two options for converting the existing auditorium space into music instruction space: demolish or repurpose the facility. As Mr. Malik explained, the repurpose option is estimated to cost approximately \$750,000 less (pre-state reimbursement) than the demolish option and would be less disruptive to student activity. However, he indicated that there was some risk that not all of the program needs could be addressed within the confines of the repurposed space. In discussing the demolish option, he noted that it would offer the advantages of more flexibility in configuring the space and it would be more visually appealing because setbacks could be incorporated in the design.

Upon motion duly made Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Weissler, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Weissler
Secretary

