

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION ONE



The Lisle Community engaged in the *Vision 202: Chapter 2* conversation, "Physical Condition of District Facilities" at Session #1 held on Tuesday, January 19th with an estimated 90 participants in attendance. Participants discussed the physical condition of the District's current facilities including Lisle High School, Lisle Jr. High School, Schiesher Elementary School, Tate Woods Elementary School, Meadows Center and Wilde Field.

Vision 202: Chapter 2 Co-chairs Susan Stears and Bill Buchelt launched this second phase of the community engagement project sharing their continued commitment to facilitating a positive conversation and collaborative process. Superintendent Dr. Keith Filipiak then presented information about the Facilities Master Planning process and the projected timeline.

Keynote speakers Mr. Mark Jolicoeur and Mr. Rick Young from the architecture and design firm Perkins+Will presented an overview of the condition of the current facilities based on the Physical Assessment during the summer of 2015. The audience then learned about the items that need addressing at each facility as well as projected costs associated with the updates needed to maintain the facilities.

Following the facilities presentation, participants worked in 15 small groups to complete the task shown above. Facilitating Team members, Board of Education members and some District administrators are not asked to complete the task. Included in this document is a summary of the responses from the groups.

TASK #1: PHYSICAL CONDITION OF DISTRICT FACILITIES



INSTRUCTIONS

Tonight you heard details regarding the *physical condition* of each of the Lisle CUSD 202 facilities. As a small group, reflect on the presented information as well as your experiences and interactions with the District facilities for the categories: Building Interior, Building Exterior, Site Grounds, Safety/Security, and Parking/Lighting. Discuss and record your feedback on the following questions for each facility:

- **When considering the physical condition of each school building, what does your small group feel are:**
 - **positive building features?**
 - **desired building changes?**

Participants were asked to consider the positive attributes and desired changes for each of the school facilities based on the information included in the presentation as well as their personal experiences. The categories to consider included:

- Building Interior
- Building Exterior
- Site Grounds
- Safety/Security
- Parking/Lighting
- Other

SUMMARY OF SMALL GROUP RESPONSES

POSITIVE BUILDING FEATURES FOR LISLE CUSD 202 FACILITIES

POSITIVE BUILDING FEATURES -TATE WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Building Interior - The small groups mentioned topics associated with the **Learning Resource Center (LRC/Library)**. Positive attributes listed included the **configuration of the library with adjacent classrooms** as well as the **recent remodel**. Other items noted were the “**cozy**” feel of the building.



Building Exterior - Responses varied including comments such as “**Welcoming building**” and “**Entrance on the front of the building**”.

Site Grounds - The **new playground** and green space were listed as positive attributes of the school's Site Grounds.

Safety/Security- Security measures such as **video cameras** and controlled entry through the **key card/buzz-in system** were included as positives.

Parking/Lighting – Comments in this category mentioned the **pick-up and drop-off system** and **bright hallways** as a positive feature for this building.

POSITIVE BUILDING FEATURES -SCHIESHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Building Interior – The small groups indicated the **large size, accommodations, and clear direction** of the **hallways** are positive interior features. Another positive attribute noted for the building included the **large gym with a stage**. Groups mentioned that having **two gyms** is a positive feature as well.



Building Exterior – Participants comments included “**nice playground**”, “**new sign**”, “**multiple entrances** make for speedy/efficient entrance/exit for students” as well as “close to downtown, JH, HS” for this category.

Site Grounds – The most common positive attribute listed by the Vision 202 participants in this category focused on the **updated playground**. Another positive feature listed was the **proximity to the athletic field** and baseball field.

Safety/Security – **Video cameras** were noted as an asset to the facility along with the addition of **key card entrances**.

Parking/Lighting – The **separate bus/parent pick-up areas** was identified as a positive feature for this building.

POSITIVE BUILDING FEATURES –LISLE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Building Interior – A common positive attribute listed was the **Auditorium** along with the **gym** and the **cafeteria/commons** area.

Building Exterior – Groups listed the **entrance** as a positive feature citing that it is **accessible, safe, clear and controlled**. The only other comment included in this category was that the “grounds look nice”.



Site Grounds – Features associated with the **athletic field** such as “nice to have field attached for sports and P.E. activities” and “Field accessibility” were indicated. Other comments included were the appreciation for “**plenty of green space**” and **close proximity** to the high school and downtown.

Safety/Security – The **clear entrance** located near the front doors was listed as a positive building feature. Another item included in the feedback was the **enhanced security measures** at the building.

Parking/Lighting – Participants commented that “**Good improvements**” had been made to the parking lot while as well as the “**Ample parking for school day**”.

POSITIVE BUILDING FEATURES –LISLE HIGH SCHOOL

Building Interior – A common positive feature listed at the high school was the **Auditorium**. Comments also listed the **two gyms and commons area** as a positive attribute.

Building Exterior – A positive feature indicated by small groups was the **entrance** of the high school. Participants noted that the entrance is **attractive** and **easily identifiable**. Other comments noted the “flow” and **logical layout** as a building asset.



Site Grounds – Participants commented on the **location and surrounding area** with **access to the park and fields** as a positive attribute for this facility. A group also noted that it is “easy to get to”.

Safety/Security – Features related to the building’s **entrance** were listed as a positive feature. Participants noted that it is a **secure and clear entrance that offers visibility upon entry**. Also mentioned was the close proximity to the police station and the **well-lit parking lots and entrances**.

Parking/Lighting – The **ample parking** was listed as an asset of this facility as well as the **traffic flow during drop-off and pick-up**.

DESIRED BUILDING CHANGES FOR LISLE CUSD 202 FACILITIES

DESIRED BUILDING CHANGES –TATE WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Building Interior – A frequently mentioned desired building change related to the building interior was the layout or “**flow**” of the building. Vision 202 participants commented that the layout is a “maze of hallways”, “segmented”, and “convoluted”. Another desired change noted by the groups was related to lighting. Comments noted the **poor lighting** or lack of natural light in the building as a concern. Participants also indicated the **lack of storage and narrow hallways** as a feature to be addressed.

Building Exterior – Participants felt changes need to be made to the entry indicating a desire to have **one clear entrance to minimize confusion**. Other comments noted the **school’s location** is the farthest in the district calling the location “excluded”, and that **pick-up/drop-off is inefficient** “particularly because most parents have younger siblings, strollers, etc.”

Site Grounds – Small groups listed issues related to the green play space available with some groups specifically mentioning the **lack of outdoor fields**. Groups also indicated the **proximity to the highway** as a desired change due to the noise and fumes.

Safety/Security – The most common desired change noted in the area of Safety/Security was the need for a **more secure entrance**. Participants noted that the entrance does not control visitor access to the building due to the location of the office relative to the entrance. One group also noted that **traffic flow on the street is limited when busses are present**.

Parking/Lighting – Many groups noted the need to address parking. Participants mentioned the **location and safety of the current parking lots** as well as the **lack of sufficient parking** as concerns. Vision 202 participants also indicated the desire to address the **drop-off/pick-up logistics** and **space related to cars and busses on the road**. Groups described arrival and dismissal time periods as congested and challenging.

DESIRED BUILDING CHANGES –SCHIESHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Building Interior – Two items were listed most frequently as a desired change. The first item suggested to be addressed is the **building layout**. Groups described this aspect of the facility as “awkward”, “disconnected”, and “disjointed”. The other item is the **Learning Resource Center** or LRC (library) noting **accessibility issues** and comments indicated a desire for **updates**. Small groups also noted issues related to the **classrooms**. **Size** dominated the comments along with the **age of the classrooms**. Other items included as desired changes for the building interior included **space for the Arts and specialists**, **washroom updates**, **storage needs**, and the need for **air conditioning in the large gym**.

Building Exterior – The most desired change for the building exterior at this facility is the **location of the main entrance**. Participants cited the entrance at the rear of the school as an issue. Another item noted by groups is the **exterior layout** of the facility as well as a desire for **increased signage**.

Site Grounds – Participants indicated concern about the **location of the basketball courts** and clearly defining an area where cars should be unable to park. Other issues indicated include a desire for **additional playground updates** as well as the **difficult sight lines** between the playground area and the swings.

Safety/Security – Small groups felt there is **a need for a secure main entry point**. Participants also indicated that the **entrance’s location in the building** impacts security. Comments included that the entrance does not control visitor access to the building due to the location of the office relative to the entry doors and lack of sight lines. In addition, participants mentioned issues with the **parking lot flow and/or traffic during drop-off/pick-up** as well as a desire to address lack of **ADA accessibility**.

Parking/Lighting – Participants expressed concerns over the **parking lots and/or traffic flow** and the **drop-off/pick-up system**. One group described the current set-up as “not at all conducive to pick-up/drop-off” while another group described it as “unsafe”. Small groups also noted the **single-lane blind spot** to the back parking lot as a concern. **Lighting** was also listed as a desired change by the groups describing the area as “dark” on Kingston Ave.

DESIRED BUILDING CHANGES –LISLE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Building Interior – Vision 202 participants noted desired changes related to the classrooms specifically mentioning a need for **more classroom space**. Other comments included updating the **Theater/Auditorium**, a need to address **heating/cooling**, and **relocating the District offices**.

Building Exterior – Small groups noted a desire to address the **courtyard** and for **improved signage**.

Site Grounds – The **courtyard** was again identified as an area to be addressed. Other items mentioned in this category were **track improvements** and to utilize and/or address areas in the space around the school grounds.

Safety/Security – Participants indicated a desire to **improve the entrance security** as well as address the **after school pick-up** procedure and **wheelchair lift**.

Parking/Lighting – The **drop-off/pick-up procedure** as well as the **location of the bus lane** were listed as areas of concern. Further comments were made regarding the need for **additional parking capacity during events**.

DESIRED BUILDING CHANGES –LISLE HIGH SCHOOL

Building Interior – Participant feedback was varied for this category. Comments were listed such as a need for better **lighting**, increased **storage**, unequal **heating/cooling** as well as better **sound systems** for the gym and auditorium.

Building Exterior – Desired changes for this category included **windows for classrooms**, that the school is in the flood plain, and “getting in and out of Short Street can be challenging (Expand intersection of Short/53).”

Site Grounds – Vision 202 participants expressed a desire for **athletic facilities on campus**.

Safety/Security – Among the items mentioned for safety/security were to move the **commons area away from the front entrance**, **stairwells** are difficult to find, a desire for **increased signage**, and students are able to prop open entrances.

Parking/Lighting – Groups indicated a desire for **additional lighting** as well as a need for **parking lot repairs**.

GENERAL COMMENTS

MEADOWS CENTER

The **facility grounds** were identified as a positive attribute for this facility by several groups. Some groups suggested this site be considered as an option for a new facility while one group felt it is not a central location. Some participants noted questions regarding the **financial implications** for maintaining this facility as well as suggestions for **repurposing** the building as well.

WILDE FIELD

Overall, participants indicated that Wilde Field is a nice facility that is in need of updates. Some groups **questioned** whether **the location** is optimal or if the land should be utilized for a new facility.

For a complete listing of all responses
see the January 19, 2016 CES-1 Verbatim Response Document found at
vision202.org/vision-202-ch-2