

# Memorandum

To: **Todd Larson**  
From: **Kathy Wallace/Steve Albertson**  
Project: **SPPS Como Park Senior High School**  
Project Number: **16-0141**  
Subject: **Community Workshop 2 – Meeting Summary**  
Date: **April 19, 2016**  
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## Community Workshop #2 Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Recap of Meeting #1
3. Alexandria HS Tour re-cap
4. Forces of Change; Limiting Beliefs
5. What are others doing? 2 videos
6. Group work: “A Day in the Life”
7. Next steps: upcoming workshops, second chance on ‘homework’

## Introduction

The group was welcomed and given a re-cap of the first meeting, covering FMP Vision, Principles & Standards, Highest Hopes, What’s Special.

## Tour of Alexandria HS - Debrief

- Community involvement, local business support
- Meeting each student where they are –adult
- Flexible space use – less material posted on walls 1:1 technology instead
- Academies are based on Holland’s Code – covers all 16 majors
- Body language – relaxed
- High ceilings, architecture – less “angst” stress
- Open, flexible space – might be harder on adults, distraction not an issue if engaged
- Lots of natural light – mental health
- Great to focus students on what they’ll do after school (long range vision) – personal connection and investment
- Relationships – how one understands humanity?
- Teacher collaboration areas – our space, our kids

## Forces of Change

- Sports academies
- Mind/body connection to learning
- Money
- “security threats”
- Mooks online
- Govt. policy funding standard
- Access to info. Technology
- Importance of health
- Personalized learning
- Student mental health
- Self-directed learning
- Technology
- iPads
- more student population demographic shift

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- polished, online, lectures, videos, assignments
- charter private schools
- demand of marketplace, career specialties
- transportation
- start times
- admission standards and access
- specialization by faculty
- population changes
- equity issues
- digital learning
- restorative justice practices
- workforce needs
- generational changes
- knowledge
- less testing
- increased community interaction – intellectual, vocational, physical

### **Preconceptions/Limiting Beliefs**

- Forgetting that somethings *don't* change
- Culturally bound – hard to change
- Money
- Staff – no resources to train?
- Tradition
- Multiple educational philosophies
- Fear of change (so be flexible!)
- Attachment
- Are students ready for this?

### **Videos: Reflections**

#### **Reflections**

- What's being done at lower levels?
  - MS } Models at SPPS
  - ES } Eastern HS, MS model
  - Cultural
  - Murray is doing a great job
  - iPads are changing things; **e.g.** CTE - Business classes have all assignments online – no paper! Hope is to do even better with iPads in future.
  - AAHS – internet access 4:1
  - Beta sites examples?

#### **Comments:**

- Urban vs. New Sites
- Demonstrated performance outcomes
- Staff/student ratio
- Open plan – noise and distraction breakdown of production
- Offices look like some of these more open, varied learning settings

### **A Day in the Life, Group 1:**

#### Student (9<sup>th</sup> grader)

- Enough work space
- Safe, comfortable
- Areas for group work
- Enough furniture
- Not crowded, not spilling out of rooms
- AM: gathering space/commons, iPad charging station
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade core classes centralized
- Visit greenhouse

### **A Day in the Life, Group 2:**

- Incorporate technology
- Holistic –incorporate body
- Hands-on
- No hiding spaces (unsafe) but quiet spaces
- Clean, safe bathrooms
- Accessible teachers – office
- Each student as real adult connection
- A place to be – shared spaces
- Spaces that resemble the real world (business)

### **A Day in the Life, Group 3:**

#### Student point of view:

- Hands-on learning
- Adaptive learning/teaching opportunities
- Stronger connection to staff – teacher as a mentor
- Respect – respect both directions
- Engagement (focus) – class size
- Group work – building community
- Where? – outside, courtyard, lunchroom, outdoor dining

### **A Day in the Life, Group 4:**

#### Student point of view:

- Ability to gain content from expert sources (teachers, internet) without distraction, but apply same in collaboration.
- Safety

#### Teacher

- Working across departments in collaboration to connect with students
- Enjoy coming to work
- Environment and resources facilitate teaching/learning

#### Parent

- The facility would support engagement through Community-Ed type activities connection to local businesses – i.e. school to work
- Use of facilities beyond the normal school day

## Questions / Comments

Students (All Grades) – What do you need?

- Robotics, larger space
- Larger halls
- Larger dining
- Bank/finance lab
- More convenient lockers
- Better organization, storage
- More open space, flexible space for study hall, small group checkout room
- Resource rooms, tutoring, applications, scholarships, grants for students

Other Student Thoughts:

- Better food
- Business lab
- Place for student conversations
- Bigger halls
- Bigger lunch area
- Get to class on time
- Lockers? Inconvenient, can't use
- More organized classrooms – too much stuff
- More open spaces, especially as transition to college
- Study rooms in addition to library, both individual and group
- Tutors/study help after school – place to be

## Next Steps

The group was strongly encouraged to return for Workshop #3 – What do We Want? - April 26, 2016, 5:30-7:30.

- Participants were asked to bring an image/images of a place or space that speaks to what you want for Como HS.

**END OF MEMO**