

20 Mural Street, Unit 10
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1K3

Project: Elkhorn Public School – Master Plan Project
Place: School Library
Present: Holly Richards (Principal), Aileen Leadbeater (TDSB Design Coordinator), Lloyd Skinner (FTL), Richard Christie (Sustainability Office), Melody Nguyen, Michael Hurwich (Parents), Cindy Grener, Joanna Lanning, Jodi Schneider, Mark Connelly (Teachers), Ron Bernasch (JSW+)

Project No.: 18-31
Date: April 24, 2018

Meeting #1

This was the first meeting with the School Steering Committee to discuss the development of a Master Plan for the school site. A new topographical survey was provided.

OVERVIEW

The Master Plan process will assist in determining the preferred location for a new replacement playspace. The scope of work for project will be determined through the Master Plan design process.

The School Steering Committee provided a list of comments from the parents from May 2017.

Students at the school also prepared drawings of possible schoolyard improvements. There are a variety of comments centering on play equipment as well as including other diverse play features in the schoolyard.

Richard Christie provided an overview of the project and the process moving forward to undertake site improvements at the school. The school property is under development pressure by changes in the community that may impact future site planning decisions.

There are five portables presently on site and there is a potential that a building addition could be added that can impact school yard improvements. Any site improvements that are proposed, need to consider the potential building modifications and attempt to eliminate the impacts of new school building improvements on the site. If an addition is added, it will eliminate the portables and change the school yard play opportunities.

The location of an addition to the school building will not be confirmed until a process is undertaken by architectural staff.

An addition extended north would impact the existing playspace area.

The preliminary Master Plan will be shared with TDSB planning staff to get a sense of possibilities for site improvements during this period of transition for the school.

It will be difficult to develop a Master Plan for portions of the schoolyard considering the potential changes that are ahead.

It was suggested that additional line markings be added to the schoolyard now to provide more play opportunities for the students.

New play features will need to be accessible and may require the addition of paved pathways to allow for access to play equipment.

◀ Site Improvement Options

Two scenarios were agreed upon for the preliminary Master Plan.

It is important to retain the soccer field and one baseball backstop. Shifting the soccer field north or south is acceptable, but the placement of a new playspace area will need to consider two alternative locations. A north-end and a south-end option will be developed with a paved surface connection to the school yard for accessibility.

There is an opening in the school yard fence at the south-west corner of the site off Elkhorn Drive. This access location needs to be refined to provide an improved accessible connection into the school yard. The present time there is no pavement at the entry location.

Adding a paved path around the field would be desirable.

If the information in this report does not agree with your record of this conversation, or if there are any omissions, will you kindly advise this office at once, otherwise we shall assume its contents to be correct.

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Existing Playspace

The existing play structure was recently removed.

The existing playspace safety surface is still in place and is contained with a plastic boarder edging (not accessible). The playspace is very large and will be reduced in area with a more compact play equipment design.

The required safety surface area will depend on the equipment features and the funding that is available for the new play equipment.

Priorities

The teachers and parents have expressed a need to install a new play structure.

A process to select new play equipment was briefly discussed. Further information will be provided at this meeting on the play equipment selection process.

There is a desire to have new play equipment installed as soon as possible.

Student Drawings

Upon review of the drawings prepared by the students for playground improvements below is a general list of the ideas represented in the student drawings:

slide	ladder	hill	trees	bird food	treehouse	nature-inspired
seesaw	monkey bars	Splash Pad	crawl tube	tree climb	bench	grass for gymnastics
fake tree	Garden	water	fence	shelter	nest	ping pong table
bridge	Castle	rope climb	art table	cave	ladder	Accessible walk
dome	rock climb	zipline	trampoline	twist slide	tic-tac-toe	chess board
vine climb	sand pit	sand toys	pond	wood	treehouse	tunnel with holes
animal food	high slide	maze	basketball	murals	spinner	map of Canada
climb walls	mini Bridge	field hockey	swings	climb bars	bird swing	running path / track

NEXT STEPS

JSW+ is to prepare two preliminary design options for the school site. The plans are to consider utilizing the west open space and the north side of the school yard.

At the next meeting there will be some discussion about play equipment selection. Photos of play equipment and a list of vendors will be provided.

The next meeting scheduled for the Master Plan process (Meeting #2) is **Wednesday May 16th at 9:30 a.m.**



Ron Bernasch, OALA
c.c. All Present