

Edison Middle School | Thursday, May 19, 2016

Ms. Smith noted that the options represented the overall conceptual designs (building orientations, etc.). The purpose of this meeting is to gain feedback to convey any questions/concerns/suggestions from Edison staff to the Tier II Committee. Ms. Smith reviewed the pros/cons regarding educational adequacy, site considerations, operational implications, implementation phasing, and cost implications for each option. The group expressed the following questions/concerns:

Option A

PROS

- Current Edison location affords students and staff access to mass transit, community field trips for FLS students, and University of Illinois student teachers and tutors.
- Neighborhood feel
- Proximity to library
- Wide halls and architecture give the building character. How will this be preserved in renovation?

CONS

- Lack of green space. Edison does still have a lack of green space.
- Would physical education would still incur loss of instructional time due to transporting students to West Side Park?
- What do the architects have in mind (sight lines) when considering supervising a three story building?
- Are collaborative spaces including in the renovation and addition?
- What accessibility features are included in the design? Is there an additional elevator in the addition? Ramp?

QUESTIONS

- What will the flow be into the current building?
- Where will Edison be housed during construction phases?
- Will the 2nd floor be continuous?
- Does the expanded parking assume acquisition of neighboring land?
- Will electrical upgrade be completed throughout the building?
- Will the internet speed be upgraded?
- Safety (bus loading/drop off) is still a concern and did not appear to be addressed in the design.
- Seat capacity will still be an issue although staff likes the capacity Edison currently has.

Option B

PROS

- A new building would allow collaborative spaces for students/staff thus supporting the middle school philosophy
- Ability to host events.
- Possibility to share space with community/park district (i.e. track/fields).

CONS

- Reconfiguration of feeder patterns may need to be determined.
- Location, loss of Edison's current neighborhood connection is a concern
- Not on MTD route – means loss of U of I connection, inability for students to come and go for evening events is a huge concern.
- Ability to collaborate with Barkstall students and staff.
- Is Seat capacity for future growth adequate?

Staff was told that responses to questions would be brought back to staff.