TRANSITION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMMING IN THE DW POPPY COMMUNITY

TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2

Thursday, October 26, 2017
DW Poppy Secondary Learning Commons

SHAPE OF THE EVENING

- Introductions

- Summarize Learning

- Facilities and Maintenance
  - Tristan Schaufler, Director, Facilities, Capital Projects and Transportation

- Question and Answers

- Working Groups – Themes

A FOCUS ON STUDENTS

- Caring for the social – emotional well-being of children

- Being mindful of the physical well-being of children

- Providing vibrant and sustainable learning opportunities for all children

LANGLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PURPOSE MISSION
To inspire all learners to reach their full potential and create a positive legacy for the future

Awakened sense of curiosity & wonder

RELEVANT, MEANINGFUL CHOICES for STUDENTS IGNITE A LIFELONG PASSION for LEARNING

Personalized, self-directed learning

Engaged learners

Vision
AN INNOVATIVE, INSPIRING and UNIFIED Learning community

Student success + confidence

LEARNERS ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE, SKILLED and INNOVATIVE

Empowered to create

LEARNING TAKES PLACE THROUGH FLEXIBLE & CONNECTED ENVIRONMENTS

Anywhere, any time

Connected to local & global community

Networked & collaborative learning

OUR SCHOOLS FOSTER an INCLUSIVE & ACCEPTING CULTURE

Every child belongs

Respect for learning differences

Socially responsible contributing citizens

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY
- Accepting
- Respectful
- Kind
- Trustworthy

EXCELLENCE
- Success
- Effort
- Engagement
- Hope
- Adaptability
- Achievement

COURAGE
- Creativity
- Inspiration
- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving

COMMUNITY
- Connection
- Relationship
- Caring
- Collaboration
- Inclusion
- Teamwork
- Belonging
- Partnership

Middle School Pillars & Core Values

INTEGRITY

Support for Transition
- Connections between Elementary and Middle schools are encouraged and supported
- Students are nurtured in their journey from childhood to adolescence
- Communication and connections are promoted between Middle and Secondary schools

School is a safe place to learn
- There is acceptance and support for student differences including cultures, languages, sexual orientation, and abilities
- Students and staff feel physically and emotionally safe
- Code of Conduct is clear and consistently applied
- It is a closed campus; students remain on school grounds throughout the day

COMMUNITY

Staff know each student
- Advisory – Opportunities are created to form long term relationships with a staff member and students of various ages. A forum is created to discuss relevant and current topics and curriculum
- Staff understand the needs of adolescents
- All staff provide for students' intellectual, ethical, social, emotional and physical growth and well being
- Each child has an adult advocate on staff: someone who knows each child personally

Connectedness
- Students and staff feel connected to the school
- Students feel connected to others in different grade levels
- Families play an integral role in the life of the school
- The community is involved in the school
- The school is integral part of the community

EXCELLENCE

Staff are committed to middle level instruction
- Staff are committed to work as a team to build and implement an integrated Middle Years program
- Teachers have opportunities to teach to their strengths
- Teacher collaboration is provided through common planning time

Relevant instruction
- Instruction utilizing interdisciplinary units and inquiry is common
- Learning is engaging and experiential
- Curriculum provides relevant and challenging learning opportunities
- Scheduling, curriculum, instruction and assessment are organized for maximum flexibility

COURAGE

Explorations
- Every child participates in explorations
- Explorations are organized to facilitate the discovery of personal skills and strengths
- Diverse opportunities will be created based on the interests of the students and the strengths and skills within the community

THEMES

- Athletics
- Arts
- Outdoor Learning
- Explorations
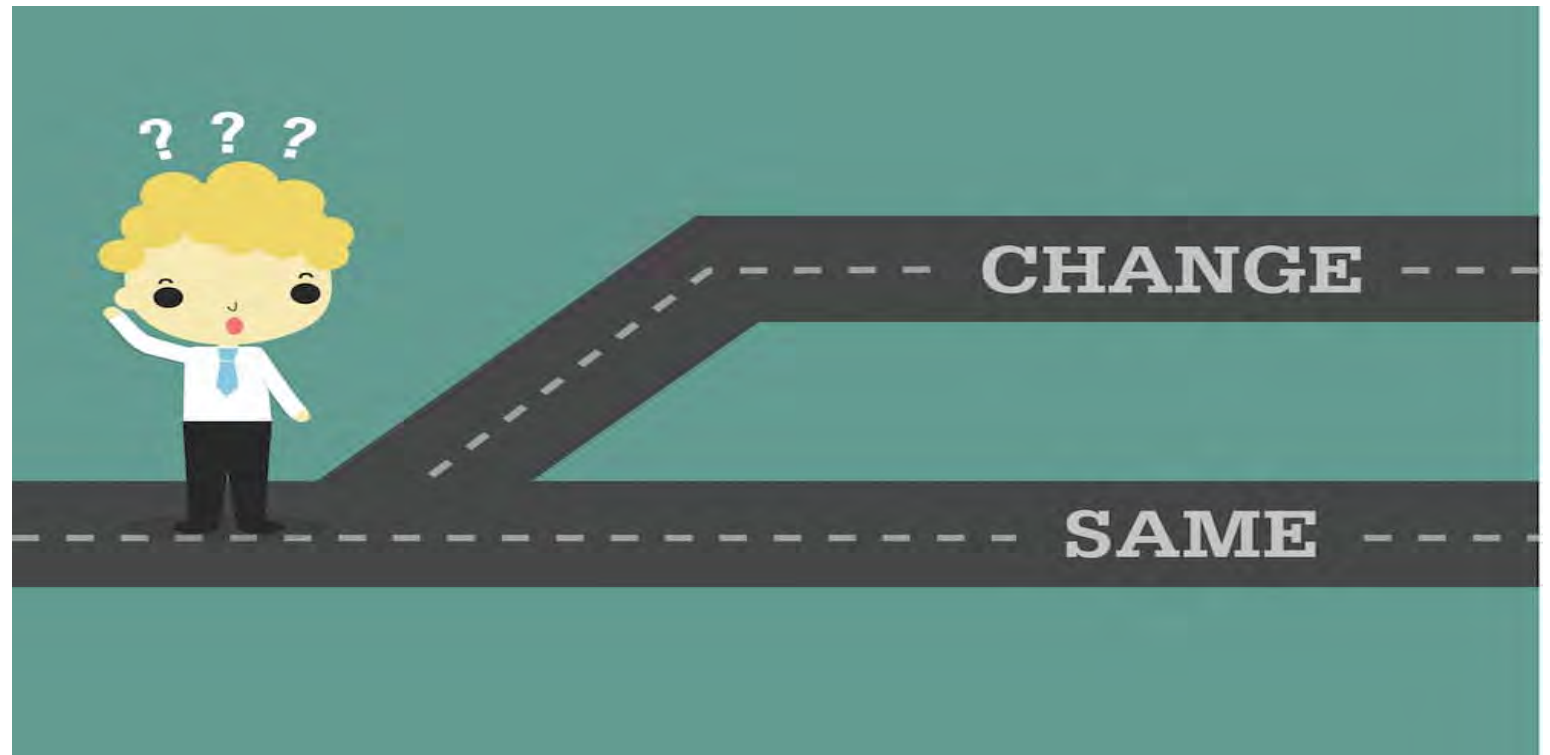- Learning Commons
- Open Learning Spaces
- Playground
- Scheduling

Other considerations

- Partnership with BCIT
- Elementary Conversation

DRIVERS FOR CHANGE – WHAT DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER?

- Educational Rationale drives Facility Changes

WHAT WE KNOW?

- 2 – 3 Year Timeline

- Working within the Middle Pillars and Langley Middle Schools

- Request for up to 4.5 Million – educational rational to determine budget costs

- Board update report due in December

FACILITY QUESTIONS – PROVIDE PERSPECTIVE

- Process – Can you describe the process of accessing funds for a project like this?

- Decision-making – How are decisions made and/or considered when projects like this go forth?

- Partnerships – Athletics and Arts – Can you describe the process that a school goes through to work with various stakeholders (ie. Township) to improve facilities?

- Field – What is the cost of an artificial field at Poppy?

- Gym – Can you share a rough estimate of the cost on building a new gymnasium? Can you share what other schools at the middle school level have for their gym space?

- Outdoor Space – What have other schools done to convert their courtyard to a learning space?

FACILITY QUESTIONS – PROVIDE PERSPECTIVE

- Theatre – Can you share the cost of adding a theatre to a school? (any past projects that we have partnered on with various stakeholders?)

- Playground – What do other Middle Schools have for a playground? Where on the Poppy site would be a good place for one?

- Septic Field - How old is it? Does it need to be replaced? Will it need to be expanded to accommodate middle school? Costs associated with this?

- Modular Units – What are the costs on one modular unit? Can you share the conditions on the work that is needed for an expansion to the school if modular units were added? Where do you see opportunities to add more space to Poppy?

REVIEW NOTES FROM LAST TIME

- Please take a moment to go through the notes that were captured last time

- Please capture any more questions that you think will be important to ask Tristan

THEMES

- Athletics (Clint)

- Arts (Cathy)

- Outdoor Learning (Dianne)

- Explorations (Gord)

- Learning Commons (Chris)

- Open Learning Spaces (George and Scott)

- Playground (Nathan)

- Scheduling (Dean)

- Other

RESOURCES FOR US TO USE TO SUPPORT OUR LEARNING AND DECISION-MAKING

- Middle pillars

- Current Langley middle schools

- Poppy community interests/values

WORKING GROUPS

- Please go to an area of interest

- At your group discuss why you have chosen that as an area of interest

- Decide on how you will capture your learning

- Discuss with your group the 'main question' that is going to drive your learning?
    - What explorations will we possibly offer at DW Poppy Middle?

- Come up with a number of other questions that you would like to explore under this main question

- Brainstorm ideas on how you might gather the answers to these questions

- Assign roles and responsibilities within the group to have a plan of action to create the rationale, research and options for the District Leadership Team and Board of Education to consider