

Meeting Thursday, October 13, 2016

VCS Leadership Team; Bill Oeding, Tim Burkman, Matt McAlpine- City of Valparaiso; Jim Thompson, Nichole Schraeder – Gibraltar Design; Scott Cherry – Skillman Corp; Don Torrenza – Torrenza Engineering; Roger Luekens, Valpo View Newsletter; Dr. Frataccia, Dr. Lauck, Lisa Frankus.

Jim Thompson presented a power point of schematic floor design plans and master site plans for each of the upcoming building projects at Central, Northview, Parkview and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools. Considerations at each location include: separating car and bus traffic, traffic flow and water detention.

Central Elementary

There will be a curb cut on Franklin Street to accommodate 2 buses. There is room for additional parking if needed. The visitor parking area is close to the new secure main entrance of the school. There are no plans to take the center island between Franklin and Calumet. The existing rain garden and playground area will be retained.

Northview Elementary

Don Torrenza explained that the water detention area consists of a slope with berms around it in which water will accumulate and drain slowly into the city system. The detention area is a low grassy area approximately 2-3 feet on the southeast side of the property. The berm will be constructed from dirt excavated for the new gymnasium. Parent drop off will be on Napoleon Street. The city has plans for neighborhood improvement on Napoleon Street including new sidewalks and curbs. The walk-way between the gym and parking area will be wide enough for maintenance vehicles access.

Parkview Elementary

The south side of the school is built on a lower elevation which creates a drainage issue. The new addition consisting of the gym and secure main entry/office will be constructed at a higher elevation. Water detention will be at the southeast corner of the property. Bus and car traffic from Wood Street will be separated by a grassy area. Cars will enter and loop around the parking lot.

Items to Consider:

Two parking spaces could be eliminated to create a wide walk-way for students to enter the building from the parking lot.

Clear trees to enlarge the youth soccer field to regulation size. Dr. Frataccia will meet with Valpo Parks to discuss boundaries.

Connect the north and south sections of the walking path.

Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Concrete swales on the southeast corner provide existing water detention. Plans include modifying the existing detention by expanding the new drainage ditch to the north and creating a rain garden where the concrete swales are located.

We will be constructing a sidewalk along Roosevelt Road to Glendale. There will be a curb cut on Roosevelt with room for 4 buses. A new walk will be constructed from the sidewalk on Roosevelt to the media center for public access. A discussion was held regarding traffic flow and parking at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. Jim Thompson explained that these factors will be considered as we move through the renovation projects in logical sequence.

Dr. Frataccia reported that we are working closely as a team with Valpo city and parks officials as well as VCS administrative and athletics to enhance the neighborhoods as well as the school buildings and grounds.