



## RHS Modernization Project Director Newsletter #5

May 27, 2014

As the end of the school year nears, we want to share some updates on the Roosevelt High School (RHS) modernization project:

A milestone is approaching in the coming weeks as the Schematic Design phase of the project comes to a close. On June 23, the PPS School Board will be voting to approve the Roosevelt Schematic Design plan. A presentation will be made to the Board on June 16 in advance of the vote. Before the presentation, there will be opportunity for public comment at **Roosevelt's Schematic Design Open House**. All are welcome to view and comment on the proposed Design Plan on **June 4, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Roosevelt High School Cafeteria**. Light refreshments will be served. There will be translators available for Spanish and Somali.

If successfully approved, the project will transition to the next phase: Design Development. While the Master Planning phase established big ideas and general locations of spaces within the school (such as the athletics, theater, and administrative spaces), Schematic Design began to see these spaces refined with support spaces and additional detail (athletics space divided into gyms and locker rooms, for example). Design Development will continue this progress by narrowing into further technical detail and bringing the spaces to life through the placement of electrical and mechanical systems, furnishings, and other building details.

To get to this point, the last several months have been filled with meetings with stakeholders both at Roosevelt and in the community. Two Design Workshops were held this spring, as well as five Design Advisory Group meetings, and many more with teachers and community-partner agencies such as the Multnomah County Health Clinic and Albina Head Start. One important meeting we'd like to highlight occurred last week with the Roosevelt Junior Class.

In 2011, Bassetti Architects, the team leading the Roosevelt design, volunteered their time to lead a seminar with Roosevelt's (then) Freshman Academy. An exposure to the many possible careers in the design and construction industry, students had the opportunity to initiate design ideas to improve their school. Now, two years later, the original Academy was convened for a Reunion and celebration of their work, as well as a continuation of that input. Students participated in discussions with architects, engineers and contractors, to refresh those conversations both on careers and take a second look at their ideas for what could be done at Roosevelt. The Juniors provided a wealth of feedback to the team on the needs of students within the school, and their hopes for improving their educational experience. We look forward to seeing this feedback incorporated into the final plans.

We would also like to celebrate that last week on May 21, the Council for Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI), the leading organization for school designers, chose to tour Bassetti Architects Raisbeck Aviation High School in Tukwila, WA. Selected for the CEFPI's Polished Apple Merit Award and the American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Education Merit Award, Raisbeck Aviation High School is now a nationally recognized facility with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus. With Roosevelt's intended Career Technical Education and elective offerings in STEM fields, we are grateful to have their recognized STEM design expertise on our project.



### **RAISBECK AVIATION HIGH SCHOOL:**

*The 400-student school enables students to flourish through co-location with the Museum of Flight and immersion in aerospace and aviation. The design supports this program physically, visually, and symbolically with project labs for aircraft and robotics construction, state-of-the-art science labs, classrooms, and a multi-purpose gathering space.*

And speaking of expertise, we would like to issue call out to Roosevelt alumni and families in the community that may be able to help in identifying significant historic elements and sharing old photos of the school. As the project moves forward, there will be a significant effort to identify items and elements of the school for preservation and incorporation into the new school, but we cannot do this without your help. Do you have photos of the interior of Roosevelt from before 1980? Have a special memory of a tradition tied to part of the school building? Please share your pictures and stories with Sarah Oaks ([soaks@pps.net](mailto:soaks@pps.net) or 503-916-3796). We thank you in advance for your assistance.

A final highlight, last week a mailer was sent home on the Roosevelt modernization project to all homes in the Roosevelt assignment boundary. A summary of the process to date and next steps to come, we hope that this will help many to become more familiar with the modernization project and encourage them to also attend the Open House on June 4. Should you know someone that needs a translated mailer in Chinese, Somali, Spanish or Vietnamese, these will be available in the Roosevelt HS and cluster school office, as well as on the Roosevelt project website (<http://RooseveltBond.pps.net>).

We appreciate all of the comments and participation that we have seen from so many over these past few months and look forward to seeing both familiar and new faces as we move forward with the development of our school. As always, please be in touch with any questions you may have by contacting us at [rhsmod@pps.net](mailto:rhsmod@pps.net).

*Michelle R. M. Platter*

*Capital Project Director – Roosevelt High School*

*“Go Riders!”*