



RHS Modernization Project Director Newsletter #3

Nov. 13, 2013

Last night, the PPS School Board heard the staff recommendation for increasing the size of the modernized Roosevelt High School (RHS) from a 1200 student core / 1500 student commons capacity to a 1350/1700 capacity.

More background information on what these numbers represent can be found in [Project Director Newsletter #2](#). But briefly, in this model, 1350 would be the number of students Roosevelt would be capable of supporting in classrooms upon completion. Common spaces would be sized for a larger 1700 student capacity, in line with recommendations for Grant and Franklin High Schools, to allow flexibility for future expansion. Increasing the capacity would add classrooms to the project and augment the size of the gymnasium, library, and cafeteria.

As part of their discussion, the Board also asked questions about the current allocation of “enhanced elective” space within the project plan, and how this would increase with a larger student capacity. Also referred to as “career pathway” or “Career Technical Education (CTE)”, these terms describe learning space equipped to provide students with career exploration and preparation opportunities beyond the core high school curriculum.

The discussion on what enhanced electives Roosevelt should offer has been ongoing through the Design Advisory Group meetings and at [Design Workshop #2](#). The conversation will continue in the coming months as we move from the Master Planning phase into the Schematic Design phase. Community members are encouraged to contribute their thoughts at upcoming meetings or by [contacting us](#) directly. Currently proposed programs include a: Science/Technology (STEM) shop, “Makers Laboratory,” writing/publishing center, or culinary arts kitchen.

Next week, on **Monday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the BESC Board Room**, the School Board will vote on the intended size of RHS. Should community members like to be a part of the conversation regarding the future size of Roosevelt, they are recommended to attend. You can sign up to testify by contacting [Caren Huson](#) or [emailing](#) your comments to the School Board in advance for their consideration.

The outcome of the board’s decision will have bearing on the master plan design that is currently in the works for Roosevelt High School, so we will be following the decision closely. In particular, the size of the program will determine what scheme will be presented to the public at the **Open House on Tuesday, November 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the Roosevelt Cafeteria**.

At this meeting, community members will have an opportunity to review the progression of work and contribute their feedback on the plan. Light refreshments will be provided.

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. Please be in touch with any questions you may have by contacting us at rhsmod@pps.net.

Michelle R. M. Platter

*Capital Project Director – Roosevelt High School
“Go Riders!”*