

What were the pros and cons discussed by the Board when the orientation of the buildings on the existing lots was determined?

The new buildings will be located on the same lot as the existing buildings. In Fairbank the school property provides a more accommodating space for construction. In Readlyn, there is less flexibility because of the area that is available.

In a discussion at meetings and work sessions on February 16, 2009, and March 23 and 25, the Board determined that the Fairbank Elementary School would be located toward the northwest corner of the lot, facing west.

A brochure that had been distributed to citizens as part of the first bond election depicted the building toward the center of the lot facing south. Benefits of this placement included the following:

- District patrons had seen this concept in a drawing;
- Existing bus parking and teacher parking on the south end of the lot could be used for student drop-offs.

Drawbacks of this placement included the following:

- In order to access the receiving “dock” of the building, delivery persons would need to cross areas where children may be playing;
- The existing cement basketball area would need to be removed;
- Teacher/staff parking may conflict with bus drop-off areas;
- In the event that construction is delayed, the drive ways in the front of the building could not be completed until the original building was demolished; and
- Setting the building further back on the lot increases the paved area requiring snow removal.

A second option, placing the building in the northwest corner of the lot facing west, was explored. This option set the building just over 37 feet from the center of the street on the north side of the building and just over 66 feet from the center of the street on the west side of the building (the front). Benefits of this placement that were discussed included:

- This building position allows for the greatest amount of green space/open area/play area;
- Teacher/staff parking is in the back of the building, away from the bus/student drop-off area;
- A clear line of sight is available across nearly the entire play area. While the school has no plan to supervise students on the playground with a single person, the staff members who have duty will have a more clear view of the entire playground from a single vantage point;
- Sidewalk from new school to basketball court could be added for days when the playground is wet or muddy.

Drawbacks of this plan that were discussed included:

- This was not a part of the drawing that was used as material in the early election efforts; and

- Additional sidewalk will need to be added to accommodate a student drop-off area.

A third option was discussed that was similar to the second option. However, in this case, the north side of the building is nearly 64 feet from the center of the street, and over 101 feet from the center of the street on the west side. Benefits of this plan included:

- This plan provides greater “setback” on the north and west side of the building;
- The teacher/staff parking lot would be in back of the building away from student/bus drop-off areas. This parking area seems to finish the northeast corner of the lot more completely, and possibly, allows access to that parking lot/receiving area from two streets;
- Again, a clearer line of sight is available for monitoring all children on the playground; and
- Sidewalk from new school to basketball court could be added for days when the playground is wet or muddy.

Drawbacks of this plan are similar to those listed above:

- This was not a part of the drawing that was used as material in the early election efforts; and
- Additional sidewalk will need to be added to accommodate a student drop-off area.

The decision was made by the Board to approve the orientation of the building in the northwest corner, set back from the street slightly farther than originally proposed.