

Caroline Elementary School  
Building Site Based Council

Chairperson: Amy/Judy  
Facilitator: Alaine  
Timekeeper: Danielle/Janice

2/25/08

### **1. Introductions:**

Alaine Troisi: Principal    Danielle Rottenstein: Grade 5  
Nancy Helms: After school    Steve Lawson: Landscape architect and Parkitects  
Amy Seldin: Specialist    Judy Steel: Grade 1    Julie Wells: Grade 2  
Jocelyn Blizzard: Specialist    Sarah Tarrow: Parent  
Linda Crispell, Laurie Cuomo, Jeremy Richards, John G. Franzese, Chuck Ector, Gary Stewart, Charles Lyons, Steve Lauzun

Alaine overview: Swings and wood will come down. Our swings do not have the proper amount of spacing. Location issue as well. Relocating swings are very difficult. District will salvage any parts of playground. Anything that is not able to be used will probably be auctioned.

Many things have been taken into consideration: May build. Friday afternoon, all day Sat, half day Sunday.

Joe Collins behalf the buildings and ground department will have some time prior to the build and the whole site needs to be approved. Surface of the outside will be wood fiber. Best product for the money. It will be all new fiber that is put back down. What about recycling? That is a Paul Alexander question.

Any questions

Everyone went outside to see what the students choose: They all got 5 stickers and are separated by grade. The conversations were great. Some of the reasons for the students choosing them might not be accurate some of them thought it might be the wrong thing. A lot of the things were represented.

They like the 2 large structures. We were hoping that in some ways we could include new and old structures. With any extra dirt from construction can we please make a hill?  
(Amy Seldin)

We are defiantly getting swings so students were not really concerned. Can we add the roller slide to a different structure? Roller slide is also a good slide to be a low slide. Some concern with safety. Longevity, the playground is built safely, but the new one will last longer. In 5-10 years the structure will not be used anymore if the old one is kept. The district is putting all this money into new playgrounds to get the wood out.

Questions:

Chuck reports the documents that surveyed the parents (see attached): Started with goals wanted part handicap accessible. Drinking fountain is to cost prohibited. Currently have 12 swings. Bucket swings are the schools choice. If we change the contour of the land will we have problems with drainage? Boulders will be removed. They cannot be more than 21 inches above the play surface. We can have a natural area with sensory things.

Soundplay.com builds beautiful instruments. Sarah will circulate another website. Anything not premanufactured needs to get approved.

Parents do not want it just to have pathways. Do students try to climb up on the roofs? Steve says it has not been a problem.

The black edging is standard for the district. Parallel bars are a no. Sea saw we were envisioning the old kind as long as they are safe we are not against it. No more sand boxes, it is a district standard. Would trash cans be emptied year round? That is a Joe Collins question. Do they make garbage cans that cannot be vandalized? What about an open area like a natural amphitheatre for teachers in an outside learning place? Is there any way to incorporate the woods? Can we fence in some of the woods for students to play in it? Supervision is the question with that.

Steve's summary of what he thinks we want and showed us pictures to accompany: Transfer spot Handicap accessible. Transfer spots for slide. Ramp structures, can we make a hill to elevate an area of the playground. If we are going to create a hill it is cheaper.

Ramp: Climb and slide and jungle gym. You can also have them separate. It uses upper body strength lower body balance. Amy would like to see the different types of play spread out. More spread out instead of one huge piece with visual in-between. Maybe Amy can use it for program

Do you want full body climbing or strength and balance? Full body makes it easier to climb and support your body. Full body is a mind experience. Students need to think and work harder in full body then strength and balance. You can still have options where 75% climbing bridges, slides, but still has some strength and balance. Castle playground. Bridges, slides, castles, swing area, natural area, Evo structure, small strength and balance.

Is there a possibility to set up one of the meetings for after school? After next meeting will set up a parent meeting. Space nets are all netting where evo is a little more structured. Is the Evo more of an older structure it is probably used more for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>. One thing with a space net is that you don't need to go higher if you want. We would like the quad but will try to get at least a double. Steve will not know until he starts drawing. Maybe we can have 10 foot swings? We have two separate blacktops. The small one has games the larger one with basketball. Steve feels like he has a good idea for what we want will come back with a sketch.

They include:

3 Different areas. Spider web in the middle, Evo, Castle area that is handicap accessible, swings, natural area, maybe a digging area

Next meeting is March 10. We can put it out on the board we will decide the night meeting at that meeting.

Steve will try to work with the existing structure where it is but he will not hesitate to remove it and put it where it needs to be.