

METHACTON HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE

Planning Our Future

Subcommittee 8 – Safety

October 14, 2023

Attendees: (6 committee members in attendance)

C. Regina, B. Brannick, J. Gooley, M. Marchese, J. Celestin, C. Peiffer, J. Caplan, A. Bullock, L. Betz

Not in Attendance:

C. Beacraft, A. Carron, D. Drake, K. Falker, J. Ritchie, A. Washington

Introductions:

- Committee members introduced themselves

Overview Presentation:

Comprehensive School Safety Programs:

- Mr. Gooley reviewed high level threats + vulnerabilities
- J. Gooley reviewed the general information
 - Prevention/Mitigation; Recovery; Protection; Response
 - Touched on Behavioral health and climate

Reviewed current physical safety and security measures

- General overview/discussion of access and measures of review.
 - Discussion on access to the building in other areas, other than the main door(s). Different parent/booster clubs may not provide clearances but may have access to the building.
- General discussion on the balance of natural light and glass vs the balance of safety.
 - Comments regarding the recent school tour where there was prevalent amounts of glass.
 - Discussion regarding run/hide/fight protocol
 - Is there discussion state/federal level to have push out windows to ease 'run' protocol?

Reviewed SCOT Analysis – Key Definitions

Reviewed the physical overview of the campus layout and perimeter

Group Recommendations:

1. Reconvene if new construction is determined to be the path.

- Survey recent graduates attending college. This would allow those with recent experience and current college experiences to provide general feedback.

SCOT Analysis – Strengths

<u>Building</u>	<u>Campus</u>
Admin are located in various areas/offices	SPO's
Visibility to outside	Eyes (there is a large number of people to provide oversight) Multiple buildings
Main office entry procedures	
Lockdown procedures	
Limited Glass	
Monitoring of Deliveries	
Internal Blinds	
Networking of Security Officers	
Age of the students	
AED's available and accessible	
Camera Improvement	
Outside spaces w/fencing	
Vehicle barriers	

SCOT Analysis – Challenges

<u>Building</u>	<u>Campus</u>
Process presents security/access challenges if renovation	Size of the campus is so large everything is so spread out
Narrow Hallways (renovation)	Traffic Flow – in general
Cell Service spotty / Wi-Fi	Traffic Flow – dismissal time – busses; car line pick up; student driver departure – clogged access points
Radio communication unreliable	Safety lighting – early morning/late night
So many stairways	Narrow roads on campus
Low Ceiling Height	

SCOT Analysis – Opportunities

<u>Building</u>	<u>Campus</u>
Less glass on the first floor and more on upper floors – rebuild	Traffic Light Management
New build may provide an opportunity for better design for student flow to allow for increased student use of lockers	Move transportation off of campus
	Increasing openness of drive – increasing flow on campus for traffic

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SCOT Analysis – Opportunities – Trends/Vision

<u>Building</u>	<u>Campus</u>
	-AI detection layered on security cameras
	Apps on phones that allow teachers greater access to emer

SCOT Analysis – Threats

<u>Building</u>	<u>Campus</u>
Safety recommendations that are not considered in final design. (Agreeing to a concept because of safety that is later removed in final design due to budget)	
Cell / Wi-Fi reception – not being addressed	

Big Ideas – General Dump

<u>Building</u>	<u>Campus</u>
Communication – Cell/Wi-Fi	Traffic Flow/Safety (separate bus entrance)
Layout/Footprint <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottlenecks/ADA – narrow hallways • Inefficiencies getting throughout the building 	Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interior and exterior
Location of Glass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Light vs safety • Upgraded glass if renovation • Egress for exterior windows 	Outdoor common areas staying secure
Blocking access for security purposes	

Big Ideas – Building

#1. Topic: Communication Cell Service/Wifi	
What needs to be address:	Reliable cell service and wifi throughout the building.
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Primary focus on safety communication in emergency situations.
Why should this be addressed	Consistent ability to be able to communicate via phone and computer.
How might the recommendation be accomplished	Renovation and/or New Construction

#2 Topic: Layout/Footprint/Bottlenecking	
What needs to be address:	Flow of building; movement throughout
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Ability to move easily, quickly and freely throughout the building. Loss of instructional time due to increased passing time.
Why should this be addressed	To reduce student bottlenecking in key areas within the building to reduce passing time and therefore increasing instructional time.
How might the recommendation be accomplished	New construction

#3: Topic: Building Accessibility	
What needs to be address:	Ability to restrict access to key areas of the buildings during emergencies or after hours
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Safety and security
Why should this be addressed	Ability to keep intruders restricted to specific areas. Ability to restrict access after-hours during events or community use.
How might the recommendation be accomplished	New construction

#4:Topic: Location of Glass	
What needs to be address:	Balance of aesthetics vs safety
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	The health and safety of the students along with instructional impact. The committee recognizes the benefits of natural light in the learning environment. However, also implores the safety considerations needed regarding a large amount of glass.
Why should this be addressed	
How might the recommendation be accomplished	Topic lends more toward new construction. If new construction is selected, the committee requests to reconvene to discuss further.

Big Ideas – Campus

#1: Topic: Traffic Flow/Safety	
What needs to be address:	Improvements to traffic flow on campus
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Possibly
Why should this be addressed	Safety concerns, flow on and off of the campus during regular day and in emergency situations

How might the recommendation be accomplished	Renovations w new construction New construction
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#2: Topic: Lighting	
What needs to be address:	Campus Lighting
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Possibly
Why should this be addressed	Safety concerns related to visibility, access of campus and deterrent to criminal activity
How might the recommendation be accomplished	Renovations Renovations w new construction New construction

#3: Topic: Outdoor Common Area staying secure	
What needs to be address:	Security of Outdoor Common Areas
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Yes
Why should this be addressed	Currently feel secure with our outdoor spaces, need to take into consideration access/safety to potential future outdoor areas.
How might the recommendation be accomplished	Renovations Renovations with New Construction New Construction

#4: Topic: Renovation Process	
What needs to be address:	Safety and Security of campus if renovation is selected
Does this have an impact on education/instruction/other?	Yes
Why should this be addressed	
How might the recommendation be accomplished	Only applies if renovation