

Abington Frolio Middle School Project Working Session #19

Notes for Session: 7:30 AM, April 4, 2014

Attendees: Peter Schafer, Felicia Moschella, Kathy Bailey, Shawn Reilly, Roger Boddie, David Drew, Rosanne Kurposka, Jannette Leary, Craig Olsen, Troy Randall, Scott Dunlap, and Mary Mahoney

Items:

1. Ai3 begins by noting that today's presentation is about the building exterior and how its design is driven by need to support interior environmental features such as daylighting.
2. Solar Orientation – Ai3 reviews the aspects of solar orientation used in positioning the building on the site including positioning of the sun to building areas to avoid locating the main façade, at the primary entry, from being in a shade area. Other solar orientation considerations include maximizing daylighting for educational space while minimizing solar glare and heat gain aspects through various seasonal conditions.
3. Interior & Exterior Views – first and second floor plans are highlighted with key location to offer exterior views from the building. These locations are strategically positioned to provide an orientation within the building and a relationship to outdoors. Adding transparency at these locations effectively reduce the perception of size of the building both inside and outside the building.
 - Examples of interior and exterior transparency features were reviewed including window walls, skylights, and clerestory assemblies used in lobby, corridor, stairwells, library, and classroom spaces. The example images also demonstrate interior space benefits to transparency features that provide natural lighting reducing the need for lights and improve environmental aesthetics.
 - Examples of products used in construction to “breakdown” the horizontal nature of multi-storied buildings were presented including glass curtain wall assemblies above masonry and use of pre-cast concrete for building base. Roof overhang assemblies were presented as a method to create a material assembly break while providing solar shading.
 - Building entrance identification will be accomplished with architectural elements to clearly delineate entries with a hierarchy of features to further define public entries.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to clearly identify the main public entries to the building and a desire to include exterior canopies at certain locations to provide some environmental protection for students awaiting parent pick up.

4. Ai3 reviewed building elements designed to maximize daylighting illumination while minimizing solar glare and heat gain. Examples presented included exterior solar shades, deep roof overhangs, interior light shelves, and solar screening mesh.
5. Use of exterior materials was reviewed noting that exterior glazing opacity and use of varied finish products creates visual texture and breaks building mass visual.
6. Massing of the co-located MS/HS building was presented to provide a sense of the volume and scale of the building with general discussion related to elements previously presented to group spaces and reduce the perception of building size. Transparency features proposed for the building were reviewed.



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7. NEXT WORKING SESSION MEETING IS SCHEDULED ON FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014 AT 7:30 AM.

To the best of my knowledge, these notes are a fair representation of the issues and items discussed at the meeting. Additional items or corrections should be brought to the attention of the writer.

Submitted by: M. Mahoney 4/4/14