

**BOARD  
BRIEF**

Date: August 9, 2019

For ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_

For INFORMATION:  X

Board Agenda: Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No  X

**FROM:** Erika Gulick, Senior Planner  
Mignon R. Anthony, Chief Operating Officer

**THROUGH:** Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed. D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** Douglas MacArthur Swing Space (Old Patrick Henry Update)

**BACKGROUND:** The School Board voted to approve the use of the old Patrick Henry building for Douglas MacArthur Swing Space in April 2019. Work has progressed since in pursuit of this use.

**SUMMARY:** Moseley Architects and AdTEK Engineers, who did the design for the new Patrick Henry facility, are doing the design work for the renovations of the Douglas MacArthur Swing Space and the development special use permit (DSUP) amendment for the site layout of the two schools and recreation center. Wells & Associates are doing the traffic study and analysis of on-site circulation.

In July, ACPS and the design team held opportunities for the community to come to Patrick Henry and review the initial concept being prepared for the preliminary submission to the City's departments for review. Following the community portion, the Swing Space Collaborative Committee, comprised of former Patrick Henry Advisory Group members, and Patrick Henry, Douglas MacArthur and James K. Polk representatives met to review the comments heard during the community session and provide feedback on the initial concept to the design team. The community and Collaborative Committee requested an update in August with consideration by the design team to add parking where available.

On August 8, 2019, ACPS and the design team hosted a community meeting on the updated concept, to be submitted as the final concept for the Development Special Use Permit (DSUP) Amendment in the coming weeks. The updated concept represents a total of 197 parking spaces, an increase of over 20 spaces from July. Please note that the exact number is subject to change during the DSUP process. Representatives from Wells & Associates gave an update on the site circulation anticipated for the two-schools with an emphasis on drop-off and pick-up times and an update on the traffic study progress. Overall, the group who attended the community meeting made verbal comments reflecting:

- Agreement and appreciation for the added parking

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- Desire to understand more about staggered start and finish times for each school and what they may be
- Related to the above, recommendations for expanded before and after school programs and transportation access

The full presentation is attached for your reference and will be used on the Collaborative Meeting scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Patrick Henry media center.

**IMPACT:** The attached concept will be made available on the Swing Space project webpage: <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/swingspace>. The concept will also be submitted as the final concept for the DSUP amendment.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the concept and ask for any clarifications related to the concept. Please note that this will be the final concept submission going forward in the DSUP Amendment anticipated for hearing in the fall. Any concerns from the School Board should be expressed at this time related to the site layout and traffic circulation.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Attachment 1: August 8 2019 Community Presentation

**CONTACT PERSON:** Erika Gulick, 703-619-8298