Here’s what’s been going on during the past week:

1. On Tuesday, October 29, the Design Advisory Committee (DAC) met for the sixth time. Committee members (a) finalized a list of guiding principles, (b) helped to process all the work that has been done by various groups around adjacencies (what should be next to what); and (c) met our new teammates from Cornerstone Construction. The next meeting of the Design Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 4:00-6:00 pm, in the cafeteria at Ferndale High School.

2. The Design Advisory Committee developed eight guiding principles to inform the work of the architects. They want a new Ferndale High School that will:

   (1) Balance security needs with a feeling of openness to create a safe, positive, productive environment.
   (2) Provide healthy, comfortable, environmentally sustainable accommodations for the entire community.
   (3) Promote unity, human connections, and a sense of belonging for all students and staff.
   (4) Include flexible and adaptive spaces to facilitate collaboration between students, staff, community members, and academic disciplines.
   (5) Support active, dynamic, purpose-filled, and varied learning opportunities across all disciplines.
   (6) Honor our past, celebrate our present, and look toward the future to create a campus that is congruent with our community, our region, and the cultures that define us.
   (7) Optimize and encourage community use with effective, efficient, and safe access.
   (8) Create a future-focused facility to accommodate changing programs, populations, technologies, and approaches to learning.

3. Cornerstone Construction President Dave Flynn and Project Engineer Sam Comer attended both the Design Advisory Committee and the School Board Meeting on October 29. In their remarks to both groups, they reiterated how honored they are to have been selected and how excited they are to begin working for the Ferndale community. Cornerstone has an excellent reputation for building complex high school facilities on occupied sites, which is one of the primary reasons we selected them.

4. We have begun working with Cornerstone to better understand the cost and scope of the site work that will be required for the new high school. The more site information we can gather during the design phase, the less likely we are to encounter unknown (and potentially expensive) conditions during construction.
5. As our newly-selected GC/CM, Cornerstone is also working to develop their pre-construction work plan, which will consist of a detailed list of tasks they will complete prior to the start of construction.

If you have questions or comments about anything in this update, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Linda