SPOKANE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
JOE ALBI STADIUM & NORTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

CITY OF SPOKANE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Community Meeting

August 25, 2020

PRESENTED BY:
> SPOKANE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
> ALSC ARCHITECTS
> NAC ARCHITECTURE
A diagram that notes neighborhoods surrounding the Albi complex for reference.
SPOKANE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NORTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

NAC ARCHITECTURE
NWMS is located in the Audubon/Downriver neighborhood in the northwest quadrant of Spokane. It is immediately south of Joe Albi Stadium and the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex. It is East of the Fairmount Memorial Gardens and West of the Veterans Administration. Its is bounded by Wellesley Ave to the south.

The site slopes gently down to the southwest and it is bordered by the distinct green edge of the Fairmount Memorial Gardens to the west.

Primary views into the site are from the east and south. Views out of the site are to the west and south toward the Spokane River Valley and the surrounding rimrock.
NORTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

CONTEXT ANALYSIS: ADJACENT PROPERTIES & STREETSCAPES

View to West - Eastern green edge of Fairmount Memorial Gardens

View to West - Existing grade at Wellesley Ave, south of NWMS site

View to East - Near entry of new school

View to N - Looking toward Joe Albi Stadium
The design team has proposed using the Spokane River Valley as an inspirational concept for the NWMS. The River Valley serves as a community amenity for both urban and rural communities, where natural space is contained by the eastern and western ridges. These two ridges are reinterpreted as the main containment edges for the center of the school. In the NWMS, the Nutritional Commons becomes the River Valley with the elective teaching/learning spaces as the containment ridges. Like the River Valley, the NWMS becomes a community center for the surrounding neighborhoods.

Site Design: The building is positioned on the southwest side of the site and will be constructed in conjunction with the Joe Albi Stadium. Positioning the school to the southwest better engages the building with the neighborhood and views to the River Valley. The east side of the school will be predominately landscaped areas and sports fields. Visitor parking and parent drop-off is located to the south, and staff parking is located to the east of the school. A bus and fire lane wraps around the staff parking to the east. A student promenade located between the visitor parking lot and the bus lane will connect the building main student entry, located on the west side of the building, to Wellesley Ave. From this student entrance, one flows directly into the Commons where the building’s interior expands into a large double volume space. In similarity as how the River Valley expands when one approaches it from the eastern bluff. The NWMS “front door” is located separately on Wellesley Ave. Here visitors will enter the building during the school day via a secure vestibule. The school’s administrative front door is located strategically between the student and public front doors for optimum supervision and control. An after-hours/events entry that leads to the gymnasium is located on the west side of the school with easy access to the parking lot. Athletic fields will be developed immediately west and north of the building. Building services and a utility yard will all be located on the north side of the building.

Building Design: The exterior design of the building continues the River Valley inspiration. The very large building mass is primarily organized by the “Western Ridge” element which houses the school core programs, and where the “Academic Neighborhoods” stem from, aiming towards the west for views. The secondary “Eastern Ridge” element contains more administrative related programs acting as the community outreach edge. In conjunction they form the “River Valley” or center of the school. Building materials are still being developed, but the exterior is seen as predominantly varied colors of masonry. A predominant roof with clear-story windows over the Commons is representative of the River Valley’s firmament, which brings light and warmth to the interior’s center. The one-story section of the building towards the south relates to the single story residences along Wellesley Ave.
REFINEMENT: Community Center

The inspirational Concept of the River Valley influences the previous adjacency diagram and the elements of the “Western Ridge”, “Eastern Ridge”, and the “River Valley” coalesce, incorporating the SPS middle school design principles of the “School Core”, “Community Outreach” and “Community Center” respectively.

The intent of the diagram is for the nutrition commons to be the student center, inspired by the River Valley, as a community amenity with a strong presence as a destination and community outreach. This is the conceptual diagram that has continued to be iterated upon with further development of the massing and floor plans.
NORTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCEPT MASSING RENDERINGS

Southeast View from Wellesley Ave at Pedestrian Promenade

Southwest View from Wellesley Ave
NORTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCEPT MASSING RENDERINGS

South View from Wellesley Ave at Main Entry

East View from Student Plaza toward Student Entry
DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Unite:
- Spokane Public Schools
- Spokane Community
- Youth Sports

Identity:
- Individual High Schools
- School District
- Regional Competition
- History

Partnerships:
- City Departments
- Local Organizations

Game Day Experience:
- Spectators
- Players
- Coaches/Trainers
- Performers

Athletic Campus:
- New Middle School
- Stadium Facilities
- Dwight Merkel Sports Complex

Safety:
- Emergency Access
- Lighting
- Line of Sight
- Spectator Flow

Multi-Use:
- Field Sports
- School District Events (Graduation, Marching Band)
- Other Outside Users
STADIUM PLAN

LEGEND
1. STADIUM ENTRY DRIVE
2. NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SITE
3. PLAY FIELDS
4. FUTURE PLAY FIELDS
5. ENTRY PLAZA
6. PARKING - SPECTATORS
7. PARKING - ADA
8. DROP OFF
9. TICKETING
10. CONCESSIONS
11. FOOD TRUCKS
12. BOOSTER CONCESSIONS
13. PLAYGROUND
14. SELFIE PLATFORM
15. SLOPED GRASS SEATING
16. COMPETITION PLAY FIELD
17. CONCOURSE
18. HOME STANDS
19. RESTROOMS
20. VISITOR STANDS
21. BAND/CHEER DROP OFF
22. MEDIA TRUCK
23. LOCKER ROOMS
24. TEAM WARM-UP
25. ELEVATOR/STORAGE ACCESS FROM FIELD
26. PLAYER/TEAM DROP OFF
27. PARKING - TEAM / EVENT STAFF
28. FUTURE PARKING
29. ACCESS TO MERKEL / BMX
LEGEND

1. ENTRY PLAZA
2. CONCESSIONS
3. TICKETING
4. FOOD TRUCKS
5. BOOSTER CONCESSIONS
6. PLAYGROUND
7. SELFIE PLATFORM
8. SLOPED GRASS SEATING
9. COMPETITION PLAYFIELD
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17. TEAM WARM-UP
18. ELEVATOR/STORAGE ACCESS FROM FIELD
19. PLAYER/TEAM DROP OFF
Initially a variety of sections were studied in order to discuss possibilities (pros/cons). The diagram below inspired our solution based on the following:

- A raised seating section that is closer to the competition field which provides the best sightlines for all sports (Soccer, Football, Lacrosse).
- Providing cover by shifting the raised seating section east to be above the seats on grade.
- A press box roof that can provide cover at the raised seating section.
- Potential for future amenities such as booster/ASB seating, patio suites and club seating options (see diagrams on the following pages for reference).
RENDERINGS CONCOURSE - VIEW TO NORTH
SECTIONS LOOKING WEST & SOUTH

LOOKING WEST

LOOKING SOUTH
CONCEPT SITE PLAN

Large Context
Landscape Plan