Franklin

Thursday, April 14, 2011
5:30 – 7:30pm
28 Attendees

BREAKOUT SESSION (SKB)

Site significance
- Teachers were caring and knew all of your siblings
- Teachers were invested in the students
- First school with no windows/pods: very modern, didn’t even notice back then
- Discipline started with the Principal and moved down
- Teachers had a high standard with zero tolerance for disruptions
- People respect this school, don’t vandalize it
- Chester A Franklin was a teacher during desegregation. Known to be a tough strong educator
- Ivanhoe - both schools are now closed. This is very unforgivable and embarrassing to not have a school in your neighborhood
- Grandparent - it’s hard to work through the process and get your kid in a school

Strengths
- Large structure
- Collapsible walls/ flexible/intimate
- Resources- gym, auditorium, cafeteria, library
- Playground
- Elevator
- Dropped room
- No graffiti
- The lack of windows are not distracting and give incentive to go outside

Challenges
- Needs new wiring – solution: end user makes improvement to the site which would improve market value and gets an incentive in return (lease price reduction) i.e. wiring for computers
- Poor physical condition
- Lack of windows
- Empty building = blight or vandalism – solution: meet and greet to get community involved
- Low market value of homes

Community Needs
- Exposure to community arts/ activity
- Safe place for children of all ages
- Stability
• New residents
• Pride
• Meeting place
• Maintenance
• Public safety
• Financial resources
• Sign of community
• Center for activity
• Teach children art and creativity
• Create connections between generations
• Access to food, educate on healthy habits, foods, commerce—“food desert”
• Jobs/transition
• Children learn with their perspectives
• Fill empty lots/houses

Reuse Options (that could address community needs)
• School, elementary K-6, pre-K?
• Community center
• Senior nursing center/ multigenerational day care
• Community garden
• Farmers market, way to sell fresh food
• After school center
• Walking path
• Arts center/education
• Trade school, evening availability, adult education on computers
• Meeting facility
• Art space for elementary school
• Music conservatory: may be more beneficial to the greater community than to the neighborhood