



HUMBOLDT SCHOOL PROJECT TEAM MEETING 2

**Portland, Oregon
June 12, 2008**

Participants

Chip Shields, Oregon Solutions Co-Convener	Sean Waller, Humboldt School
Debbie Bischoff, City of Portland Planning Bureau	Liesl Wendt, Office of Mayor Potter
Melanie Dixon, Humboldt PTA	Jamila Williams, Humboldt School
Carol Herzberg, Portland Development Commission	Steffeni Mendoza Gray, City of Portland
Cheryl James, Humboldt School	
John Keating, Housing Authority of Portland	
Veronica King, Housing Authority of Portland	
Lanita Lockhart, Humboldt PTA	
Gary Marchke, N/NE Business Association	

Oregon Solutions staff

Kim Travis
Kristen Earl

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Co-Convener Chip Shields called the meeting to order and thanked those in attendance for their support and participation. Team members introduced themselves and their relationship to Humboldt School. Co-Convener Shields suggested a “field trip” of Humboldt and the team went on a tour of the building and surrounding grounds. Some of the identified site needs include:

- Ventilation in the Computer Lab
- Additional computers available in classrooms
- A second properly ventilated Computer Lab
- Non fiction books in the library
- PC’s for the library
- Age appropriate activities/options for outdoor recreation for students
- Soccer field
- Learning Garden renovation

Team members agreed that the tour was very helpful to understand the needs of the school. John Keating told the group that HAP set aside \$5,000 for the playground and these funds were leveraged by \$3,000 from the Portland Schools Foundation. He said that they are holding off on spending these funds because it would be good to have a “master plan” for the property and it’s possible to leverage the \$8,000 with additional funds from other sources to implement a master plan. Humboldt School owns a parcel of land just south of the fenced playground that could be utilized. Jefferson owns the parcel of land west of the fenced playground. There is an outside effort looking into the best use for the Jefferson parcel. A discussion on pedestrian routes to Humboldt was introduced. The team agreed

*Humboldt School Project
Draft Team Meeting Summary
June 12, 2008*



that having safe and well known pedestrian routes is an immediate need for the school that need to be in place before school begins in the Fall. Debbie Bischoff volunteered to follow up with the Office of Transportation.

II. Old Business

Team members reported on assignments from the last meeting. Veronica King updated the team about her research into service based housing credit. The Executive Director at HAP has agreed to explore the idea of creative uses for housing credits. Veronica expressed her excitement about the ongoing discussion.

There are issues surrounding after hours use of Humboldt and all PPS schools: If an outside organization uses Humboldt then the school is charged for building use. For example, for school year 2008-2009, it will cost the PTA \$70 to host movie nights. This amount is cost prohibitive when the PTA is selling \$0.50 bags of popcorn.

Sean Waller provided a handout with a summary of technical needs at Humboldt.

Co-Convener Shields was encouraged by Stan Floyd at Safeway to contact the Manager at the Ainsworth Safeway about joining the team. He is also working on a way with State Senator Carter about how to learn about new families in the area and to send them a welcome letter, highlighting Humboldt School.

HAP updated the group on progress at Humboldt Gardens. HAP is collecting information on children and family at the lease office and how they will be feeding into schools. There will be approximately 147 children under the age of 18 in the community. Families are moving into the Gardens in stages. There are some logistical challenges such as families moving in colliding with enrollment deadlines. The HAP School Stability Coordinator is holding an orientation at Humboldt School and arranging activities and programs for families to become familiar with Humboldt School, as well as helping kids meet other kids in the neighborhood. HAP is running a four week summer school and the Boys and Girls Club will be on site at Humboldt Gardens for four weeks this summer. On July 17, HAP is hosting a party on the playground, and National Night Out celebration is on August 5. Jamila thanked HAP for their efforts.

Humboldt currently houses 275 students; there is capacity for 400 students. Enrollment is high in the lower grades.

The team brainstormed several goals to increase enrollment:

Goal: Capture 40-50 of the 50-75 Humboldt Garden students in grades K-8.

Goal: Communicate that Humboldt School is open. (There is still a perception that the school will be closing.) It's possible to work with students and parents to survey the neighborhood.

Goal: Overall Marketing of the school.

-Portland Public Schools is partnering with One Economy to build/launch a school's website.

-Determine what it is that Humboldt is marketing. What is the niche?

-Niche: Humboldt is the only PPS school selected as a Beacon school by the state. Humboldt has an Adopt a Classroom Program, only three to five schools in PPS have the program.

-**Potential niche goal:** Technology and Spanish immersion.

*Humboldt School Project
Draft Team Meeting Summary
June 12, 2008*



III. Goals and Plans

A discussion followed on the timeline of Oregon Solutions projects. We will work towards the Oregon Solutions process concluding in October 2008. The result of the process is a Declaration of Cooperation with commitments and an implementation plan to accomplish the goals of the team. Short term goals:

Playground Plan: Humboldt School needs to have an architectural plan as well as a landscape plan for the learning garden. Liesl Wendt will follow up with Portland Parks on their plan for the Humboldt area, which is a parks deficient area.

Melanie Dixon raised the point that the school should not lose sight of technology needs. Technology is a tangible way to get parents to send their children to Humboldt. Melanie stressed that technological upgrades are important to the growth of the school. The challenge is that several PPS schools also have technology challenges.

IV: Committees

The team created two subcommittees to address the two interest areas: technology and the master plan for outdoor facilities.

Technology committee: John, Jamila, Melanie, Chip, Sean

Master plan committee: Lanita, Gary, John, Cheryl, Carol, Sean, Doug Capps

V: Follow up

- Debbie Bischoff will talk to the Office of Transportation about safer travel routes to Humboldt.
- Sean Waller will prioritize his technology wish list and provide dollar amounts.
- Liesl Wendt will follow up with Portland Parks.
- Kim will follow up with Paul Anthony regarding the Humboldt Neighborhood Association involvement in the project.
- Kim will follow up with the team members not in attendance to discuss their participation on the subcommittees.
- Wendy can follow up with the new Executive Director at the Latino Network, Sadie Fornzl (phonetic).
- The subcommittees will meet prior to the next team meeting and Kristen will help set up these meetings.

VI: Next Meeting

When: July 16 @ 2pm

Location: Humboldt School

*Humboldt School Project
Draft Team Meeting Summary
June 12, 2008*