

**GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
Glenview - Northbrook, Illinois**

To: Board of Education

From: Mike Riggle

Re: 3801 West Lake Property Recommendation

Date: July 8, 2009

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the administration that a plan be developed for the renovation of the 3801 West Lake Avenue property to incorporate District 225 offices in the summer of 2010. It is further recommended that the current district office building be renovated to house the Glenbrook Off Campus program beginning in the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year.

Rationale

Our primary focus for the purchase of the 3801 West Lake property was to find a permanent home for the Off Campus (OC) program, which has been part of the Glenbrook special education offerings for 25 years. The building had approximately twice the square footage sought for the offerings with the ability to allow other district programs to occupy the remaining square footage in the future. Since OC had been housed in a mixed atmosphere with business and health entities in a leased facility on Waukegan Road for a number of years, entertaining a mixed tenant facility situation was not a major deterrent to our pursuit of a lease/purchase agreement. The location of the 3801 West Lake property also offered logistical advantages and potential cost savings for the district.

During the spring, we learned that the district office building would be in need of roof replacement. We were hopeful that only a repair would be required, but the analysis revealed that there was no original decking to the roof, which mandates the installation of decking with a full roof replacement that needs to be completed in the summer of 2010. In discussing the situation, Dr. Schilling agreed with me that we should look at the effective use of both the district office and the 3801 West Lake property since they would both require extensive work at the same time.

A meeting was held with George Tuttle, Doug Strong, the building principals and appropriate district administrators to discuss the most effective use of the two facilities. At that meeting, special education administrators and staff strongly recommended that the district office building become the new home for the OC program. They clearly articulated a number of important advantages to housing the program in the district office building. No commitment was made at that time and we began working with ARCON to determine the functionality of such a move and the overall costs involved in comparison to placing Off Campus in the 3801 West Lake building and renovating the district office.

The following is a comparison of the two proposed scenarios:

Scenario #1: Off Campus at 3801 West Lake, District Office renovated for present use:

Advantages

1. OC will be able to expand to meet their needs both now and in the future.
2. The transition program can be eventually placed in the facility to eliminate current lease payments for offices on Waukegan Road to NSSED.
3. The configuration of the facility can be customized to meet the needs of OC.
4. Physical education facilities as well as other supplemental services will be in close proximity at GBS. Closer walking proximity to inside gym space.

Disadvantages

1. The OC program would require the occupancy of multiple floors, which introduces a supervision concern.
2. The 3801 West Lake facility cannot be converted to provide the desired level of security for OC until all current tenants are gone and the facility is completely occupied by District 225 programs.
3. The mixture of the OC program with tenants who are conducting business and community services is not the best scenario. Unpredictable behavior and the resulting situations that can occur are a concern of both current tenants and the OC staff.
4. The 3801 West Lake property will need to be rezoned prior to occupancy by OC, which the Village of Glenview feels is acceptable.

Scenario #2: Renovating the district office building to house the OC program and converting the 3801 West Lake property to accommodate the current district office staff and operations.

Advantages

1. The total square footage of the first floor of the district office building matches the needs of the OC program with enough room for limited expansion in the future. The current scope of OC is probably near the limit we should consider due to federal regulation concerns regarding inclusion.
2. The district office building can easily be converted to provide the desired level of security for students and staff.
3. The only interaction OC students will have with adults are with district staff members. Concerns regarding their interaction with businesses or community service clientele is eliminated.
4. The students and staff will be in close proximity to outdoor athletic fields for physical education activities. Shuttle buses would need to be provided for indoor facility use.
5. The increased distance from the GBS facility continues to give students the feeling of being “off campus,” which is important to the program.

Advantages (continued)

6. District office will be able to expand within the 3801 West Lake building in the future to include a new board room, as well as a professional development center that can be used for multiple training programs during the day and at night.
7. The special education transition program and other district services can be easily housed in the 3801 West Lake facility and would not come in contact with the OC program.
8. Travel time and distance will be reduced for district office and GBS administrators since the district office and GBS would be within walking distance.
9. The 3801 West Lake facility can be easily converted to house up to eight additional GBS classrooms on the first floor if necessary beginning in the summer of 2013.
10. No rezoning of the 3801 West Lake property will be required, although it is in our best interest to complete the rezoning process.

Disadvantages

1. The OC program would still require shuttle transportation to utilize the GBS indoor facilities.
2. Due to space occupied by current tenants and the length of their leases, the district office will be unable to completely occupy the 3801 West Lake property until the summer of 2013.