



CHOICES FOR THE FUTURE

Conversations Expanded – Timeline Extended

Design Down Process

Community discussion will continue on the topic of high school education in the West Des Moines Community School District. The “design down” process will be utilized to identify important questions and gather input from parents, students, staff and community members. This process includes a series of steps to address key issues such as learning context, audience, signature, expectations, the learning process, how learning is organized, partnerships, staffing, technology, learning environment, celebration and finance. The design down process results in a set of architectural instructions that will be used when the team begins design of the facility. The focus on this current effort, however, is on teaching and learning and how best to offer programming that provides optimum experiences for the high school student.

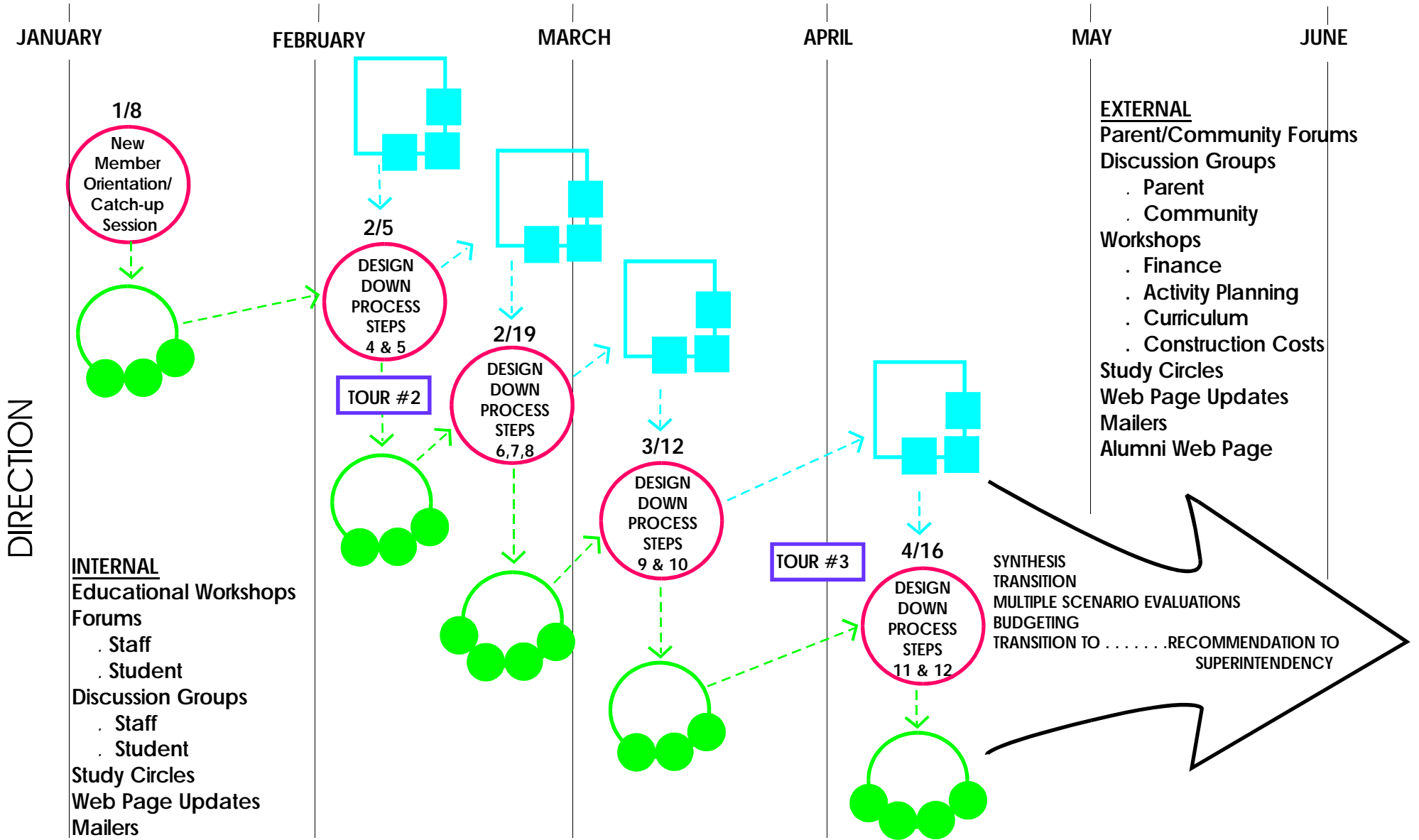
As a part of the design down process, a series of small group discussions, public forums and educational workshops will be scheduled from January through April. The timeline is flexible and may be extended further if necessary. These community conversations will provide opportunities to express divergent points of view and to develop a shared understanding of the issues and the facts.

The design down process will be facilitated by internationally recognized architect and educational planner Bruce Jilk, AIA and RDG Education, a subsidiary of RDG Inc. The consultants have been working with a 50-member task force of students, parents, staff and community members to offer input on a vision for Valley High School, to identify learning audiences and the context of learning for the high school student. This committee will be expanded to ensure appropriate representation of viewpoints. New members will attend an orientation session in January. Contact Valley Principal Vicky Poole (226-2600) or Phil Hodgin of RDG Education (288-3141) for further information.

At the conclusion of the design down process, a recommendation will be made to the Superintendency on the optimum delivery of educational programming to students in grades 9-12. The Board of Education will take action on a recommendation from the Superintendency.

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VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM DESIGN DOWN PROCESS EXTENSION OPTION



DIRECTION

- INTERNAL**
- Educational Workshops
 - Forums
 - Staff
 - Student
 - Discussion Groups
 - Staff
 - Student
 - Study Circles
 - Web Page Updates
 - Mailers

TIME