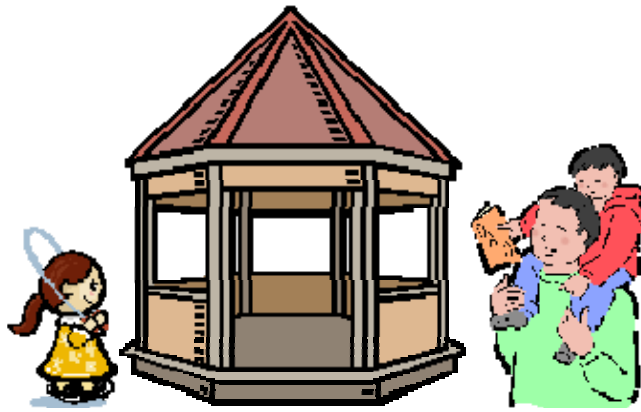


Where is our Pavilion?



Building upon the funding of Fort Dillon by the 2006 Gala, three projects were decided upon for the proceeds of the 2007 Gala: refrigerators for every classroom in the preschool; new musical instruments for the upper school; and a picnic pavilion for the lower school. During the summer of 2007, refrigerators were purchased and installed in every preschool classroom and are chilling nicely. New musical instruments were ordered for the upper school, most of which have been delivered and by Christmas all should be available to the students and some will indeed be heard at our Vespers Service.

But life was not so simple when it came to the pavilion! Over the summer an incredibly talented (parent) architect worked to create a beautiful soaring dove design for the pavilion. In both scale and aesthetic the design went way beyond anything that we had previously imagined and would have made a remarkable architectural statement creating visual impact every single day. Once the conceptual design was approved as a 3-dimensional model a (parent) general contractor was engaged for the construction of the pavilion. Unfortunately, at that point, building code and permit challenges were identified necessitating a complete rethinking of our plans for the pavilion. While the soaring dove design that was produced cannot be implemented for this pavilion we are hoping to incorporate the aesthetic elsewhere on our campuses.

Over the past few weeks, a back-up plan has been proposed to construct a deck with a pergola-type top adjacent to Fort Dillon with picnic tables for use by our families, additional benches and a water fountain together with new fencing around a portion of the perimeter complimented by additional landscaping. Additionally the plan suggests improvements in the area under the trees where our parents meet for afternoon carpool and that a handicap parking space and ramp be added to ease access to the field. This plan is broadly in line with our original concept but does not provide the degree of shelter from either sunshine or inclement weather that we would like to see.

All of that said; we are currently finalizing a school-wide plan for an exciting program of major capital works to start in the summer of 2008 at all three campuses with an extensive remodeling of the field facilities at the lower school as an important

component. As a part of this process we will be meeting with the City of Sandy Springs to ascertain exactly what we can build at the lower school and hope to be in a position to unveil these plans to the school community in February. Although we could proceed with the “backup plan” at this time it most certainly will not achieve the facility that we would ideally like for the long term therefore we have temporarily invested the monies earmarked for the pavilion in a designated savings account and will incorporate the pavilion into the “grand-plan” to be implemented for the lower school fields and recreational facility. In the meantime, I would like to acknowledge the incredible efforts and gifts of time and talent put in by the staff and parent volunteers who have worked on this project and assure you that the wait will turn out to have been well worth while!

Gareth N. Genner