

Summary of Ideas on Allenby Outdoor Playspaces
Collected from parents, teachers, and students
Initial Planning, March 6, 2014

NOTE: This is a summary of ideas that have been generated to date by parents, teachers, and students of Allenby Jr. PS. Some elements are questions to consider, however TDSB best practices and guiding principles need to be considered when deciding which elements should be incorporated into a Master Plan for the school.

Present: Cate Spidle (Principal, Allenby PS), Bruce Day (TDSB, Grounds Standards and Design Coordinator), David Percival (TDSB Sr. Manager, Building Design and Renewal), Aileen Leadbeater (TDSB, Civil Coordinator, Design Services), Victor Ford (Landscape Architect), Associate Accompanying Victor Ford, Gillian Uy (Allenby Parents' Association – Co-Chair Field/Playground Initiative), Shannon Phillips (Allenby Parents' Association – Co-Chair Field/Playground Initiative)

Area 1: MAIN PLAYGROUND AREA

Overall:

- better flow and space for children to play
- allow for separate play areas (for divided recess play)
- better positioning of elements (e.g. benches, rocks, garbage cans)
- incorporate natural elements that will balance the artificial turf

Field:

- lines/markings for both soccer and baseball play

Track:

- resurfaced (consider rubberized or other surfaces that will withstand multi-use area and long-term use)
- ideally with lines/lanes

Playscape:

- ideas for future improvement
- soft surface (e.g. rubberized or other surface - one that will hold up to use)
- more climbing opportunities/apparatus (e.g. spider web/dome)
- remove/replace elements not considered safe (e.g. zipline)
- incorporate sound/music elements
- more monkey bars of varying heights for primary students (K-6)

Paved areas:

- lines for multisport play (e.g. hopscotch, four square)
- perhaps painted lion (to represent school mascot)
- basketball hoops and backboards to accommodate varying heights of students
- take out walls of soccer court (and/or reposition to a different area)
- remove rocks from middle section where lines form to go in

Fences:

- can we use these more for play (e.g. wall games)

Quiet areas:

- areas for sitting/picnic/snack time
- shaded areas (10 trees to be added because of the build)

Hill:

- is there a way to use the hill better
- concern of erosion, but kids love to play there
- perhaps incorporate a medicine wheel (size required?)? or slide?

St. Clements side:

- is there a way to utilize this area better?

Storage:

- can we incorporate more outdoor storage (perhaps built into the hill? or some kind of "bunker" idea like there is in the kindergarten area)

Rooftop Garden:

- this element is being incorporated into the new build

Other elements:

- long jump pit(s) (keep them - and perhaps make more defined for sand play)
- access to water (to water plants as well as to fill water bottles)
- access to electrical plug
- bike racks (need to determine if there is a location that works for security as well as flow of students in and out of the school)

Area 2: KINDERGARTEN AREA:

- better flow
- incorporate more natural elements
- sand pit is not marked off enough
- picnic benches not well placed, but still want sitting areas
- current playscape has limited use and safety issues (e.g. rock climber, balance beam)2
- perhaps incorporate water play, chalk wall
- use hill better
- more shaded areas