



Application for URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE Review

Department of Planning and Development Review
Planning & Preservation Division
900 E. Broad Street, Room 510
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 646-6335

<http://www.richmondgov.com/CommitteeUrbanDesign>

Application Type

- Addition/Alteration to Existing Structure
- New Construction
- Streetscape
- Site Amenity

- Encroachment
- Master Plan
- Sign
- Other

Review Type

- Conceptual
- Final

Project Name: PATRICK HENRY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & ARTS - MODULAR CLASSROOMS

Project Address: 3411 SEMMES AVE RICHMOND, VA 23225

Brief Project Description (this is not a replacement for the required detailed narrative) :

INSTALLATIONS OF (2) MODULAR CLASSROOM BUILDINGS
FOR TEMPORARY USE WHILE ADD'L FUNDS ARE RAISED
FOR CONTINUED BUILDING RENOVATION.

Applicant Information

(on all applications other than encroachments, a City agency representative must be the applicant)

Name: KYLAN SHIRLEY - ON BEHALF OF PHSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS Email: KYLAN.SHIRLEY@PATRICKHENRYCHARTER.ORG

City Agency: PHSSA - RPS Phone: 540-815-6043

Address: 3411 SEMMES AVE, RICHMOND, VA 23225

Main Contact (if different from Applicant): SAA

Company: PHSSA BOD Phone: SAA

Email: SAA

Submittal Deadlines

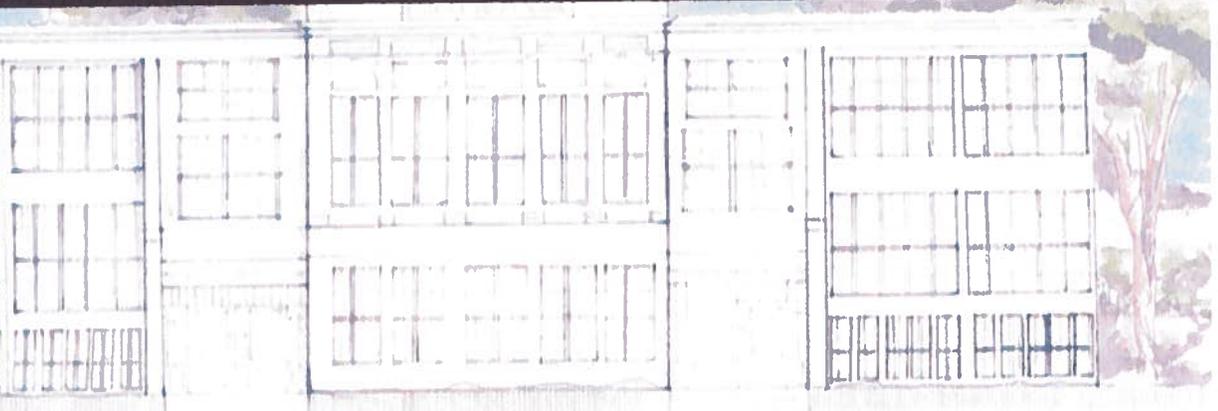
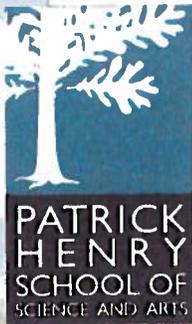
All applications and support materials must be filed no later than 21 days prior to the scheduled meeting of the Urban Design Committee (UDC). Please see the schedule on page 3 as actual deadlines are adjusted due to City holidays. **Late or incomplete submissions will be deferred to the next meeting.**

Filing

Applications can be mailed or delivered to the attention of "Urban Design Committee" at the address listed at the top of this page. **It is important that the applicant discuss the proposal with appropriate City agencies, Zoning Administration staff, and area civic associations and residents prior to filing the application with the UDC.**

UDC Background

The UDC is a ten member committee created by City Council in 1968 whose purpose is to advise the City Planning Commission on the design of projects on City property or right-of-way. The UDC provides advice of an aesthetic nature in connection with the performance of the duties of the Commission under Sections 17.05, 17.06 and 17.07 of the City Charter. The UDC also advises the Department of Public Works in regards to private encroachments in the public right-of-way.



3411 Semmes Avenue • Richmond, VA 23225 • 804-888-7061 • www.PatrickHenryCharter.org

URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE

April 15, 2019

Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts - PHSSA

3411 Semmes Avenue

Richmond, VA 23225

PHSSA is a Public-Charter Elementary School operating in coordination with Richmond Public Schools. The School operates out of a historically significant building, built in 1928, at 3411 Semmes Ave.

Currently the school is raising money to fund an HVAC replacement and renovations to the buildings third floor. These renovations will modernize the building's systems, improve accessibility and life safety, and provide 21st Century learning environments for the City's young learners.

At this time, the School Administration has identified a temporary need for additional classroom space for an additional 4th grade classroom and a music classroom. These spaces cannot be accommodated within the existing building at this time. Ultimately the space needs will be resolved with the 3rd floor renovations. Until then, modular classrooms are an affordable and practical option that will provide the needed space.

This application proposes installing two modular classroom buildings on the School site. Each building consists of a single classroom and is approximately 34'x24'. The attached site plan describes proposed locations and dimensions.

These two new modular buildings will join two existing modular buildings installed on the site in 2013.

Electrical power will be provided from a meter and panel that was previously installed with the existing modular buildings.

Landscaping will be provided by container plantings, added to those already in place and maintained by the School.

One of the modular buildings will be located in the School's parking lot. A parking needs study is being undertaken to confirm the actual number of spaces needed for School staff. A plan will be developed to manage parking needs.

Installation of the modular buildings will take place in the July-August timeframe during a School break, and will be operational for the beginning of the Fall 2019 school year.

Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts

The mission of the Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts is to give the children of a diverse school community an academically rigorous and relevant education that involves their families and community partnerships, is rooted in the arts and sciences, and that instills in them stewardship of the environment, support for the arts, and service to the community.

The core values of the mission are supported by:

- striving to foster curiosity, enthusiasm, and excitement about learning,
- infusing learning from the gardens and Forest Hill Park into the curriculum,
- following a progressive school calendar that promotes year round learning ,
- fostering collaboration among students, parents, and the school community,
- making parents a vital part of the education of their children, and
- promoting a multifaceted diversity that leads to a better future for the school and the community.

Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts was founded by a group of parents who wanted to create a public elementary school with a rigorous integrated curriculum where children would learn to be better stewards of the environment and responsible members of their community. After considering many approaches, the parents decided to create a charter school within Richmond Public Schools because that would give the school the autonomy to have an integrated curriculum necessary to meet their vision while having a school without tuition open to all of the children of Richmond. Also, the school would be a laboratory for new practices that connected to the needs of the 21st century, prepare students for the SOLs, and integrate the arts into the curriculum at a time when school systems had budgetary constraints that reduced exposure to the humanities, a vital part of creativity and commitment.

Beginning in a church basement in 2009 while the vacant Patrick Henry School building was being renovated by grant funding to comply with the *Americans with Disabilities Act*, the teachers began to create, implement, assess, and improve the new curriculum and had the experience of creating an elementary charter school, something that does not exist anywhere else in Virginia. Last year, the curriculum was finalized and accepted by the School Board with minor revisions. The School Board also found the school compliant with the Charter and exceeding some of its obligations, such as transportation and diversity. At this time, we are pleased that over 240 families have children in the school. There are also 80 families on a lottery-generated waiting list.

At this time, we are in the process of a renovation to be ADA compliant throughout the building in order to accommodate the students on our waiting list, expand enrollment with other students, and to create and make use of a science lab, a computer lab, an art studio, the auditorium, band and choral rooms, and a family resource center. PHSSA has been approved by the School Board to have 4 modular classrooms as an annex in use only until the renovation is complete.

Features of our School

- ❖ Rigorous academic curriculum
- ❖ Interdisciplinary approach to learning
- ❖ Small classes with diverse teaching strategies
- ❖ Pupil diversity (64% African American, 30% White, 6% Asian or Latino)
- ❖ A year round calendar with intersessions at the end of each grading period for enrichment and remediation with 6 weeks of summer vacation
- ❖ Partnerships with arts and sciences organizations to enrich learning
- ❖ Use of Forest Hill Park and school gardens and orchards in the curriculum
- ❖ Requirement that parents give 24 hours of volunteer service during the year
- ❖ Close collaboration with Richmond Public Schools for student services
- ❖ Governed by a diverse Board of Directors as a 501(c)3 non-profit
- ❖ Supported by foundations, corporations, and members of the community

Donor support of Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts greater than \$5,000

Corporations and Foundations

Altria
The Chesapeake Bay Foundation
The Cynthia Shelton Buchanan Memorial Fund
Dominion Power
The Jacquemin Family Foundation
The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation
The Virginia Environmental Endowment
Whole Foods Foundation

Private Donors

Mr and Mrs Thomas Chewning
The Governor and Mrs. Robert M. McDonnell
Mr. and Mrs. William Royal
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Stettinius

Federal Grants

Charter School Initiation Fund

The support of these individuals, foundations and corporations, historic tax credits, Board contributions, and the support of many other contributors enabled PHSSA to open and support the school. In addition, the school procured a loan of \$200,000, which has been paid back in full, as part of a \$575,000 renovation of the building to make it compliant with the *Americans with Disabilities Act* for over 200 students. After renewal of the Charter in January 2013, the PHSSA Board arranged financing and gained approval of the School Board to complete renovation to the rest of the building to meet the needs of the curriculum and to end the waiting list.

To learn more about our school, please visit our website at www.patrickhenrycharter.org.