

## **MEETING WITH DGS Feb 20, 2024**

José Piza – Leader DGS

Barbara Callahan – Winston Downs neighbor at 522 S Magnolia Ln

Jane Lorimer – Winston Downs Community Assn president 614 S Oneida Way

### **Intention**

To work and partner with DGS so that residents and the school are working together for a positive outcome

### **Concerns**

- Parking: DGS removed on-site teacher parking by installing the small bike play area which is not well used and often is not maintained. And, more recently DGS changed where large trash bins are located which reduced more parking on-site.
  - Teachers/staff park on our streets
    - Risks and liabilities if they fall on snowy sidewalks
  - Double parked parents picking up / dropping off – closes access for residents
- Traffic: As the school grew, so did traffic in a normally quiet neighborhood.
  - Drop off and pick up times-ignoring 4 way stops, speeding on interior streets
  - Young children darting out from cars
- Original plans: The one teaching garden became 3 gardens who lease with fees going to DGS
  - The original planning for double story added to Fallis became a separate building without any notice to WDCA, as well as the added container -which now uses up play areas- no partnering or heads up
  - Severely reduced onsite teacher parking
  - Kids having to use the neighborhood streets for exercise
- Trash at school and along the streets where students walk
- Free food bags tossed on streets
- Off campus bullying
- Lack of partnering with the neighborhood, no use of the school for public meetings, or as play area now. We know dog owners caused some of the closures.

### **Possible Solutions**

#### Let Students Research, Report and Recommend Ideas

Repeat the traffic study fifth grade students did several years ago or reinvent it; have them share results with the school, PTA and WDCA. Require them to suggest recommendations for safer practices – take ownership in solutions

#### Reduce double parking:

- Restore the teacher parking on school lot where the bike hill area is now since it is not a necessary item for the school and also becomes an eyesore if not maintained

- That would provide extra parking onsite and reduce on-street parking
- An added consideration: 6550 E Dakota (vacant lot) has been purchased to build a new synagogue. That will add weekend overnight parking to the already burdened streets during the week.
- WD residents can make a case for restricted parking – something we prefer to not do

Rearrange trash bins to accommodate a couple of added parking spaces

- They used to be against the dock – is there a reason they were moved?
- Seems there is more trash against neighboring fence lines since they were moved – it's not handy for janitor or others to use.