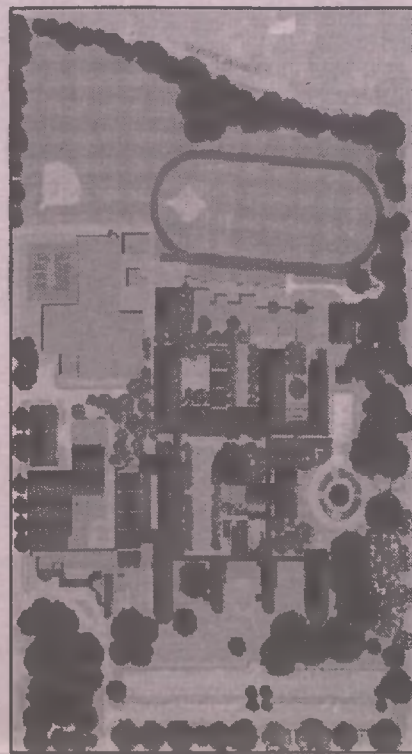


NCSSM's Master Plan

BY CAROLINE LIU
News Editor

Recently, a unique document has come back into the attention of NCSSM's faculty, staff, students and parents alike. Written in 2008, the 22 pages detail improvements throughout the school's infrastructure from creating campus quads to renovating current buildings.



Map of the NCSSM campus showing the 2008 Master Plan, with Hill, Bryan and Reynolds additions.

Building is proposed to be constructed in three phases.

Phase one includes assembling immediate needs created by the additional students that were scheduled to come to campus on 2012 and were

identified as part of the Discovery Center project, which includes the construction of additional classrooms, laboratories, student dormitories, office spaces, and extreme renovations of common spaces such as the dining hall and the library.

Phase two includes needs identified during the master planning process but are not considered part of the Discovery Center project. This includes a "Bryan Addition", "Hill East", and "Hill West".

Lastly, Phase three is comprised of a site identified as a future development opportunity which includes additional dormitories listed "Hill North". The total budget amounts to \$137,673,976 with renovations totaling \$60,582,583 and new constructions totaling \$77,091,393.

The plan was abandoned shortly after the Great Recession due to lack of funds but it still remains a symbol of NCSSM's campus disparity with other UNC schools.

NCSSM's current Master Plan is simply the Reynolds addition, which is found in the older Master Plan.

However, the document denotes a significant lack of common space for students to socialize and study together, something NCSSM has yet to fill. The entire older and current Master Plans can be found online.

10 ways to cleverly ask someone to Semi

BY CHERYL WANG
Staff Reporter

Fall is not only the time for sweaters and coffee, but also the start of the much-anticipated Semi-formal Dance proposals, for those who want to go with a date.

With the date of Dec. 13 quickly approaching and the limited time available due to Thanksgiving break, it is only natural to begin looking into creative semi-asking ideas.

To help inspire all of the potential askers out there, here are 10 fun and cute ways to snag a date to the dance!

"I'd be fortunate if you would go to Semi with me!"

Printed on a slip of paper inside a fortune cookie, there is no way anyone can reject this adorable question. Many Chinese restaurants are open to printing personalized notes in fortune cookies for a fee or for free. A casual dinner with takeout Chinese food is the perfect time to both talk to and surprise your potential Semi date.

"I know this is cheesy... but would you go to Semi with me?"

On the subject of food, a cute note on your delivered pizza box is another fun way to ask. Even on the pizza, spelling out "Semi?" with olives or pepperoni slices can be the creative way to go.

Word Search

While this may be the school of science and mathematics, a little extracurricular reading never hurts. Simply flip to a page in your favorite book and

highlight the words or letters that would make up your question. Alternatively, you can grab a sheet of paper and cut out spaces to reveal your message when the paper is placed on the page.

A more dramatic way...

What's a more dramatic way to ask your potential date to Semi than giving a performance for that special person during lunch or after school? A witty arrangement of lines, plot, or even posters taped to shirts may just win that special someone over.

Hallway Serenade

For all the talented singers out there, grab your guitars or keyboard. Singing their favorite song or an original composition featuring your question may be the most romantic way for your potential date to get asked. Whether in front of your friends or in a quiet part of school, showcasing your voice while posing the question can eliminate a lot of the much-dreaded awkwardness.

Flowers and Chocolates

Sometimes, the best way to ask that special someone is by just being traditional with flowers and chocolates. However, to make this less boring, you can deliver the flower bouquets at various intervals, such as between each of your potential date's classes.

Each bouquet would have a note on it that has one part of your question written. Then, at the end of the day when your potential date has received all the bouquets, the question will be complete and you will only need their answer.

"Semi would suck without you."

What's a sweeter way to ask someone than with a bouquet of lollipops? Simply grab a flowerpot and a Styrofoam ball or sponge ball that fits on top, and stick as many lollipops as it takes to cover the surface of the Styrofoam ball.

At the top of the ball, insert a notecard that poses the

question. Presenting this gift to your potential date not only shows that you are creative but also reflects just how much time and thought you have dedicated to your ask.

Posters down the hall

The Reynolds breezeways are perfect for this way of asking your potential date. By pasting posters on the floor along the hall, you can spell out your question as your potential date walks down to meet you at the end.

Scavenger hunt

Designing a map of the campus labeled with various stops where you have hidden notes that make up your question may be perfect for those fun-loving people who enjoy walking around. With all the perfect fall weather in season right now, what's a better way to ask than to have your potential date go through the scavenger hunt, finding you at the end?

"I think we have the perfect chemistry"

While chemistry may be a difficult class that often causes endless studying sessions and sleepless nights, it's nice to take a break sometimes and actually utilize those chemical elements in real life.

Pose your question by spelling each letter or word out with the names of different chemical elements. Examples include: "Are you made of Barium and Beryllium? Because you're a BaBe. Will you be my date to Semi, CUteY (Carbon, Uranium, Tellurium, Yttrium)?"

Semi asking can be both hard and awkward, but we hope these 10 creative and practical ideas can serve as inspiration for your ask. Personalized fortune cookies, hallway serenades, and witty chemistry lines are just some of the many fun ways to ask that special person to the dance.

The Semi-formal dance is just around the corner, so do not wait until the last day to pop the question.

SG-Privilege cards coming

During past few weeks, Student Government has officially chartered and funded numerous clubs, with more clubs to be chartered and funded in the next couple of weeks.

Spirit week, which was held from Nov. 11 to Nov. 14, was also a success and the winners

of each theme day have been selected and will receive prizes.

Student Government is also planning on updating their bulletin board and vlog, as well as hosting "Let's Talk" booths outside the PFM.

Privilege cards will be released within the next week.

The purpose of privilege cards is to reward students for good grades, such as all A's and B's. Possible rewards include discounts at local restaurants or at the school store. The Student Government Facebook page, "NCSSM Student Government Association," will provide additional updates.

Cultural festival committee forming

Continued from Page 2 represented by the acts, but also the passion and collaborative spirit of everyone who makes the show possible."

The show, however, might not go on – or at least, not as it has in the past.

"It is possible that this is the last time Asiafest will be presented as it is currently," Director of Student Services Kevin Cromwell commented. The two main reasons the administration wants to shift to a new format for the festivals are efficiency and equity.

Historically, there has been a disparate level of support for the festivals: Asiafest has been known to have filled the auditorium for multiple shows, sometimes to the point of

almost becoming a fire hazard, while things did not come together enough for there to even be a show of Africafest last year.

Meanwhile, as other cultural groups not represented by the traditional three fests requested that they have their own cultural festivals, it became apparent to the administration that the established model for NCSSM's cultural festivals was insufficient.

Thus, this year will likely be the last of the customary three-festival design.

Very recently, Asian Cultures Club, Hispanic Cultures Club, and H.O.P.E. (Heritage, Opportunity, Progress, Education) have been asked to each nominate

one junior and one senior – and Student Government Association has been asked to nominate 2 representatives – to form a student-based committee to come up with ideas for a redesigned implementation of NCSSM's cultural festivals starting next year. "It'll be like a task force," Cromwell explained.

The plan for this committee is to begin meeting in December and to have a recommendation by the end of the second trimester. It remains to be seen what the committee's recommended model will end up looking like.

"We want them to think big," Cromwell said. "It could be outdoors, over multiple days... it's all about the

students' creativity."

This creativity will certainly be on display this December. There are common threads linking all Asiafest shows together but each year has its own unique spirit.

"This year's Asiafest will definitely be different from all of the previous shows because it is the last one!" the hosts said. "While last year's Asiafest set a high standard for us to live up to, we believe that this year's show will surpass all expectations and close the Asiafest tradition phenomenally."

Lee put it best when she said, "[I love] Pecan pie. I love pecan pie. I love baking it, smelling it, and, of course, voraciously devouring every

crumb of it. However, if Asiafest and pecan pie were both drowning, and I were the only bystander watching, then I would struggle my way through saving Asiafest. Why? Because pecan pie is not a story you can tell to your peers. It is not a legend that future generations can pour their sweat into maintaining. It is just not Asiafest."

Asiafest will be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. in the ETC and will be live-streamed by Sue Anne Lewis.

The dress rehearsal the day before, Friday, Dec. 5, will be open to the public at 5 p.m. The event will be between an hour and a half and two hours, with a 15-minute intermission.