

# UPDATE FROM MISSY & DON



## OCTOBER - 2007

### THANK YOU PLANNING COUNCIL!

We would like to again express our deepest appreciation for the wonderful work of our Planning Council, now officially retired! Your contributions of time, talent and wisdom have advanced this project immeasurably, and many, many children in our area will soon benefit from your efforts. Great job!

### THE ROAD AHEAD....

Without doubt, much work lies ahead before our 2010 opening of New Voices School. As we enter Phase III, we begin to focus on the immediate tasks ahead and the resources needed to continue our march forward. Two groups will spearhead this effort - New Voices Foundation Board and the newly named Foundation Leadership Team. The latter will provide day-to-day focus and serve as the administrative structure. Important milestones include:

<b>Present to End-of-Year</b>	Identify and secure site for permanent school
<b>November 1</b>	Delivery of reports to the John Rex Foundation
<b>Early 2008</b>	Opening of New Voices Assessment Center
<b>March, 2008</b>	New Voices Kickoff Event

We have an undeniable need in our community and a solid plan - let's keep building! In case you missed the last meeting of the Planning Council, here is our architect's rendering of the school!



*Courtesy of David Clinton, MHA Works of Durham.*

### THE ASSESSMENT CENTER

Opening in January, 2008, the New Voices Assessment Center will work with students aged 4-14 for focused, multi-disciplinary assessment. The Center initially will accept a limited number of students referred only by the five regional school systems and eventually grow to full capacity.

Accurate assessment will lead to many positive outcomes - more accurate IEPs, consistent understanding of a student's educational potential, and better integration of equipment in the learning environment. After assessment, New Voices staff will maintain relationships with school staff to provide ongoing support for student progress.