



# PLANNING <sup>for</sup> <sup>our</sup> FUTURE

## Open Community Forum

May 2, 2017





# PLANNING <sup>for</sup> <sup>our</sup> FUTURE



## Agenda

Metropolitan School District of Washington Township

05.02.17

- 1. Welcome**  
introductions / why we're here
- 2. Setting the Stage**  
process overview / what to expect
- 3. Exploring What's Possible**  
learning spaces in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 4. How You Can Help**  
we want to hear from you!
- 5. Next Steps**  
stay tuned!



## Metropolitan School District of Washington Township Project Leadership & Oversight



BrainSpaces, Inc.

pK-12 Educational Specifications

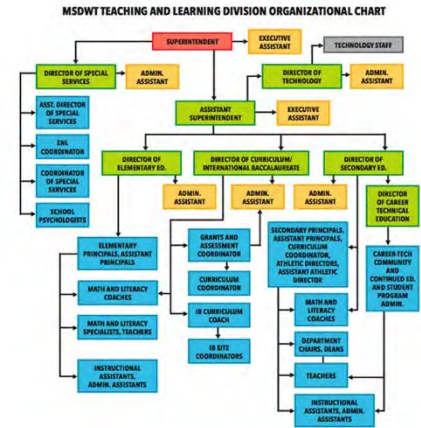


CSO Architects

Architect for New Elementary Schools



# Your Partners



MSDWT Teaching and Learning Division

# Championing Educational Needs

MSDWT Special Services &amp; Student Programs Divisions

# Representing Student Needs



MSDWT Human Resources &amp; Business Services Divisions

## Supporting Staff & Financial Needs



MSDWT Operations Division

## Maintaining Facilities/Physical Needs

## MSDWT Community Members

# Representing Community Needs



# a variety of needs

Metropolitan School District of Washington Township | Educational Specifications Session

 **PLANNING for the FUTURE**

**WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!**

Please attend the Washington Township Advisory Council's Community Focus from May 2, 2017 from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm at SCC so learning spaces and school designs so that your voice can be heard.

**We encourage all that interest in the future of Washington Township to attend.**

If you are unable to attend, please check our website for the announcement and registration link: [www.washingtonnj.org](http://www.washingtonnj.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

**MSDOW COMMUNITY**

**Help Us Name Your New Schools**

by completing the survey that can be found at:

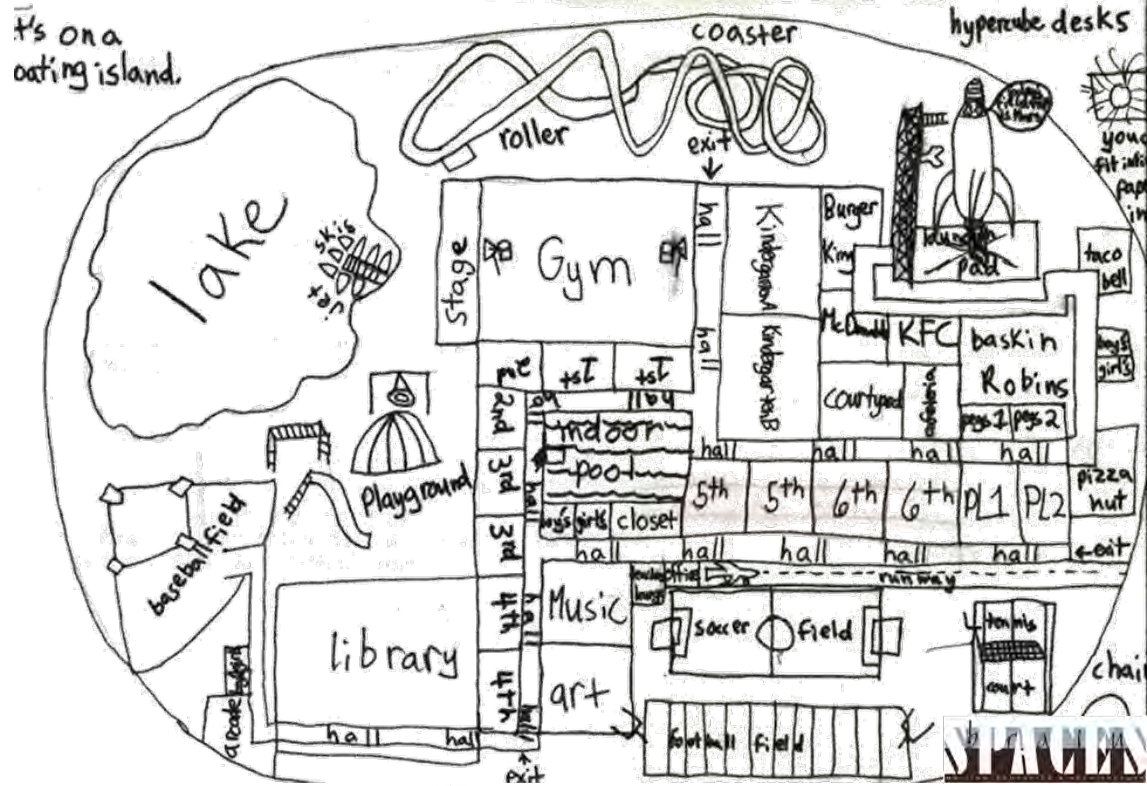
**CLICK HERE TO NAME OUR NEW SCHOOLS**

 Washington Township Schools  
4 Grove Street Washington Township, NJ 07093  
1000 Washington Township  
Telephone: 908-242-2100



# MSDWT Students

A variety of Focus Groups to gather ideas and insights from our most important experts!



## BrainSpaces - Who We Are:

- Architects & Educators
- Planning for Brain-Based Learning Environments
- Collaborating with Clients around the world
- Internationally Recognized for Holistic Design
- Award-winning school designs







# PLANNING <sup>for</sup> <sup>our</sup> FUTURE



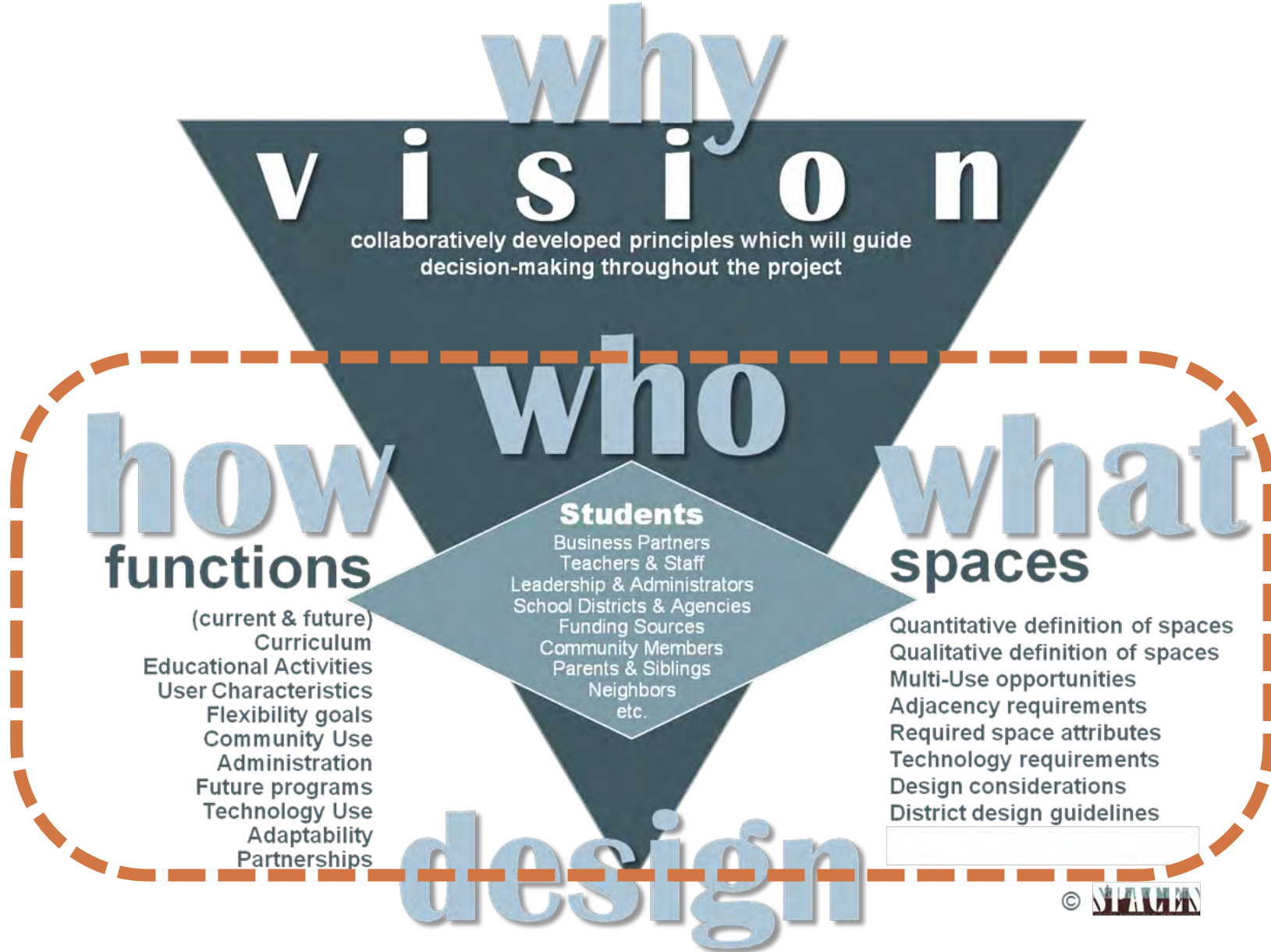
## Setting the Stage

Metropolitan School District of Washington Township

05.02.17

1. What are Educational Specifications?
2. Why do we need them?
3. How will we develop them?
4. What will they include?
5. How will they be used?

# Educational Specifications

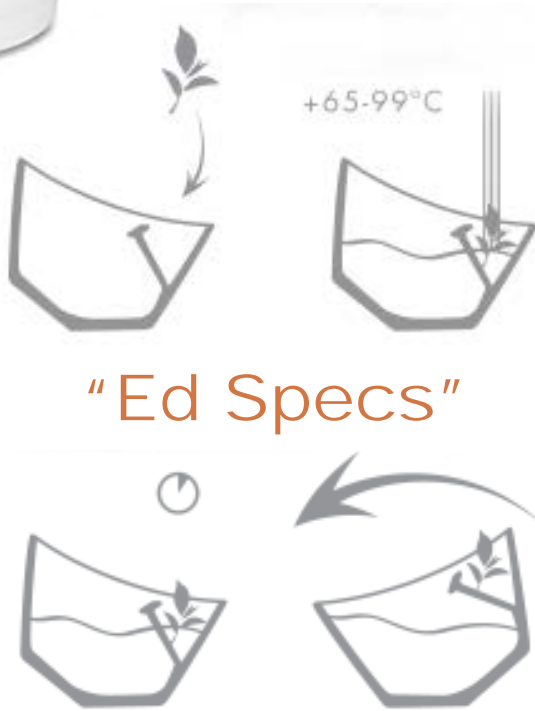
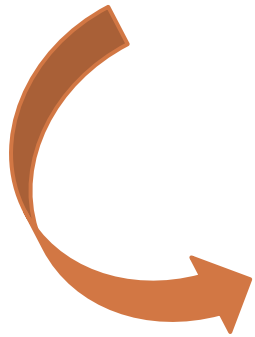


## What are Ed Specs?

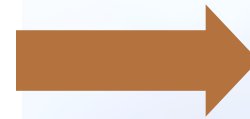




20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Schools  
(an analogy)



21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Schools



# Why Ed Specs?



(an analogy)

## "Givens"

- accommodate capacity
- support teaching & learning
- safety / security
- code compliance
- healthy systems
- technology

## Interpret "Givens"

- translate needs into spaces
- define educational effectiveness
- connect facilities and learning
- consider future adaptability

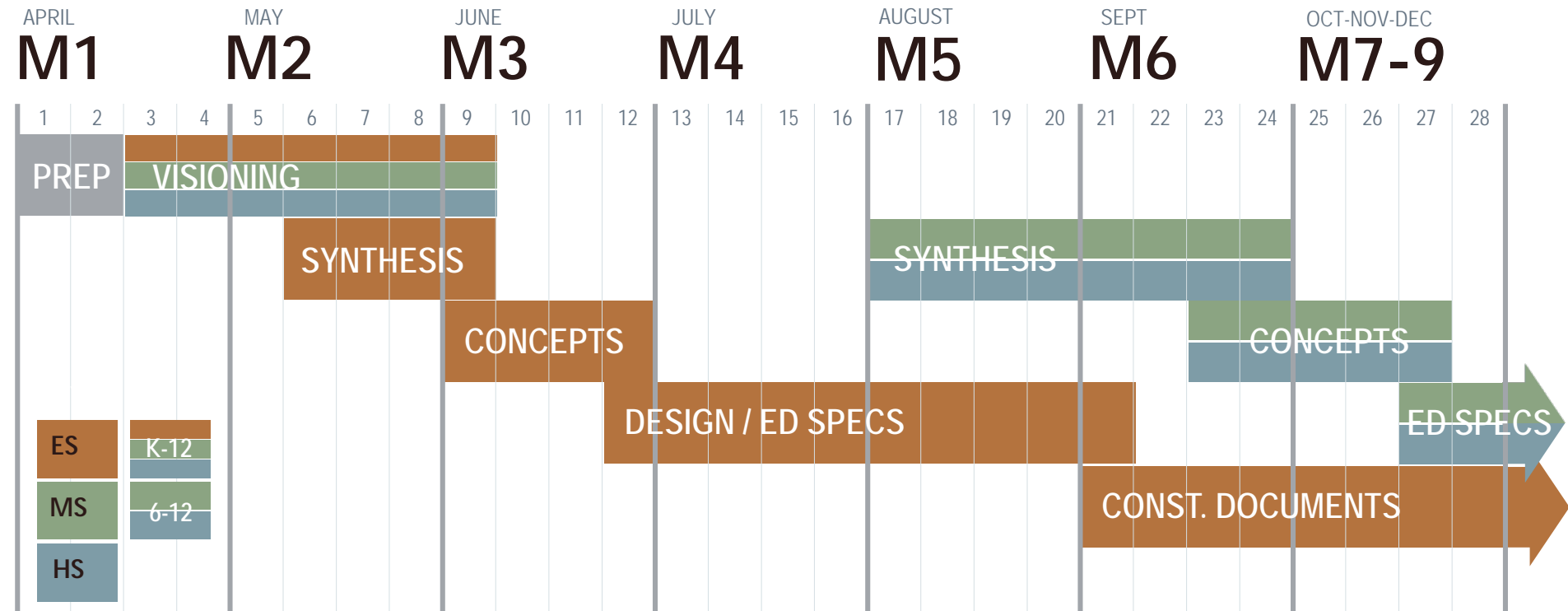


Road Map for  
Design

# Why Ed Specs?

# timeline

## designed for efficiency & effectiveness





# benchmarks include: quantities

2.0 SELF-CONTAINED									
Ref. #	Name/Function	Qty.	Each	Required	Optional	TOTAL	Qty.	Each	Required
2.01	Librarians 1 (Basic Life Skills)	1	1,200		1,200	1,200	2	1,200	2,400
2.02	Librarians 2 (Intensive Needs)	1	1,200		1,200	1,200	1	1,200	1,200
2.03	Intensive Needs Changing	1	100		100	100	1	100	100
2.04	Intensive Needs Restroom	1	120		120	120	1	120	120
2.05	OT/PT Equip. Storage	1	80		80	80	1	80	80
2.06	Autism Classroom	1	900		900	900	1	900	900
Sub-total				1,500	2,100	3,600			1,500

3.0 LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER									
Ref. #	Name/Function	Qty.	Each	Required	Optional	TOTAL	Qty.	Each	Required
3.01	Main Reading, Ref., Stacks & Circ.	1	4,000		4,000	4,000	1	4,500	4,500
3.02	Librarian's Office	1	150		150	150	1	150	150
3.03	Workroom	1	350		350	350	1	400	400
3.04	Equipment and Non-Print Storage	1	200		200	200	1	250	250
3.05	Media Storage Area	1	100		100	100	1	100	100
3.06	Small Group Room	1	200		200	200	2	200	400
3.07	Technology Coordinator	1	200		200	200	1	200	200
3.08	Communications Room	1	200		200	200	1	200	200
Sub-total				5,200	200	5,400			5,800

4.0 VISUAL ARTS									
Ref. #	Name/Function	Qty.	Each	Required	Optional	TOTAL	Qty.	Each	Required
4.01	General Art Classroom	1	1,200		1,200	1,200	1	1,200	1,200
4.02	3-D Art Area	1	400		400	400	1	400	400
4.03	Storage/Workroom	1	150		150	150	1	150	150
4.04	Kin Room	1	150		150	150	1	150	150
Sub-total				1,500	400	1,900			1,900

5.0 PERFORMING ARTS									
Ref. #	Name/Function	Qty.	Each	Required	Optional	TOTAL	Qty.	Each	Required
5.01	Band / Music Room	1	2,000		2,000	2,000	1	2,000	2,000
5.02	Multi-Purpose Music Room	2	1,000		1,000	2,000	2	1,000	2,000
5.03	Performance Platform (SageMusic)	1	1,600		1,600	1,600	1	1,600	1,600
5.04	Practice Rooms	3	80		240	240	4	80	320
5.05	Music Office/Workroom/Library	1	250		250	250	1	300	300
5.06	Instrument Storage	1	250		250	250	1	250	250
5.07	Platform Control Room	1	80		80	80	1	80	80
5.08	Dressing Rooms	2	100		200	200	2	100	200
5.09	Platform Storage	1	120		120	120	1	120	120
	Platform Restroom	1	60		60	60	1	60	60
Sub-total				3,740	3,000	6,740			6,670

BrainSpaces Inc.

# qualities

Room Name:	Communications:	Built-in Technology:	Rep.
Key:			
• Included within Space	Video/Screen	Wireless Data Coverage	Digital Projector *
○ Indirect Access from within Space	Intercom: Call Switch	Sound Field Amplification	
	Intercom: Handset	Audiovisual Listening System	
	Intercom: Speaker	High Quality Sound System	
	Public Address System	Cable or Streaming Video	
	Synchronized Clock System	High Speed Media Distribution	
	Other	Technology Control Station	
		Class	

3.0 LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER									
Ref. #	Name/Function	Qty.	Each	Required	Optional	TOTAL	Qty.	Each	Required
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3.05	Media Storage Area	1	100		100	100	1	100	100
3.06	Small Group Room	1	200		200	200	2	200	400
3.07	Technology Coordinator	1	200		200	200	1	200	200
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4.03	Storage/Workroom	1	150		150	150	1	150	150
4.04	Kin Room	1	150		150	150	1	150	150

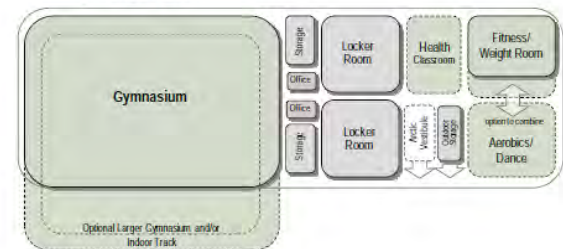
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5.01	Band / Music Room	1	2,000		2,000	2,000	1	2,000	2,000
5.02	Multi-Purpose Music Room	2	1,000		1,000	2,000	2	1,000	2,000
5.03	Performance Platform	1	1,600		1,600	1,600	1	1,600	1,600
5.04	Practice Rooms	3	80		240	240	4	80	320
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5.07	Platform Control Room	1	80		80	80	1	80	80
5.08	Dressing Rooms	2	100		200	200	2	100	200
5.09	Platform Storage	1	120		120	120	1	120	120
	Platform Restroom	1	60		60	60	1	60	60

BrainSpaces Inc.

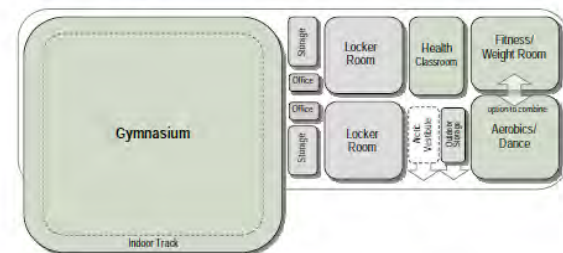
# adjacencies

## 4.3.3 Recommended Adjacencies

### 6-Team Model:



### 8-Team Model:



### NOTES:

- Refer to the overall building adjacency diagram (Section 4.3.3) for suggested locations of these program spaces within the context of the entire facility.
- \*Optional program areas are indicated with dashed perimeters.
- Diagrams are intended to illustrate fundamental relationships only. No distinction between floor levels or between existing vs. new construction is made and no floor plan is implied. Further interpretation of these relationships must be made by the design team.

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4/12/10

# what will be included?

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## Benchmarks

### CORE LEARNING:

	# Rooms	AVG. # Students	Area Per Student (+/-)	Benchmark NSF (+/-)
PK/ECE Classrooms	Varies	20	45	900
Kindergarten Classrooms	2	20	45	900
1st Grade Classrooms	3	24	35	840
Grades 2-3 Classrooms	6	24	35	840
Grades 4-5 Classrooms	6	24	35	840
FLEX Classrooms	1-2	24	35	840
Bilingual Classrooms	Varies	20	35	700

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

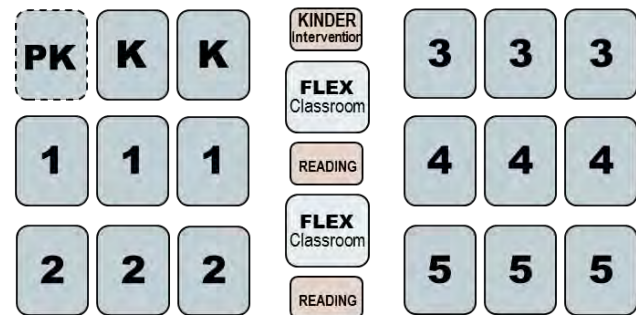
Self-Contained Classroom	Varies	8	100	800
Resource Classrooms	Varies	8	50	400
Reading Classrooms	Varies	8	50	400
Sensory/Calming Room	1	1	100	100
ELL Program	Varies	4	50	200
LEAP Classroom	1	20	40	800
Kinder Intervention	1	8	50	400

### ACTIVITY SPACES:

Art Room	1	28	50	1,400
Music Room	2	28	35	980
Computer Lab	2	28	60	1,680
Library/Media Center	1	28	60	1,680
Gymnasium	1	28	125	3,500
Cafeteria/MPR	1	150	15	2,250
Stage/Performance	1	28	40	1,120

description of exhibit:

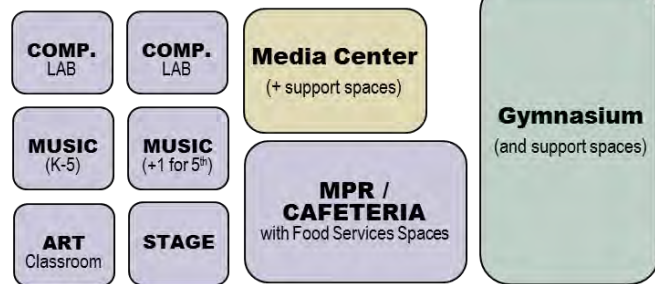
**BENCHMARKS** shown in spreadsheet format



### SPECIAL PROGRAMS (Needs Vary per School Site)



### ACTIVITY SPACES



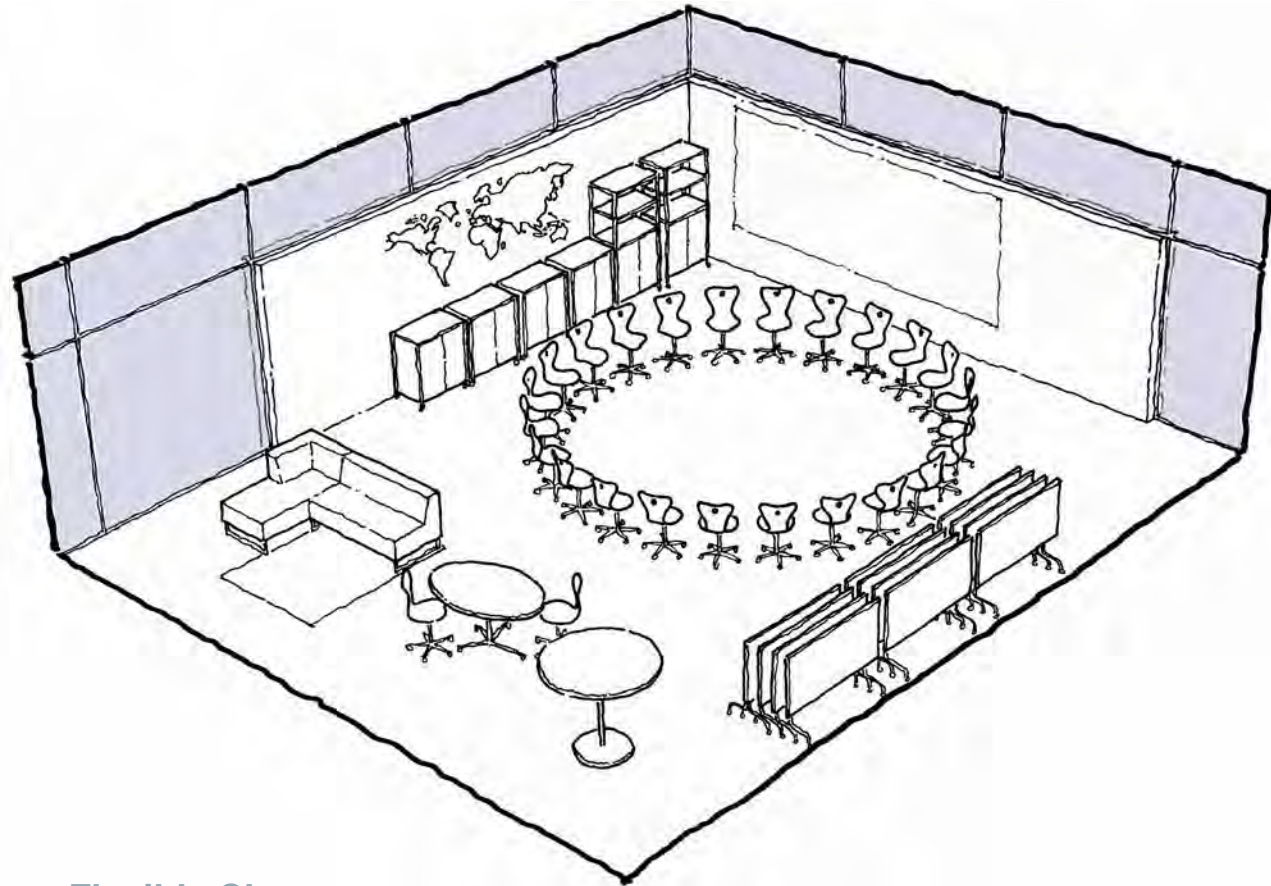
description of exhibit:

**BENCHMARKS** shown in graphic format

**EXAMPLE:**

## **A LEARNING STUDIO**

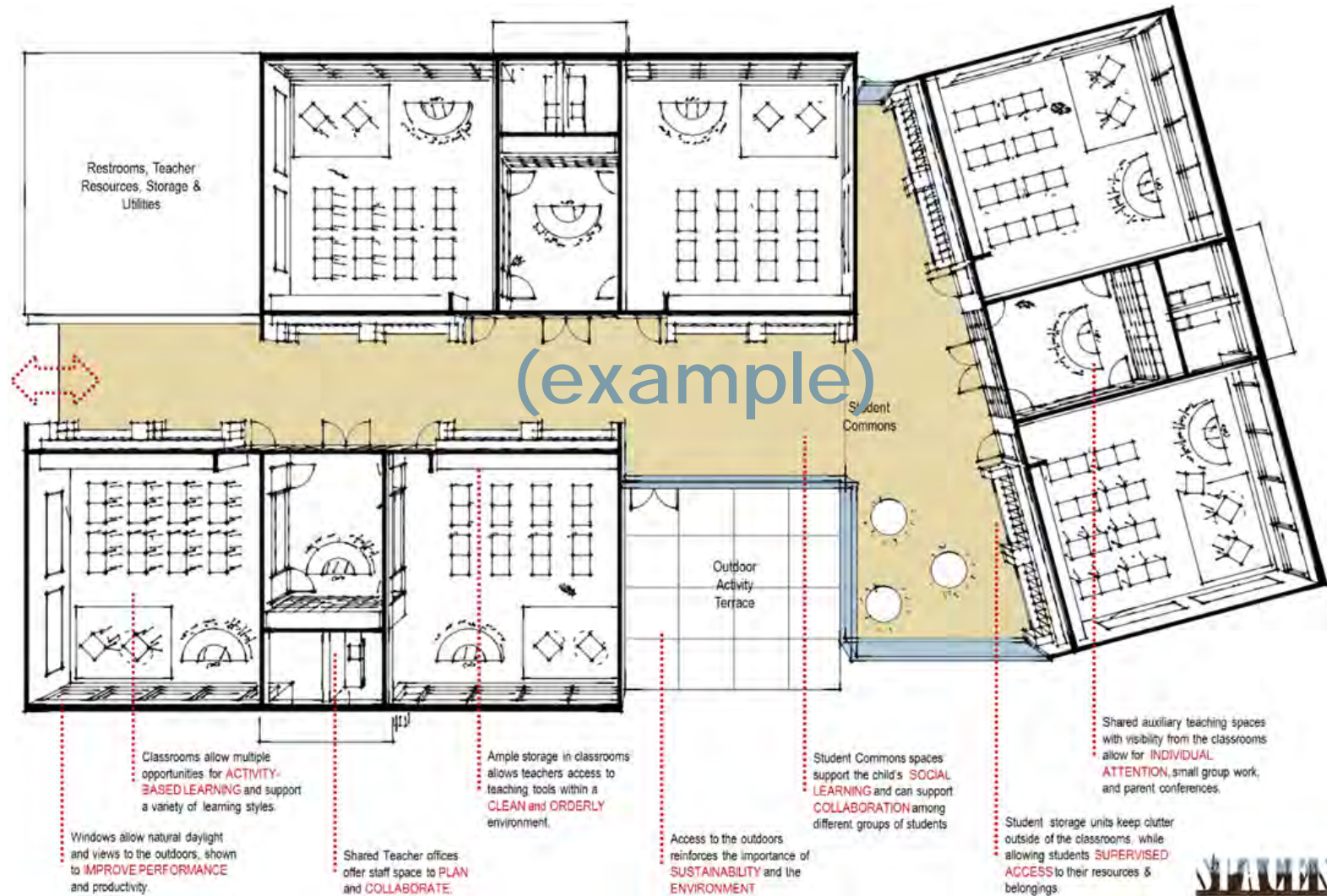
**Individual Exploration**  
**Simultaneous Activities**  
**Variously Sized Groups**  
**Projects / Teams**  
**Whole Group**  
**Differentiated Learning**



**Flexible Classroom**  
Many Possibilities  
with one furniture package



# Ed Specs will be used to develop 2 new elementary schools

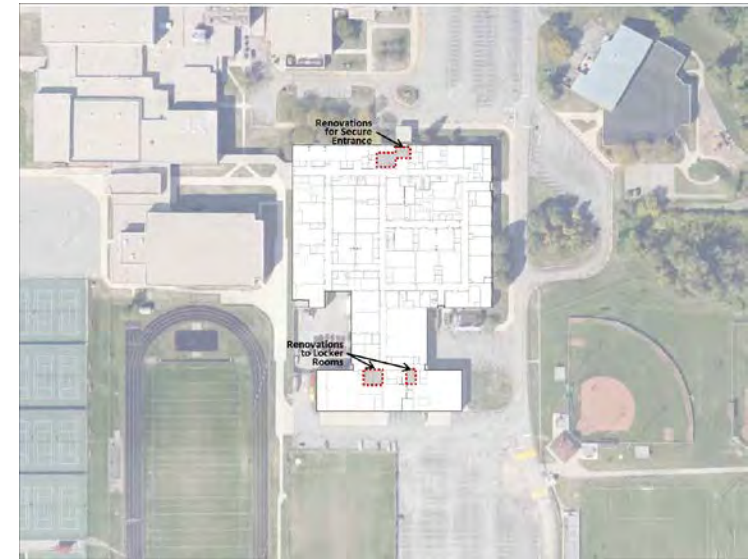
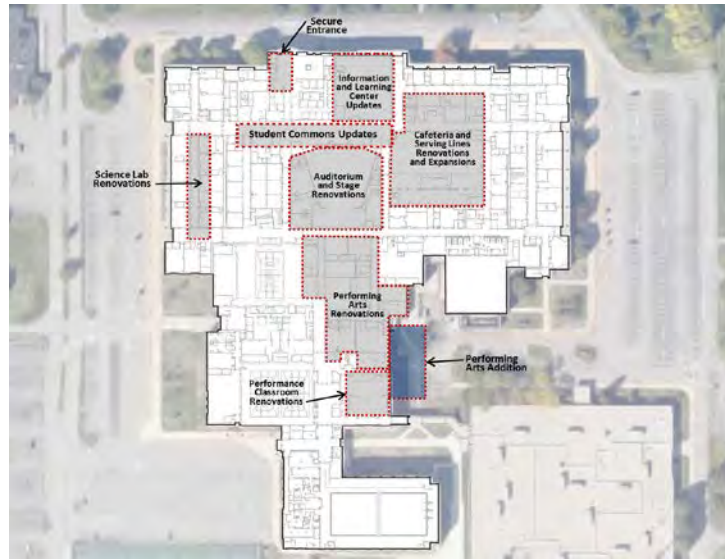


# High School "Givens"

- 9-12 school for 3,500 to 4,000 students
- spaces conducive to conversation & dialogue
- space for small group work & professional collaboration
- improved sites & traffic flow
- safety & security
- code compliance, healthy systems, technology
- **Effective Educational Environments**



Educational  
Specifications  
will  
Interpret &  
Fine-Tune Your  
"Givens" into  
Specific  
Facilities  
Benchmarks



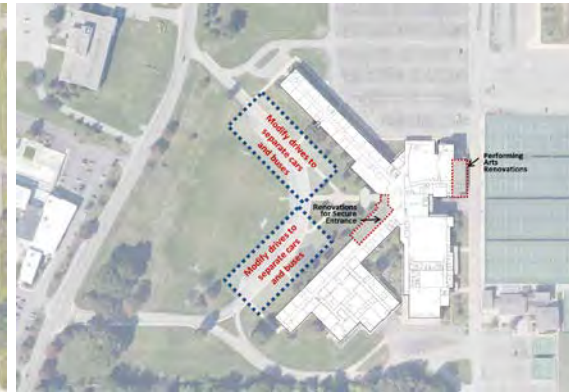


# Middle School "Givens"

- 6-8 schools for 800 to 1,050 students
- spaces conducive to conversation & dialogue
- space for small group work & professional collaboration
- improved sites & traffic flow
- safety & security
- code compliance, healthy systems, technology
- **Effective Educational Environments**



Educational  
Specifications  
will  
Interpret &  
Fine-Tune Your  
"Givens" into  
Specific  
Facilities  
Benchmarks





# Elementary School "Givens"

- K-5 schools for 650 to 725 students
- support space to meet program needs
- improved sites & traffic flow
- safety & security
- code compliance, healthy systems, technology
- **Effective Educational Environments**



Educational Specifications will Interpret & Fine-Tune Your "Givens" into Specific Facilities Benchmarks





# PLANNING <sup>for</sup> <sup>our</sup> FUTURE

## Exploring What's Possible

Metropolitan School District of Washington Township

05.02.17

1. Research in Education
2. Planning for the Future
3. Creative Examples





Apple Watch 2nd gen

# Research: Neuroscience & Education



- **ENJOYABLE ACTIVITIES**  
Enjoyable activities elicit dopamine release which enhances learning naturally and chemically, while also reducing the secretion of stress hormones which can impede learning and increase anxiety.
- **FUN + CHALLENGING**  
Effective approaches combine FUN with progressively increasing CHALLENGES.
- **EXERCISE IMPROVES LEARNING**  
Exercise, which increases pre-frontal cortex activity, is a great way to build cognitive ability. Though some worry that physical education takes time away from classrooms, studies find strong evidence that PHYSICAL ACTIVITY improves academic performance.
- **THE WHOLE CHILD**  
Programs to enhance SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL development accelerate school achievement as much as interventions targeted at academic subjects.
- A child's **INTERNAL MOTIVATION** is one of the most powerful tools for learning.



source: Sandra Aamodt (editor "Nature Neuroscience") & Sam Wang (Professor of molecular biology and neuroscience, Princeton)  
authors of "Welcome to Your Child's Brain: How the Mind Grows From Conception to College"



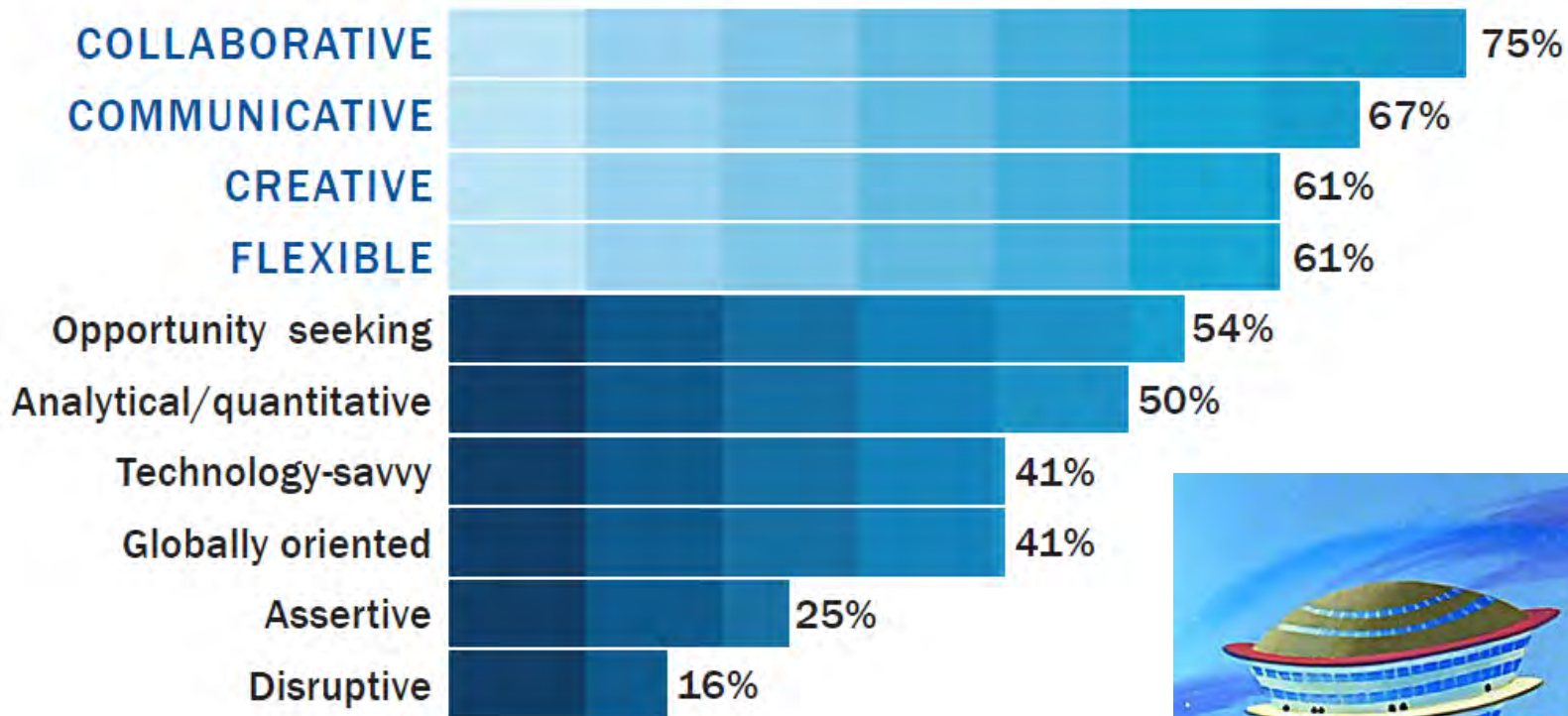


A a B b C c D d E e F f  
J j K k L l M m N n O o  
R r S s T t U u V v W w

$$\begin{array}{ll} 1 + 2 = 3 & 4 + 2 = \\ 2 + 2 = 4 & 5 + 2 = \\ 3 + 2 = 5 & \end{array}$$

## Top 4 Traits of “Future Proof”

Employees, According to 1,709 CEOs — *Forbes*





## FROM THIS NOW ADD THIS

create alone	create together
present	design
right answers	right questions
bring solutions	seek / develop solutions
perfection	mistakes allowed
introverted	extraverted
closed / think quietly	open / think out loud
appearance	authentic
information gathered	knowledge generated
memorizing	understanding

65% of the children in preschool  
today will work in jobs  
that do not yet exist.





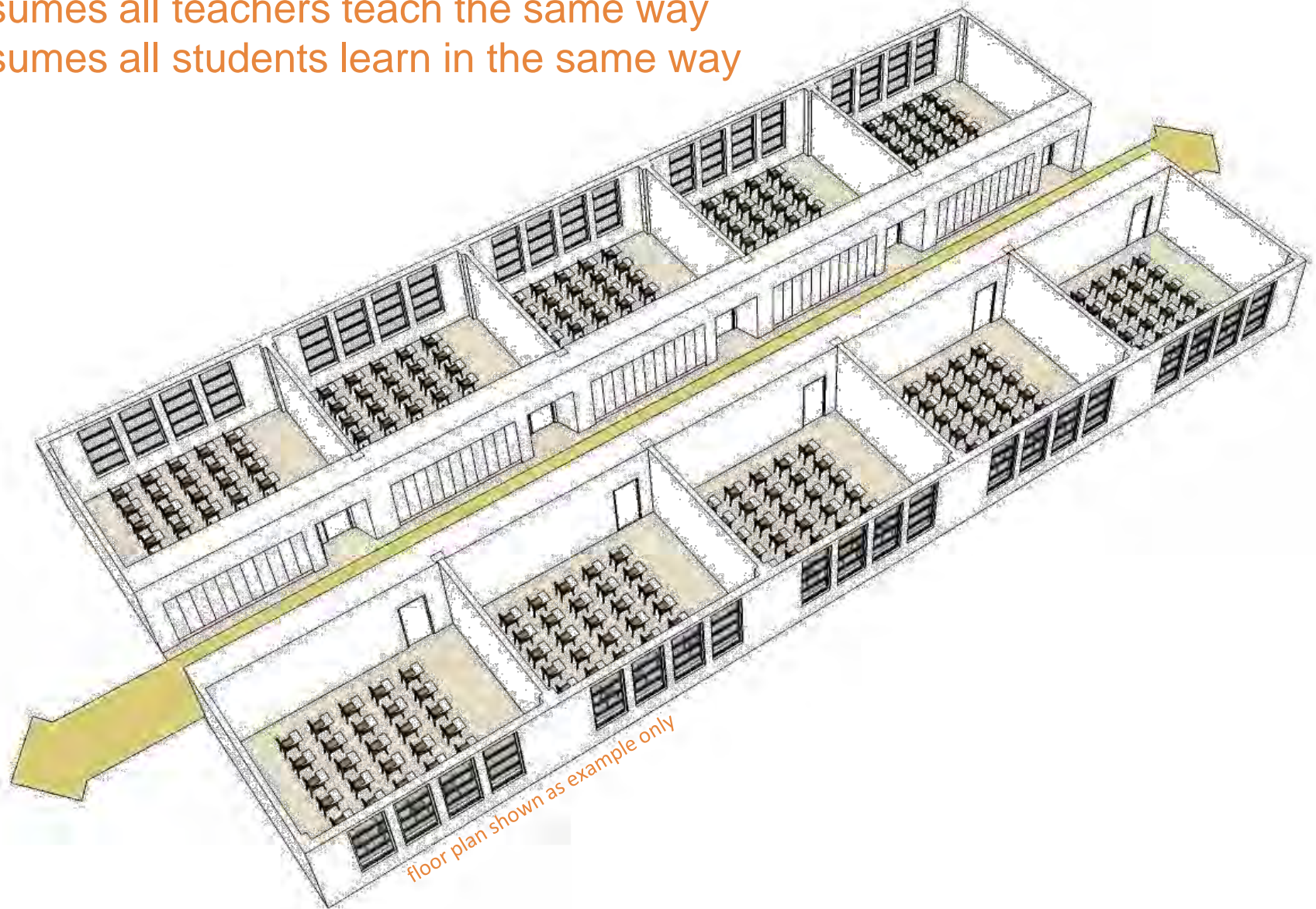
creative, engaged, focused, brilliant, independent, intelligent, collaborative, interactive, healthy...





passive, dull, uninspiring, predictable, regularized, lifeless, crowded, controlled, cold, inflexible, boring...

- assumes all teachers teach the same way
- assumes all students learn in the same way



floor plan shown as example only

- ✓ **varied selection** of learning environments available
- ✓ learning **extends** beyond the school building
- ✓ **student-centered**, students as focus
- ✓ rooms accommodate **various furniture layouts**
- ✓ **hands-on** projects are supported
- ✓ **visibility** into classrooms
- ✓ easy **access** to student support services
- ✓ **technology** considered one of many tools available
- ✓ **natural light** is critical
- ✓ learning extends **outdoors**

## Physical Characteristics: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning





*before*

*Thornebrooke Elementary School's teachers lounge boasts an institutional feel prior to its PTA-sponsored makeover by several savvy parents.*



*after*

*In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, the teachers lounge at Thornebrook Elementary School is transformed into a cozy retreat that exudes an ambience of tranquility.*



*before*



*after*

# thoughtful vs expensive











# Creative Examples



# Creative Examples





Perspectives Charter School  
Perkins+Will

# Creative Examples

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# PLANNING <sup>for</sup> <sup>our</sup> FUTURE

## How You Can Help

Metropolitan School District of Washington Township

05.02.17

1. Research in Education
2. Planning for the Future
3. Creative Examples
4. What do you think?

# A Survey of Reactions:

For each of the images shown,  
answer the following:

**1) Do you have this type of environment in your schools?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

**2) Would you like this type of environment in your schools?**

- ☐ Yes, here's what interests me:

---

- ☐ No, here's what concerns me:

---

- ☐ Not sure, it could be cool, but I worry about:

---



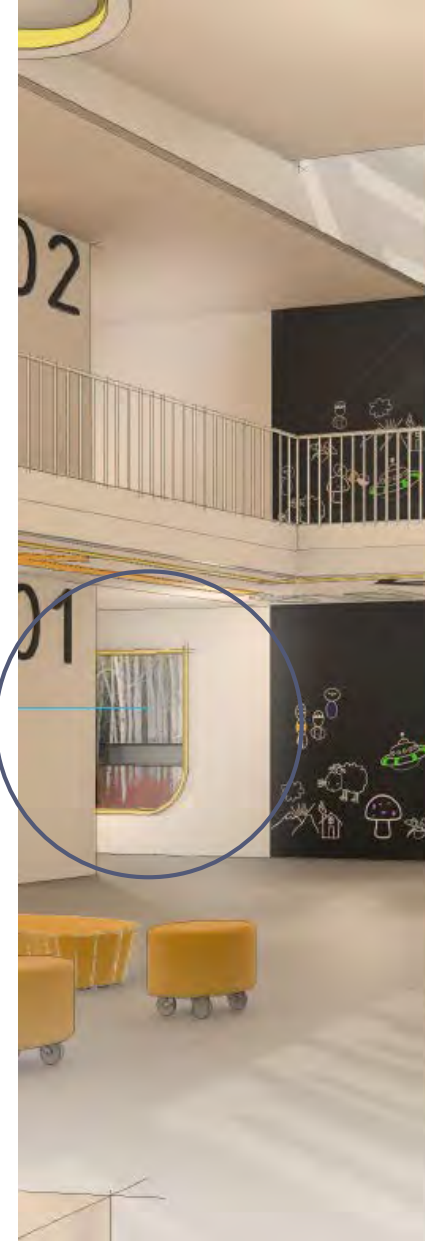
# Amy's NOTE:

I'm thinking that we select 5-10 of the following images per table group. I'll create handouts for each table to record their responses for us to collect.

We could include all images in the on-line version (possibly grouped by ES/MS/HS). This could encourage folks to complete the survey on-line after they leave the session... The on-line version will also gather some demographic info we can use to sort responses.

I would also suggest having blank "comment cards" available for people to offer additional ideas via handing in the cards.











Freeman Kennedy Elementary School  
New Elementary School | Norfolk, MA





Freeman Kennedy Elementary School  
New Elementary School | Norfolk, MA











“Learning Park”  
Soaring Heights Elementary, Joplin, MO





**STACEN** **Image #9** Multi-Function Classroom  
Metropolitan School District of Washington Township | Educational Specifications Session | 05.02.17











HIGH TECH MIDDLE SCHOOL





Milan Center for Innovative Studies  
Fanning Rowley





Hazen High School  
DLR Group





The Barrie School  
Hord Coplan Macht



Lincoln Middle School  
BrainSpaces

**Image #16**

Teacher Think Tank

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Madison Central Library  
MSR Architects

















Mat Su Career & Technical High School  
McCool Carlson Green



# Image #23

## Outdoor Connections





**Image #24** Visibility Among Spaces

**STACEN** UNITING EDUCATION & ARCHITECTURE

Metropolitan School District of Washington Township | Educational Specifications Session | 05.02.17





**STACEN** *br a i n*  
UNITING EDUCATION & ARCHITECTURE

# Image #25

## Connected Classrooms

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Westtown School Science Center  
SMP Architects







Marysville Getchell High School Campus, WA  
BrainSpaces, DLR Group & Architects of Achievement



- **Staff & Student Focus Groups**  
discussions of specific spaces needed for teaching & learning
- **Space Benchmarks**  
translation of needs into spatial parameters
- **Conceptual Planning for Elementary Schools**  
Conceptual site and building design
- **On-going Communications**  
The District is committed to a transparent process, stay tuned!