Leicester Middle School
Educational Visioning Workshop Overview and Notes

During January and February of 2019, the Leicester Middle School Educational Working Group (EWG), a group of approximately 40 Leicester Public Schools (LPS) administrative leaders, Middle and elementary school teachers, parents, and community partners, participated in three Educational Visioning Workshops run by New Vista Design and Finegold Alexander Architects. Each workshop was a collaborative session designed to inform the Leicester Middle or K-8 School design process. Participants were led through a step-by-step visioning process aimed at capturing their best thinking about Leicester Public School's current and future educational goals and priorities, and connecting them to best practices and possibilities in innovative school facility design.

On **January 29, 2019**, the Leicester Public Schools EWG participated in Educational Visioning Workshop One. The four-hour workshop explored the following topics:

- **Priority Goals** for the renovated and/or new middle school or K-8 facility
- **21st century teaching and learning practices** as connected to Leicester Public Schools' present and future educational vision
- **Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals (SCOG Analysis)** associated with Leicester Public Schools' current academic programs as well as the vision for its renovated and/or new facility
- **21st Century Learning Goals** that distill the group's best thinking with regard to Leicester Public Schools' current and future educational programming and priorities

On **February 5, 2019** the Leicester Public Schools EWG participated in Educational Visioning Workshop Two. The four-hour workshop explored the following topics:

- **21st Century Design Patterns 1.0** that innovative schools throughout the country have put into practice in order to make their forward-thinking learning goals come alive on the level of facility design
- **Guiding Principles 1.0** for design of the renovated and/or new middle school or K-8 facility

On **February 26, 2019** the Leicester Public Schools EWG participated in Educational Visioning Workshop Three. The four-hour workshop explored the following topics:

- **Blue Sky Ideas** for the renovated and/or new middle school or K-8 facility
- **Key Spaces and Adjacencies** for the renovated and/or new middle school or K-8 facility
- **Bubble and Adjacency Diagramming** for the renovated and/or new middle school or K-8 facility

Additionally, some members of the EWG participated in **tours of two MSBA school projects** that took place on February 14, 2019. The first tour was to the Hunking K-8 School in Haverhill, MA, and the second tour was to the Beverly Middle School in Beverly, MA.

The following pages offer a summary of notes taken and information gathered during each workshop. If you have questions, or would like to add comments or ideas to this evolving narrative please contact Superintendent Marilyn Tencza at tenczam@lpsma.net

Agendas for each of the three workshops as well as list of workshop participants can be found at the end of this document.

Priorities and Considerations

The following list of priorities and considerations for the design of the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle or K-8 School was created during the Educational Working Group's (EWG's) Visioning Workshop One that took place on January 29, 2019. The EWG is a group of approximately 40 participants that includes Leicester Public Schools (LPS) leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners.

Innovation and Engagement
- Space that fits into our K-12 climate and curriculum
- Environment of continuous innovation
- Self-guided learning
- Student engagement
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Having space for authentic PBL (project-based learning) and Maker/STEAM

Shared Culture
- A K-8 with each grade level customized
- Efficient K-8 under one roof to foster community integration
- Two schools under one roof with separate middle and elementary school identities
- Vertical alignment of PLC's (Professional Learning Communities)
- A place everyone wants to go to

Community Access
- Community use of the building
- Incorporate traditions of community
- Restrooms accessible to public when school is closed
- K-8 building can be used by community – Library, Gym, Meeting spaces
- Community access to the gym – the high school gym won't be enough
- Varied zones within the gym

Agile Classrooms
- Good classroom adjacencies to facilitate less travel time for students
- Classrooms to support non-traditional seating
- Well-equipped for great technology with multiple white boards
- Storage in classrooms or nearby
- Flexible breakout spaces within the classrooms and nearby
- Adaptability

Outdoor Spaces & Connections
- More access to outside and nature
- Good siting of building to allow for indoor and outdoor connections
- Outdoor spaces that build a sense of community
- Varied outdoor spaces for different age groups
- Age appropriate and accessible playgrounds
- Access to outdoor classroom space
- Better soccer field – the middle school should have its own field
- Safe outdoor play

Sustainability
- Environmentally friendly and sustainable
- Building as teacher

Priorities and Considerations Continued

Safety and Security
- Building safety – check-in area
- Safe and welcoming entry

Parking & Drop-off
- Big enough parking lot
- Separate drop-off/pick-up for parents and busses

Robust Technology
- Technology access – easy throughout

Ease of Access
- Health office space for medically fragile kids

Flexible and Collaborative Spaces
- Reconfigurable building
- Large rooms rather than small spaces
- K-8 building that increases collaboration and is set up for true teaming
- Enough space for collaboration, meetings, music
- Effective breakout spaces for small group work
- Efficient use of space with good flow and adjacencies
- A gathering space

Ease of Use and Maintenance
- An efficient building that is easy to care for
- Easy and safe access and wayfinding
- Reasonable cost without sacrificing quality

Building Display
- Space to show off culture of school
- Ways to display student work

Performing Arts
- Large enough auditorium to support the district's commitment to the arts
- Performance and rehearsal space

Sufficient Resources
- New books
- Adequate resources and space for SEL (social emotional learning) needs
- Materials that are easily maintained for long periods of time

Future Ready Learning Goals 1.0

The following set of priority "Future Ready Learning Goals 1.0" for Leicester Public Schools students was developed by the Educational Working Group (EWG) during Workshop One. Eight teams of five participants worked to create their own set of learning goals, after which each team presented to the larger group. Individual participants were then given the opportunity to prioritize their top six learning goals. Each team's list was then grouped by like goals, with each Learning Goal receiving 5 votes for appearing on an original list, and one additional point for each priority vote it received. This list of Future Ready Learning Goals 1.0 may evolve into further iterations.

1. **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
   o Prioritizing, Planning and Managing for Results
   o Critical Thinking
   o Empirical Reasoning
   o Disciplined Mind
   o Assessing and Analyzing Information
   o Quantitative and Qualitative Reasoning
   o Mastery of Core Academic Content

2. **Caring, Empathy and Humility**
   o Service and Compassion
   o Digital, Social and Civic Competencies
   o Multi-Generational Community Engagement
   o Cultural Awareness
   o Integrity and Ethical Decision Making
   o Citizenship and Ethics

3. **Adaptability, Initiative and Risk Taking**
   o Curiosity and Imagination
   o Learning Through Failure
   o Confidence
   o Inventive Thinking
   o The Having of Wonderful Ideas
   o Joy

4. **Growth Mindset**
   o Learning to Learn
   o Self-Directed Learning
   o Asking Good Questions

5. **Effective Communication**
   o Complex, Oral and Written
   o Digital Age Literacy

6. **Effective Use of Real-World Tools**
   o High Productivity
   o Expeditionary Learning
   o Career and College Prep
   o Learning to Know, Do, Be and Live Together

7. **Leadership and Teamwork**
   o Collaboration, Leadership and Competition
   o Teaming and Collaboration
   o Interpersonal Skills

SCOG Analysis

The following list of Strengths, Challenges and Opportunities & Goals with regard to Leicester Public Schools educational programming and facilities, was brainstormed during the Educational Working Group's (EWG's) Visioning Workshop One that took place on January 29, 2019. The EWG is a group of approximately 40 participants that includes Leicester Public Schools (LPS) leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners. This SCOG Analysis provides a snapshot of how the district sees itself at the present moment, and how it views the opportunities brought about through the possibility of its renovated and/or new school facility.

STRENGTHS

- Strong school system
- Safe and secure environment
- Multi-generational history
- Inclusivity
- Greatest kids in the world
- Strong relationships
- Generosity of staff and families
- Excellent teachers, faculty and staff
- Introspective staff
- Needs of students drive all designs
- Supportive Superintendent
- Administrative flexibility (scheduling of special programs)
- Communication to parents
- Extracurricular opportunities offer something for everyone
- Renewed focus on the Arts
- Focus on STEM/PLTW (Project Lead the Way) programming
- IEP (Individualized Education Plan) programming
- Specialized reading and math support
- School location is close to fields
- Placement in/proximity to town
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) works
- Big picture thinking about the future
- Community outreach (service, communication, peer leadership)
- Resourcefulness

CHALLENGES

- Smaller class sizes for lower grades
- Very limited resources/money
- Need more staff
- Increase in students with social emotional issues – need staff, space, program
- Have an increasingly transient population, and students with increasing levels of need – we need to meet them where they are at
- Declining enrollment – need to make the town more attractive to families
- Lack of knowledge about what goes on, what we have, and what's missing
- Panic about where education is going
- Getting the word out and educating the community about the many good things going on within the school system
- Hard to collaborate professionally since we are not on one campus
- Physical buildings don't support needs (systems, equipment, elevators, etc.)
- Maintain what we have (give power to custodians)
- The middle school facility was designed as a high school building
- Being a multigenerational community can be a challenge
- Social media can be detrimental
- Websites could be more helpful about events

SCOG Analysis Continued

OPPORTUNITIES & GOALS

1. See growth mindset throughout the district
2. Focus on solutions and possibilities versus limitations
3. Use this project as a catalyst for new growth in town
4. Ensure savings in facilities costs
5. Creating one campus to bring community together
6. Make extensive improvements to the fields
7. Provide more classrooms and services to keep special education in-district (staffing too)
8. Provide schools and classrooms that are fully handicapped accessible
9. Design a green and sustainable building
10. Rebrand the district and highlight its many strengths
11. Find ways to share all the great things going on at the K-12 level and market them to town
12. Broaden the spectrum of community that is involved with the school system
13. Improve communication to counteract disinformation and fear
14. Bring more money into before- and after-school programming
15. Enhance professional development and education of our teachers
16. Streamline staff, provide opportunities for collaboration and improve vertical and horizontal programmatic alignment

Desired 21st Century Design Patterns 2.0

The following set of priority "21st Century Design Patterns" for the design of the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle or K-8 School was developed by the Educational Working Group (EWG) during Workshop Two and further refined during Workshop Three. The EWG is a group of approximately 40 participants that includes Leicester Public Schools leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, parents and community partners. Eight teams of five participants worked to create their own set of priority Design Patterns, after which each team presented to the larger group. Each team's list was then grouped by like goals, with each Learning Goal receiving 5 votes for every time it appeared on a small group's list. This list of Design Patterns 1.0 was then reviewed and revised during Workshop Two to create version 2.0.

Breakout Areas

- Flex Spaces Connected to Classrooms
- Hallway Learning
- Extended Learning Spaces
- For Students and Adults
- Anywhere, Anytime Learning
- Ubiquitous Learning
- Balance Between Collaboration and Quiet Spaces
- Differentiated Based on Ages and Needs of Students

Multi-Purpose Space

- Cafetorium
- Combined Gym and Cafeteria (near Media Center)
- Expandable Cluster: "Cafetoriumnasium"
- Gymnatorium as Opposed to Cafetorium

Safety, Security and Welcome

- Greeting and Gatekeeping
- Double Vestibule
- Welcoming Entry

Outdoor Connections

- Outdoor Classroom Space
- Engaged Outdoor Play and Learning
- Outdoor Spaces
- Outdoor Garden

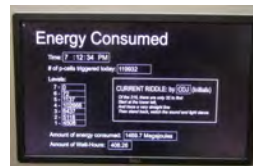# Desired 21st Century Design Patterns 1.0 Continued

Flexible and Agile Classrooms

- High Performance Classrooms
- Classroom Zones
- One Entire Magnetic Whiteboard Wall

Sustainability

- Net Zero Building
- Environmentally Friendly
- High Quality and Durable Materials
- Building as Teacher

Media Space as Learning Hub

- Attached to STEAM
- Media Space as Gathering Hub
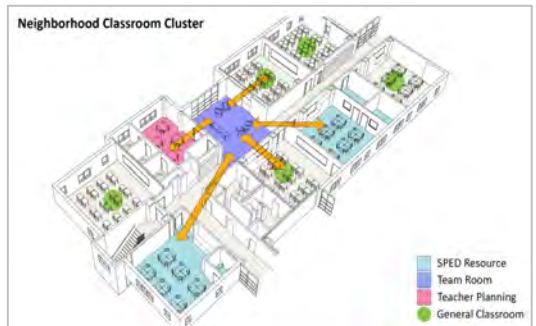- Mini Libraries

Community Access

- Public and Private Zones

Display and Exhibition

- History and Storytelling

Clusters of Learning

- Classroom Neighborhoods
- Large Flexible Walls/Doors

Quiet Spaces (20 votes)

- Nooks and Caves

Push In Special Education

- Within Neighborhood Cluster

Distributed Dining

- Quiet Dining Spaces
- Distributed Zones
- Cyber Dining
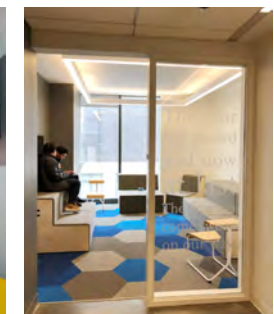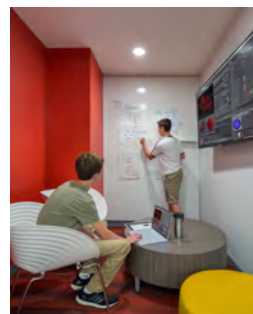
Branding and Identity (10 votes)

- Color Schemes

Neighborhood Classroom Cluster

Desired 21st Century Design Patterns 2.0 Continued

Flexible Furniture

Distributed Resources
- Informal Supervision
- Hallway Learning

Visible Learning and Transparency
- Controlled Transparency

Maker Spaces and FAB Lab

Natural Light
- Light Shelf
- Balanced with Ease of Climate Control

Timeless Look
- Curb Appeal

Professional Work Areas

Project Commons

Multiple Gym Spaces

Guiding Principles 2.0

The following set of priority "Guiding Principles" for the design of the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle or K-8 School was developed by the Educational Working Group (EWG) during Workshop Two and further refined during Workshop Three. The EWG is a group of approximately 40 participants that includes Leicester Public Schools leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, parents and community partners. Eight teams of five participants worked to create their own set of priority Guiding Principles, after which each team presented to the larger group. Each team's list was then grouped by like principles, with each Guiding Principle receiving 5 votes for every time it appeared on a small group's list.

Guiding Design Principles offer a framework of educational priorities that prove invaluable in helping stakeholders and design team members to set design goals and focus their work. This first iteration of Guiding Principles may continue to develop as the design process unfolds.

1. ## Innovation and Engagement
   - STEAM
   - Real World Innovation
   - Life-Long Learning
   - Independent Learning
   - Inquiry-Based Instruction
   - Arts Integration

2. ## Collaboration and Cooperation
   - Learning Communities
   - Two Schools Under One Roof
   - Neighborhood Clusters
   - School as Community
   - Transparency and Visibility
   - Visible Learning

3. ## A Place You Want to Be
   - Warm, Safe and Inviting
   - Personalization and Identity
   - School Grade Identity / Wings
   - Create a Heart
   - Joy

4. ## Community Access
   - Community School
   - School as Community Resource
   - Community Access to Outdoor Fields, Bathroom, and Playgrounds

5. ## Adaptability and Flexibility
   - Future-Proof
   - Multi-Functional Spaces
   - Flexible Learning Spaces
   - Not Trendy

6. ## Outdoor and Nature Connections
   - Extended Learning
   - Outdoor Classrooms
   - Age Appropriate Playgrounds

7. ## Sustainability
   - Building as Teacher
   - Sustainable Practices
   - Durable Materials
   - Ease of Maintenance
   - Energy and Operational Efficiency

Opportunities and Goals 2.0

The following list of Opportunities & Goals 2.0 with regard to Leicester Public School's educational programming and facilities were originally brainstormed during the Educational Working Group's (EWG's) Visioning Workshop One, and then added to and edited during Visioning Workshop Two. This listing provides a snapshot of what the district sees the key opportunities and goals that can be addressed through the design of a renovated and/or new school facility.

SCHOOL RELATED GOALS

1. Create a school that can support the many innovative initiatives already going on within the district.
2. Design a school that is very adaptable to changes in educational delivery, culture and technology. Flexible, but not generic or trendy.
3. Create one campus to bring community together and support district-wide and cross-grade events.
4. Provide more classrooms and services to keep special education in-district (staffing too), as well as support enrichment programming.
5. Provide schools and classrooms that are fully handicapped accessible.
6. Better utilize outdoor space, including outdoor play, fields and walking paths.
7. Design a green and sustainable building.
8. More efficient design of space to support and enhance after-school programming.
9. Enhance professional development and education of our teachers.
10. Maximize use of staff, provide opportunities for collaboration and improve vertical and horizontal programmatic alignment.

COMMUNITY RELATED GOALS

11. Use this project as a catalyst for new growth in town.
12. Reenergize the district and highlight its many strengths.
13. Strengthen "growth mindset" throughout the district.
14. Focus on solutions and possibilities versus limitations.
15. Find ways to share all the great things going on at the K-12 level and market them to town.
16. Ensure savings in facilities costs.
17. Reimagine a district that more residents want to be part of.
18. Broaden the spectrum of community that is involved with the school system.
19. Improve communication to spotlight and emphasize the many good things that are happening within the district.
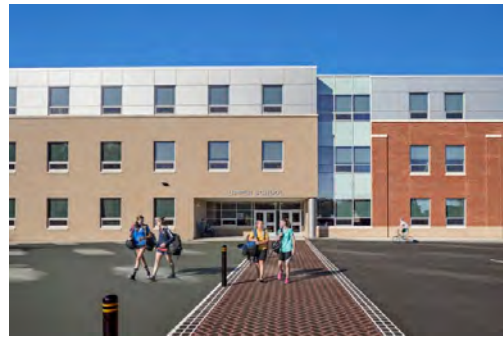
Hunking K-8 School Tour Debrief

The following Plusses and Deltas for the Hunking K-8 School tour that took place on February 14, 2019 were brainstormed during Workshop Three.

Plusses

- This school appeared to get "more bang for the buck" than the Beverly Middle school
- A good-looking building
- The internal and external security system (exterior entry booth with cameras)
- Security guard at entry vestibule sees all corners
- Grated floor at entry
- Inviting water features
- The entryway told a story
- Layout with central corridor, wide hallways and lower and upper school wings with separate entries
- Work on display
- The cafeteria was connected to the gym with a movable wall
- Durable carpeting in the administrative offices
- Toilets with "gang" entries
- Wall-based interactive projectors in classrooms
- Utilization of corners in classrooms for bulletin boards

Deltas

- Materials in the hallway did not appear to be durable
- The railways in the stairways needed repainting already
- Wasted space in hallways
- Bookcases in the library were too deep
- The size of the Gym was too small to accommodate two classes

JCJ Architects with New Vista Design

Beverly Middle School Tour Debrief

The following Plusses and Deltas for the Beverly Middle School tour that took place on February 14, 2019 were brainstormed during Workshop Three.

Plusses

- Terrazzo floors throughout
- Ceramic wainscoting
- Natural wood tones and finishes
- Lockers built for kids (stacked locker/cubbies)
- Some lockers on wheels
- Makerspaces
- Visibility and transparency from classrooms to hallways
- 2 basketball courts in Gym
- Auditorium that opens to Band Room
- Lots of storage
- Added turf fields that community uses
- Didn't have dropped ceilings in key spaces

Deltas

- Didn't feel or look enough like a school
- Beautiful but not child-scaled in public areas
- Not enough parking
- Appeared to lack infrastructure for technology changes
- Too much glass in certain areas (hard to clean)
- Grates in Makerspaces
- Cafeteria ran entire length of building
- The Servery was at far end of Cafeteria/Commons
- Corners near the bubblers appear hard to keep clean
- Not enough water bottle filling stations

Ai3 Architects with New Vista Design

Blue Sky Ideas

The following "Blue Sky" ideas for the design of the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle or K-8 School were recorded during Workshop Three. Individual participants wrote about their own Blue-Sky Ideas and then shared them with the larger group. Ideas have been grouped together by like-themes.

Blue Sky Ideas, though sometime not feasible due to budget or design constraints, often hold the seeds of aspirational ideas and design approaches that can be implemented on some level within the design.

Safety and Security
- Security entrance first before entrance into main building
  - Someone stationed there running a security check on each person entering
  - Secure but with visibility / double vestibule
- Visitor would then receive a badge giving permission for them to be in the school
- Cameras

Design
- "Right of passage" between Elementary and Middle school – would be preferable to have stacked floors and a "moving up," but if going with wings, an obvious visual change to make that "right of passage" special, like a central corridor or hub
- Mathematical proofs and theories, geometry built into the architecture and design elements and proportions that are relevant to the community and reflect nature that is progressively complex
- Quality Construction – durable, ease of operation/care, and efficient - spatially as well as energy usage
- Building layout should flow - ease of access and finding way around
- Design community use spaces that can be condoned off from classroom space when used
- Teachable building - both systems and structure

Warm and Welcoming Entry
- A welcome desk
- Tie in a history
  - "Traditions" are important"
  - Leicester has deep history and culture (maybe reach out to historical society or Joe Lennerton)
  - Second great revolution, the coming of industrialization
  - Leicester paper mills were famous
- Community Feel
  - Warm welcoming entrance to school that says "Welcome to Leicester" and "Welcome to our home"
  - This front area would have work of the students displayed in many ways
  - Artwork would be hung, a monitor would be playing music, showing drama or other performances put on by the students
  - Area for any awards given to teachers/admin in the building
  - This area would welcome people in and make them want to return; students, teachers and parents alike
  - There would be a message box available for suggestions, praise and messages to be passed along

Blue Sky Ideas Continued

Ease of Community Use
- Gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria, bathrooms, and other spaces available to the community all grouped together so that access both during and after school hours is easy and organized
- Bathrooms and access to gym and auditorium - in school or near fields
- Parking - Community, fields vs. staff

Classroom Neighborhoods
- Neighborhood clusters with a central common space (in lower grades) for example
- With places to display grade level student work
- 4 classrooms off a central room
- In 3rd grade that room might be used for bridge construction, artwork display.
- In Kindergarten it might be used as a gross motor "break" space to expend energy. See diagram below.
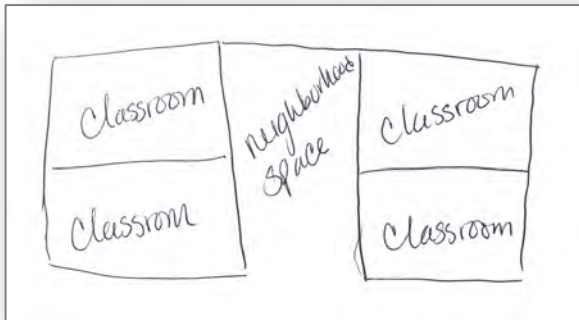
Agile Classrooms
- Technology rich
  o Multiple electric sockets - outlets in the floor/wall
  o Projector Television
- Storage: built in areas that do not take up learning space
- Bathroom in classroom area (avoid bathroom passes and work avoidance)
- Sink - lab area for science
- Flexible furniture/tables, chairs (light and easily movable) - can be adopted for different learning environment
- Desks wedge shaped to facilitate grouping/ungrouping
- Flooring under furniture designed for movement
- Rows for testing
- Utilize entire classroom space

- Space that allows the teacher to move quickly from "traditional" teaching to student-centered learning
- Spaces within the classroom for mind breaks and also for push-in teachers to work
- Spaces for reflection, assessment, innovation
- Teacher space where they aren't the "sage on the stage"
- Separate desks/chairs
- All walls made to hang things and great for displaying student work
- Large windows - thick ledges for sitting
- Transparency to hallway/flexible
- Lots of whiteboard space
- Color schemed by cluster/grade - furniture/floor/walls
- Flex spaces
- Large space for cooperative learning - Small group discussion/partners
  o Home multiple small group spaces (station work)
- "Small group"/push in areas to allow for differentiation with minimal separation from classroom

Breakout and Support Space
- For RTF or Sped Support
- For kids who need privacy or quiet enclosed space that are sectioned off of the classroom
- Hallway learning - with glass to observe kids

Flexible Furniture
- Furniture on wheels - easy to slide to create different collaboration dynamics
- Tables that move from pairs, groups, singles, etc.
- Different furniture choices within a classroom to accommodate student needs (standing desks, ball chairs, etc.)

Outdoor Spaces and Connections
- Outdoor spaces that are easily maintainable
- Connection to outdoors and nature
- Outdoor gardens and pond(s) (waterfall would be cool)
- Quiet natural areas where they can interact with nature
- Paths to walk and explore
- Outdoor bathroom

Blue Sky Ideas Continued

- Outdoor connectivity
  - Cafe partially outside
  - Patio
  - Breakout classroom space/courtyard
- Outdoor classroom area
  - Tables, chairs, seating area
  - A place where all types of learning could take place from experiments, to reading, writing, art, etc.
  - Area where there is an intimate performance space where students can do small plays, award ceremonies, or gatherings (maybe the community could rent out this space to use)

Gymatorium

- A break off room that can be used as a fitness/workout room
  - This could help with scheduling 2/3 classes at once
- Maybe for community off hours
- Big gymnasium that can be split into separate, smaller courts and sections
- Space large enough to hold the whole student body to give kids a chance to be a true community, to celebrate each other, and to be informed, entertained, or anything in between
- Large enough to accommodate two PE classes, school plays, musical performances, as well as available for after school (town recreation activities and adult activities (basketball / volleyball)
- Some glass for natural light
- Space for equipment and supplies
- Space for band equipment and practice
- Acoustically sound for music
- A P.A. system that is fit for a larger area
- Walls with banners of athletic and musical achievement
- Easy access and availability
- Easy to keep clean
- Great built in sound system and tech system to hold movie nights/community functions
- See diagram to the right

Age Appropriate Playgrounds

- Close to fields for sibling play
- Near elementary wing
- Away from traffic
- Age specific play
- Separate parking for community

Athletics

- Sports fields - dedicated fields for specific sports as well as community fields (2)
- Turf field, multiple purposes
- Track, football in middle
- Walking areas and paths
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Soccer
- Tennis
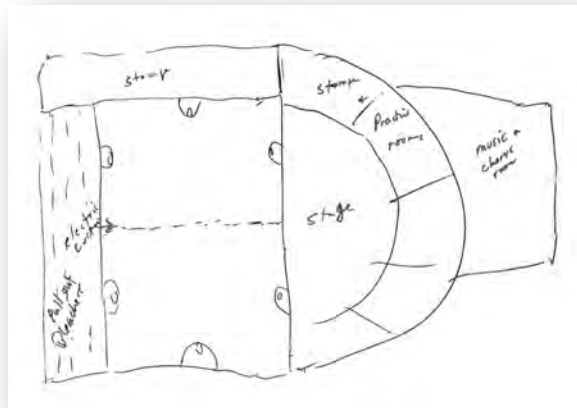
Media Center & Library

- Central to the building and near the front entrance
- During the day it is a beehive of activity where students can use it throughout the day
- Flexible space - small/large group, individual (cozy corner), maker space, presentation space
- Space that students, teachers and the community love
- Comfortable furniture
- Hub of all learning and generally located with gym
- Lots of great lighting and flexible technology
- Has an interior wall of glass that opens to the main corridor
- Exterior wall has glass with sun shades to prevent glare throughout the day
- Display areas
- Door leads to reading garden with outdoor seating that is beautifully landscaped and calming (maybe a water feature?)

Blue Sky Ideas Continued

- Outdoor access to classrooms, theatre, garden areas, play area, reading area, water area (pond)
- Different clusters throughout the space so students can gravitate to type of space that feels more comfortable to them
- From that center you would have band/chorus access, cafeteria access and lockdown academic wings
- Adjacent access to STEM and ART
- Auditorium to have/build Leicester Community Center
- Lots of resources - technology, books, building materials, machines, 3-D printer, sewing machines, robotics
- In the evening it is used for community meetings and special events

Maker Space
- Flexible
- Transparent
- Open at time for public use

Art Room
- Lots of natural light
- Open to outdoor space
- Lots of storage
- Kiln/pottery
- Model making/plaster
- Sculpture
- Still life set-ups
- Photography
- Black room
- School newspaper photos/editorials
- Light box
- Graphic design
- Auto Cad /ArchiCad, etc.

Occupational Therapy Room
- Open space
  - Sectioned off work areas
  - Table space (traditional and high top)
  - Large bathroom stall for teacher, students
  - Clean-up / sink space
- Seating such as stools along walls, yoga balls, wiggle seats, and rocking chairs
- Storage – cabinets and high shelves
- Equipment - swing(s), mats, cushions, trampoline, sensory/sand/water table

Health Office Suite
- Grades 5-8 Design
  - Friendly
  - Centrally located
  - Natural light
  - Accessible
  - Bathroom
  - Separate/private treatment space with sink/plumbing
  - Storage
- K-8 Design
  - Centrally located
  - Two large separate spaces but connected
  - Nursing staff can flow between as needed
  - Two spaces designed uniquely to developmental age and needs
  - Natural light
  - Accessible
  - Friendly/welcoming
  - two bathrooms (1 each side)
  - Treatment rooms (1+ each side)
  - Separate and private sinks
  - Storage
  - Space to support 2+ nurses
  - Tables opposed to desks for more collaborative work

HVAC and Technology Systems
- Keep it simple - balance building technology (boilers, HVAC, sound system, etc.) with understanding of who will run and maintain it

Central Power Plant
- Central power plant (crazy) (steam/hot water, cooling, electricity) - produce for schools and town
  - Chillers
  - Boilers
  - Gas fired turbine (heat/electricity)
  - Waste water treatment
  - Battery storage
  - "Great opportunity to have a building to teach engineering and energy savings concepts"

Becker College Collaboration
- Gaming program
- Classes and classrooms
- Fields

Blue Sky Ideas Continued

Specialist Spaces

- Occupational, physical therapists, speech and language
- Special education - substantially separate classrooms with "small group" and meeting areas
- Why?
  - Often these specialists end up in "left over" corner spaces/storage areas
  - Sending message that meeting these student's needs is "low priority"
  - Planning collaborative, strategic use of space helps promote collaborative, strategic sharing of resources, consulting with colleagues, integrating students into school community

- Spaces should have:
  - White boards
  - Billboards
  - Sinks - hand washing
  - Hands-on activity
  - Clean-up
  - Adequate storage for materials
  - Seating and movement space (especially OT, P.T.)
  - Location reasonably proximal to "center" of school
  - Mirrors for speech - O.T. / PT for student demo, awareness
  - Quiet spaces for testing
  - Conference rooms - flexible use for TEAM and committee meetings

Blue Sky Technology Support Office Diagram
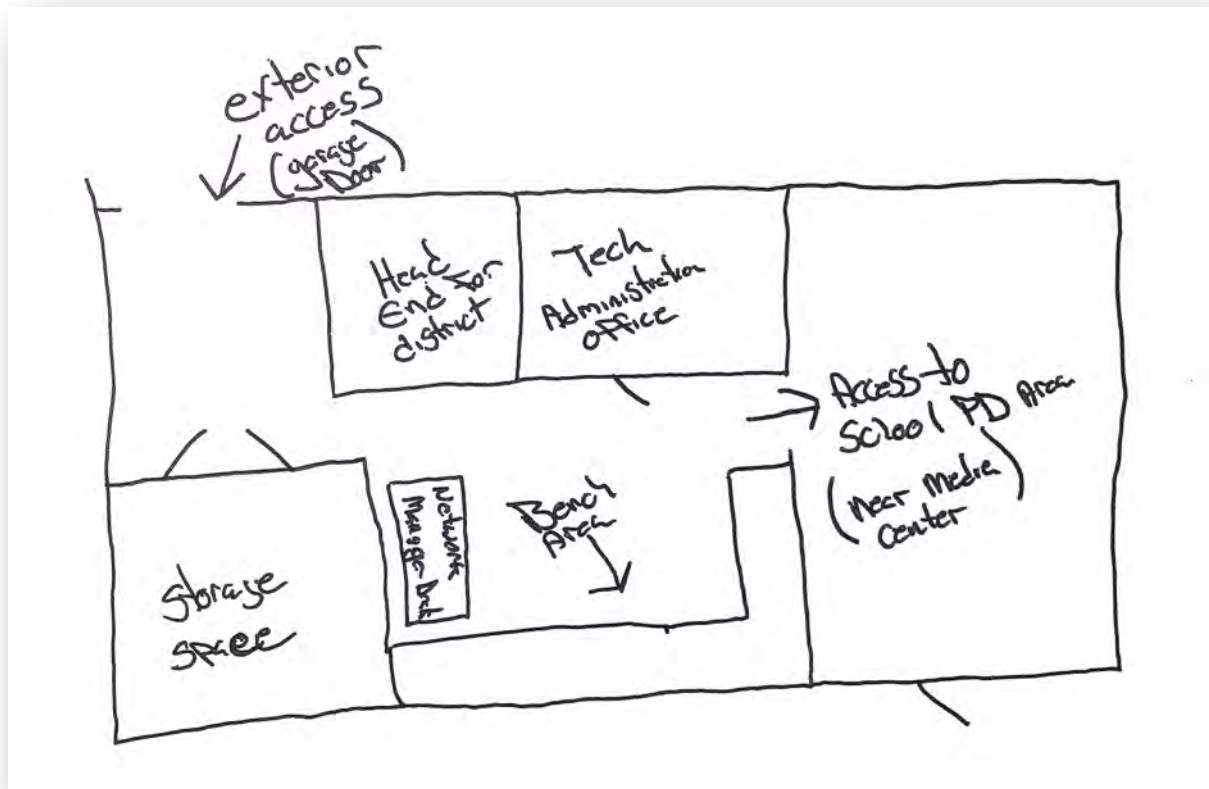
Blue Sky Ideas Continued

Blue Sky Classroom Diagrams
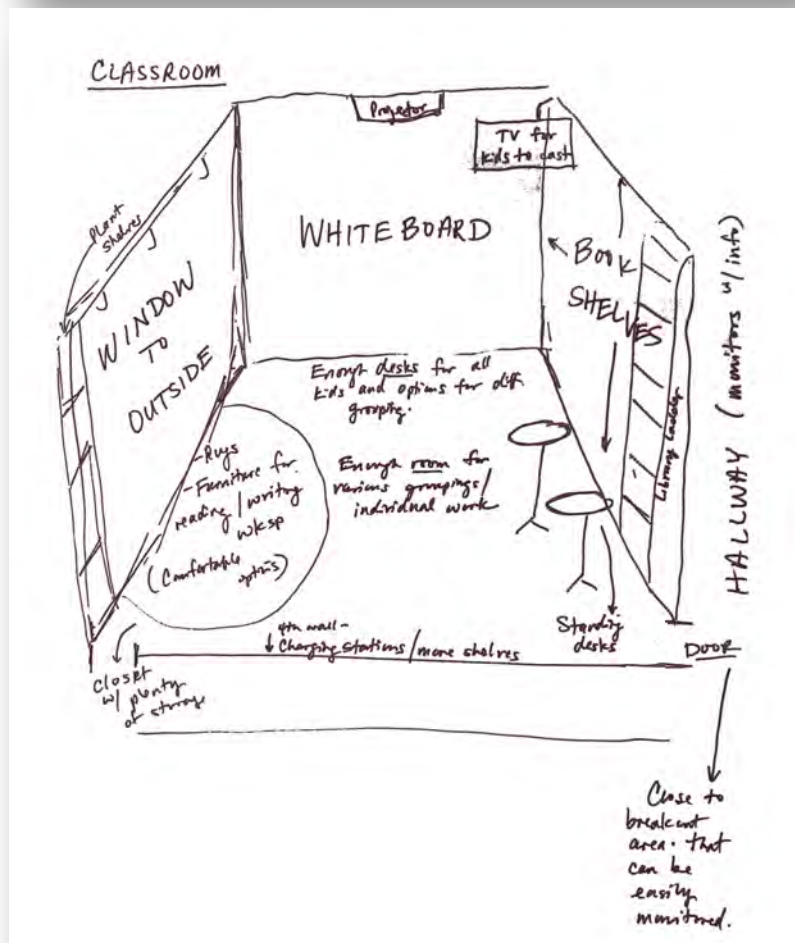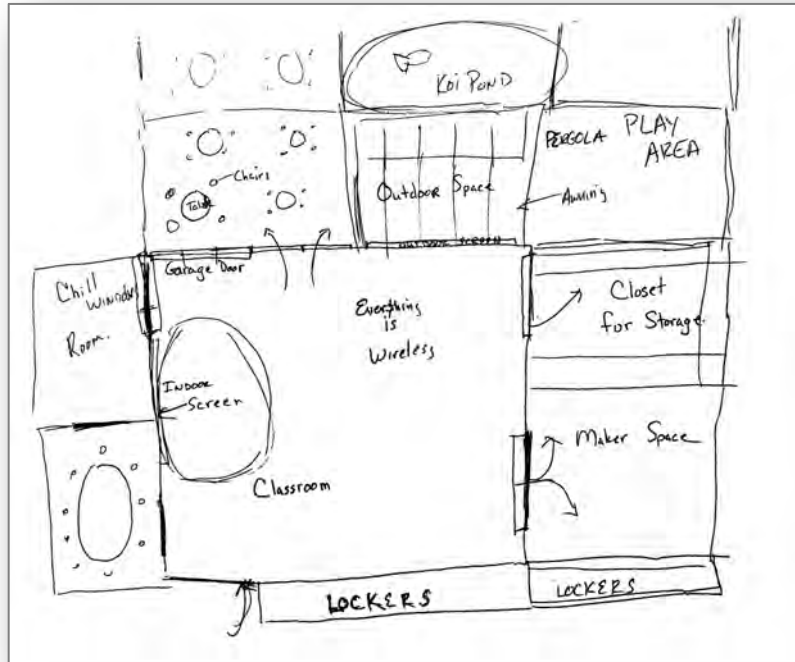
Two Schools One Roof Diagram

These Whole School adjacency diagrams were created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new K-8 school.
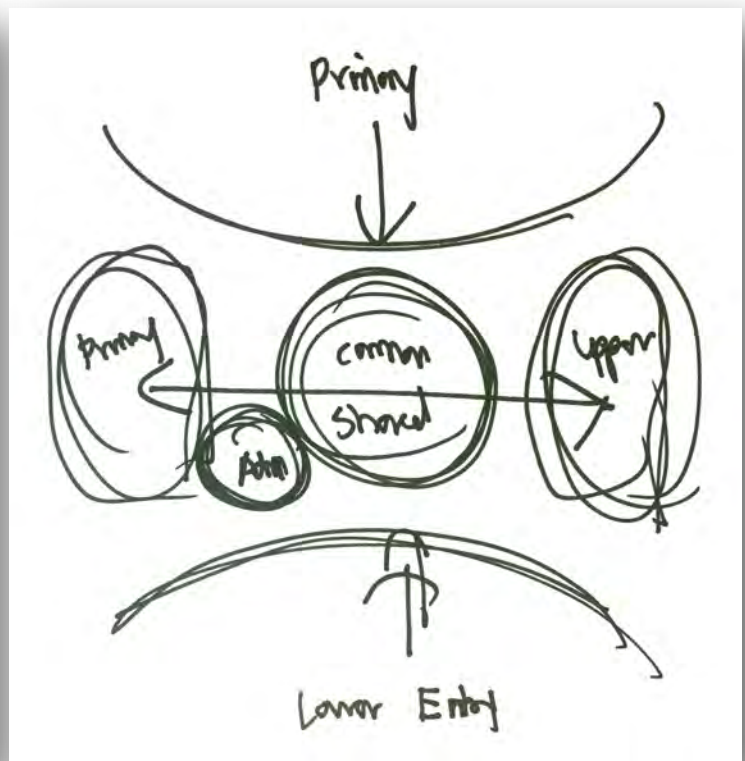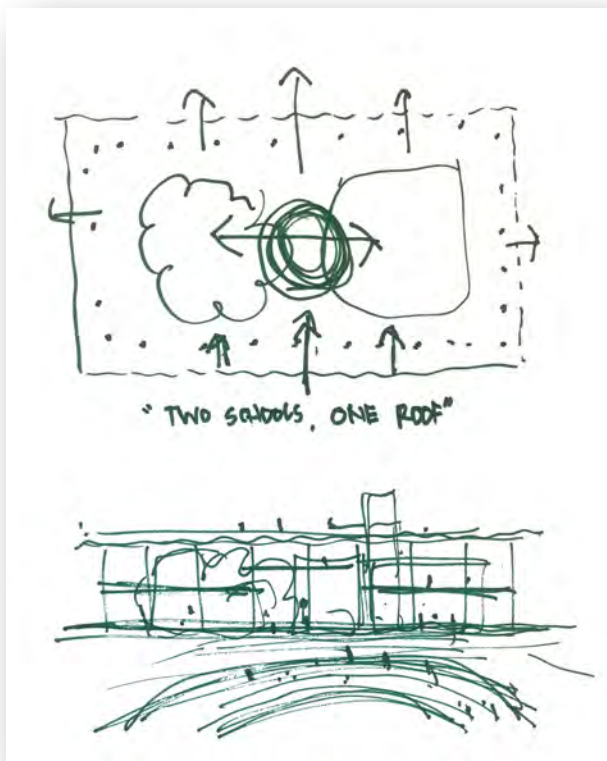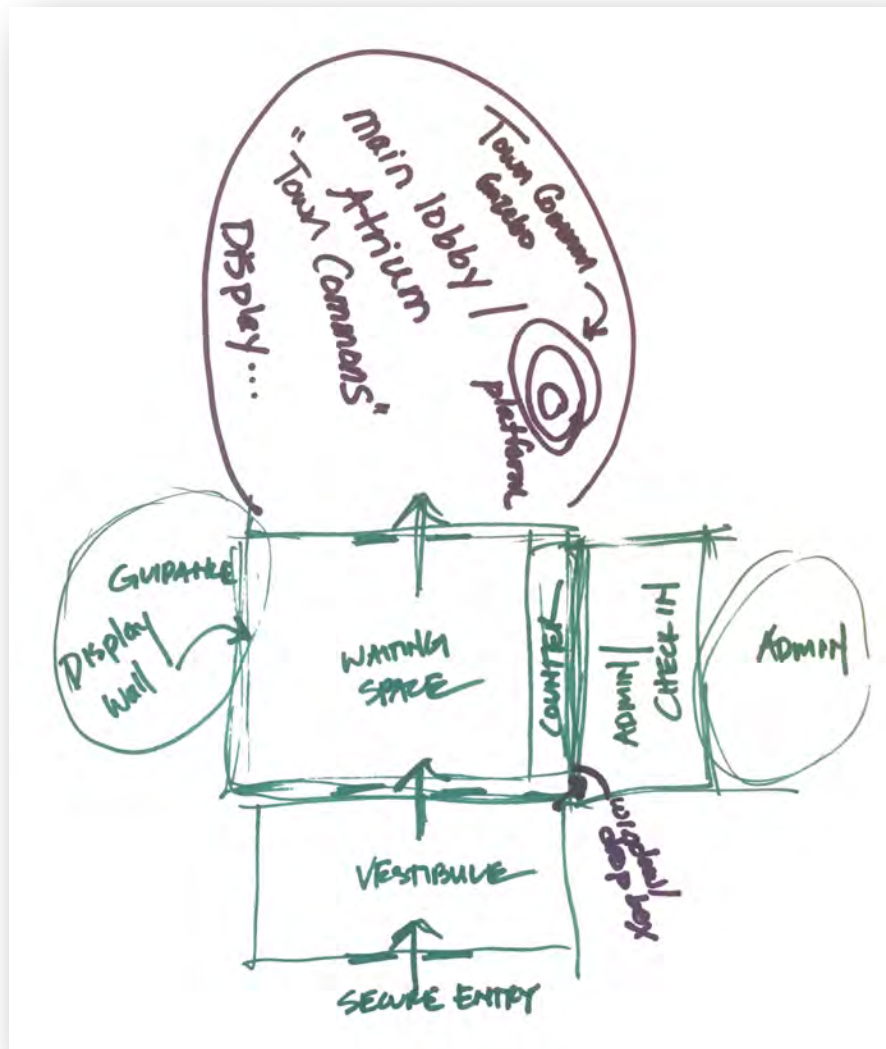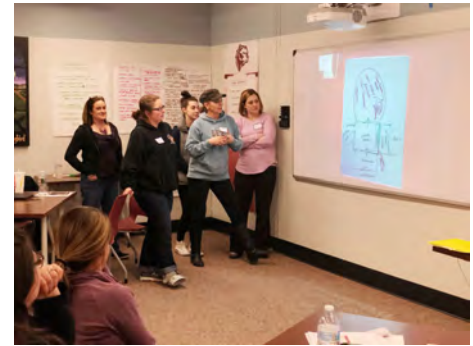
Topography Diagrams

These Topography Diagrams were created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.
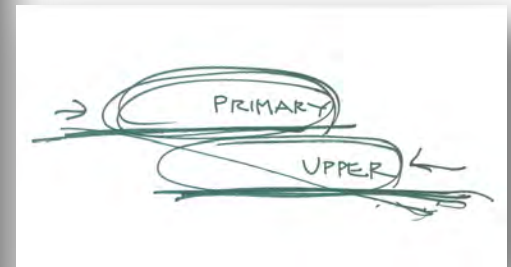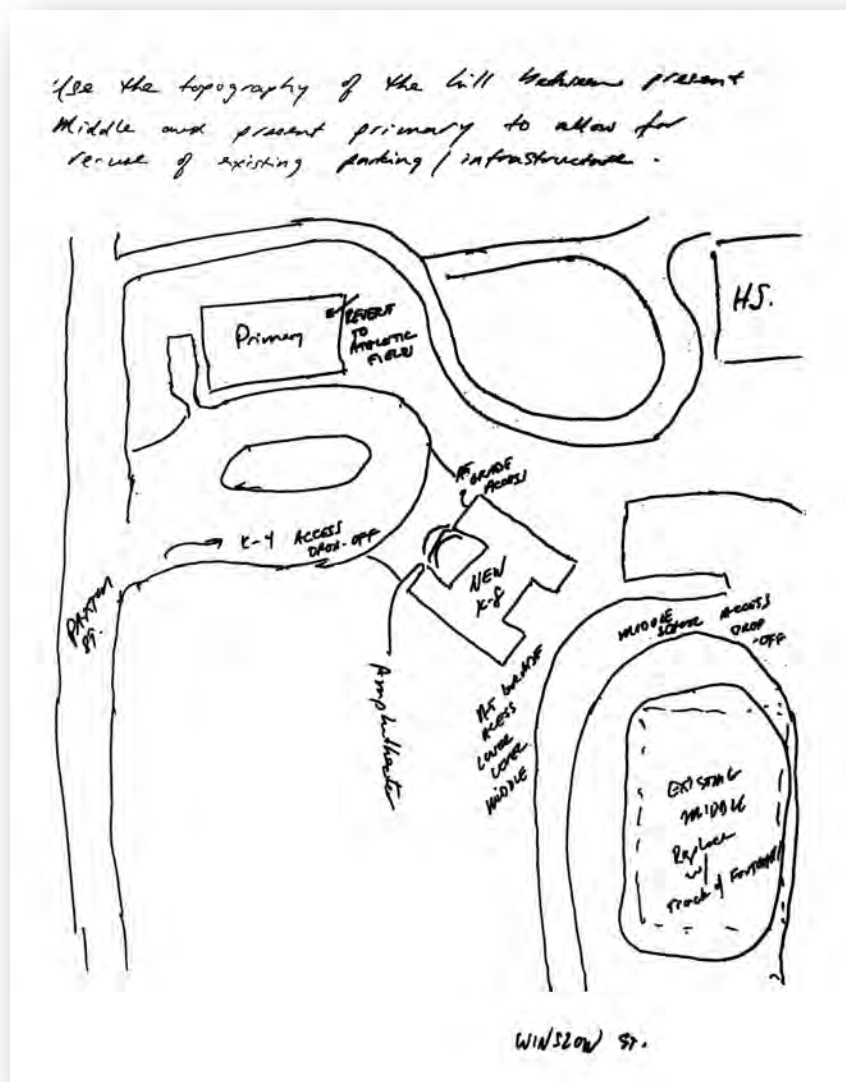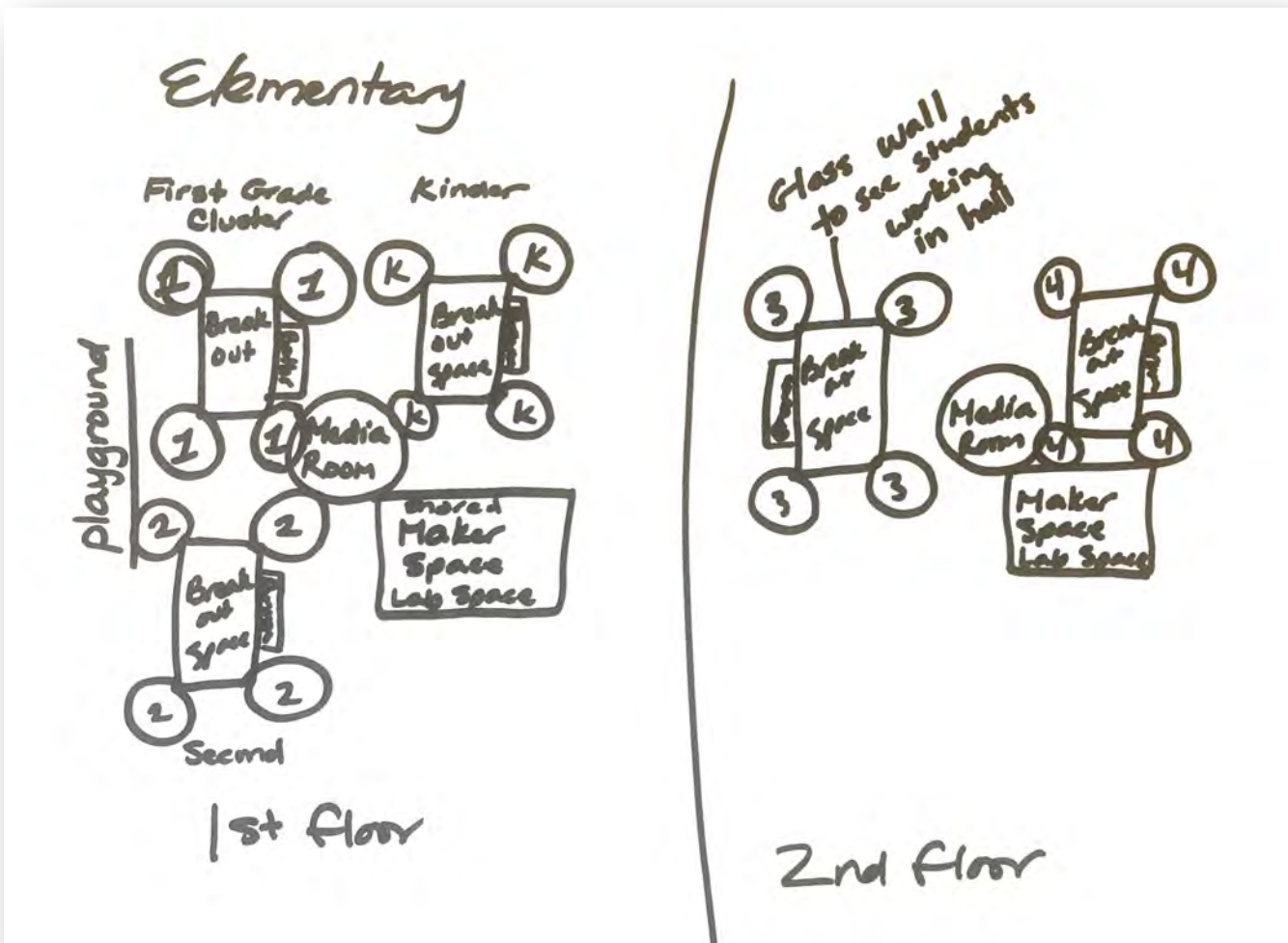
Whole School Diagram

This Whole School adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.
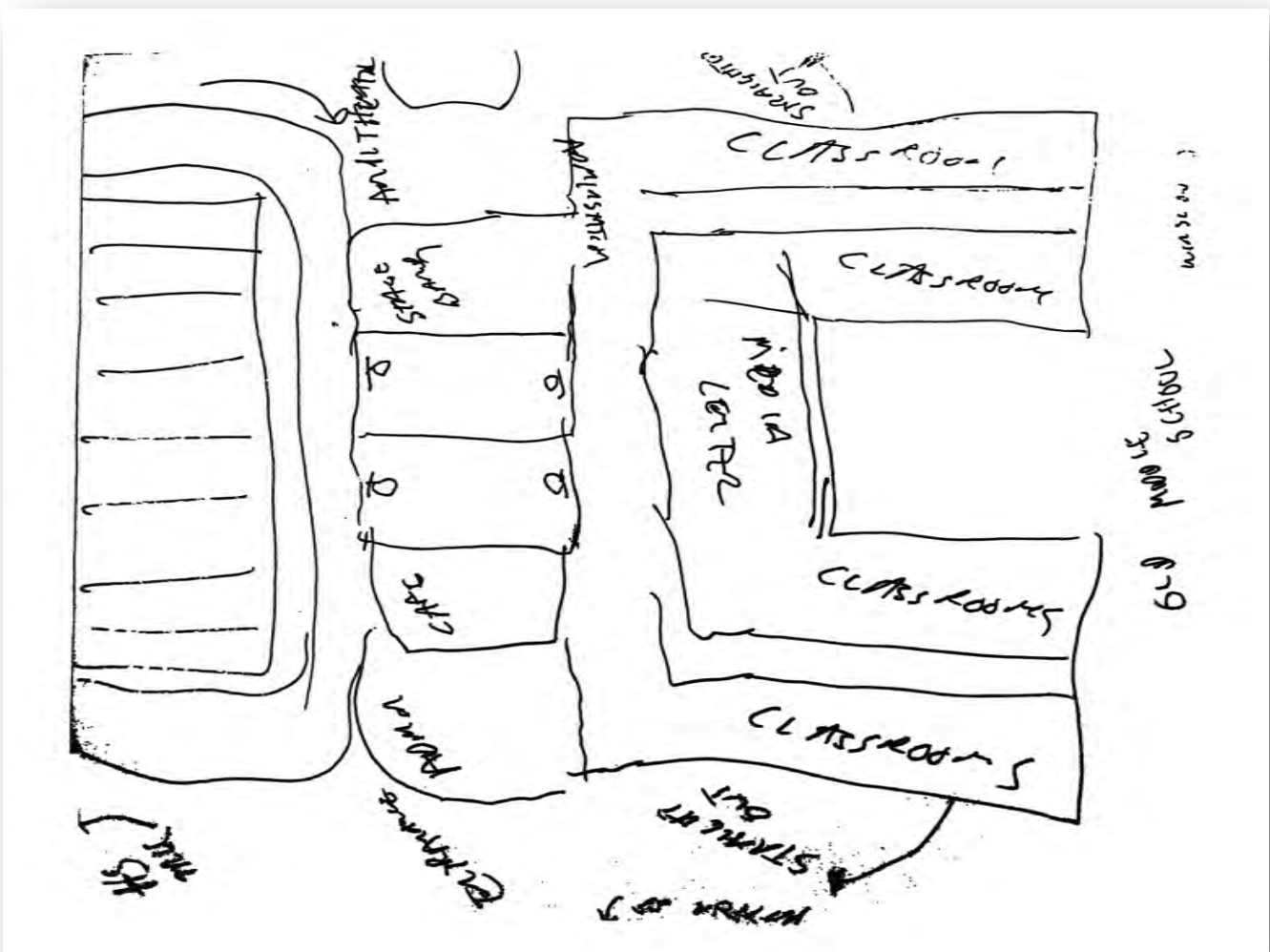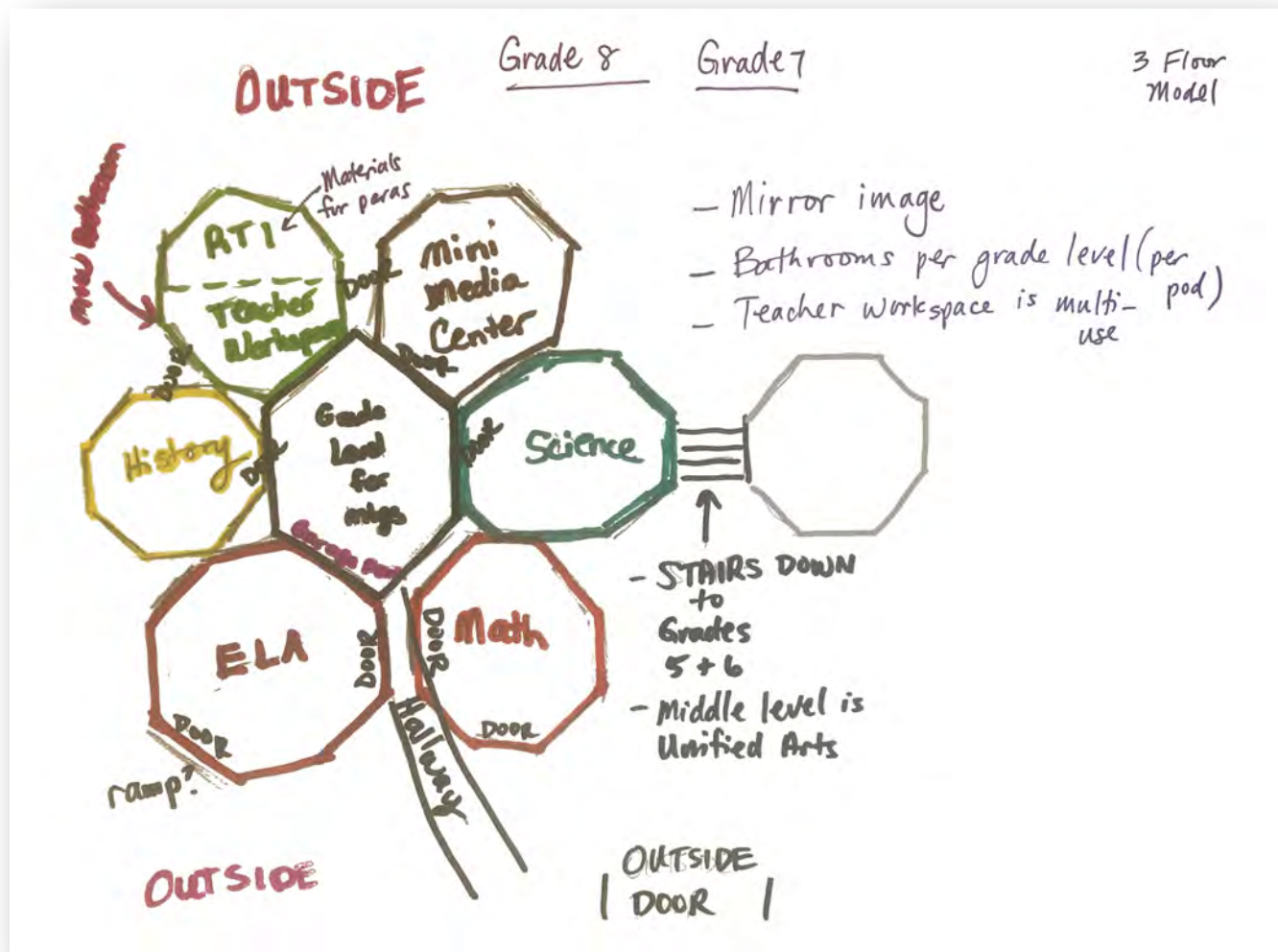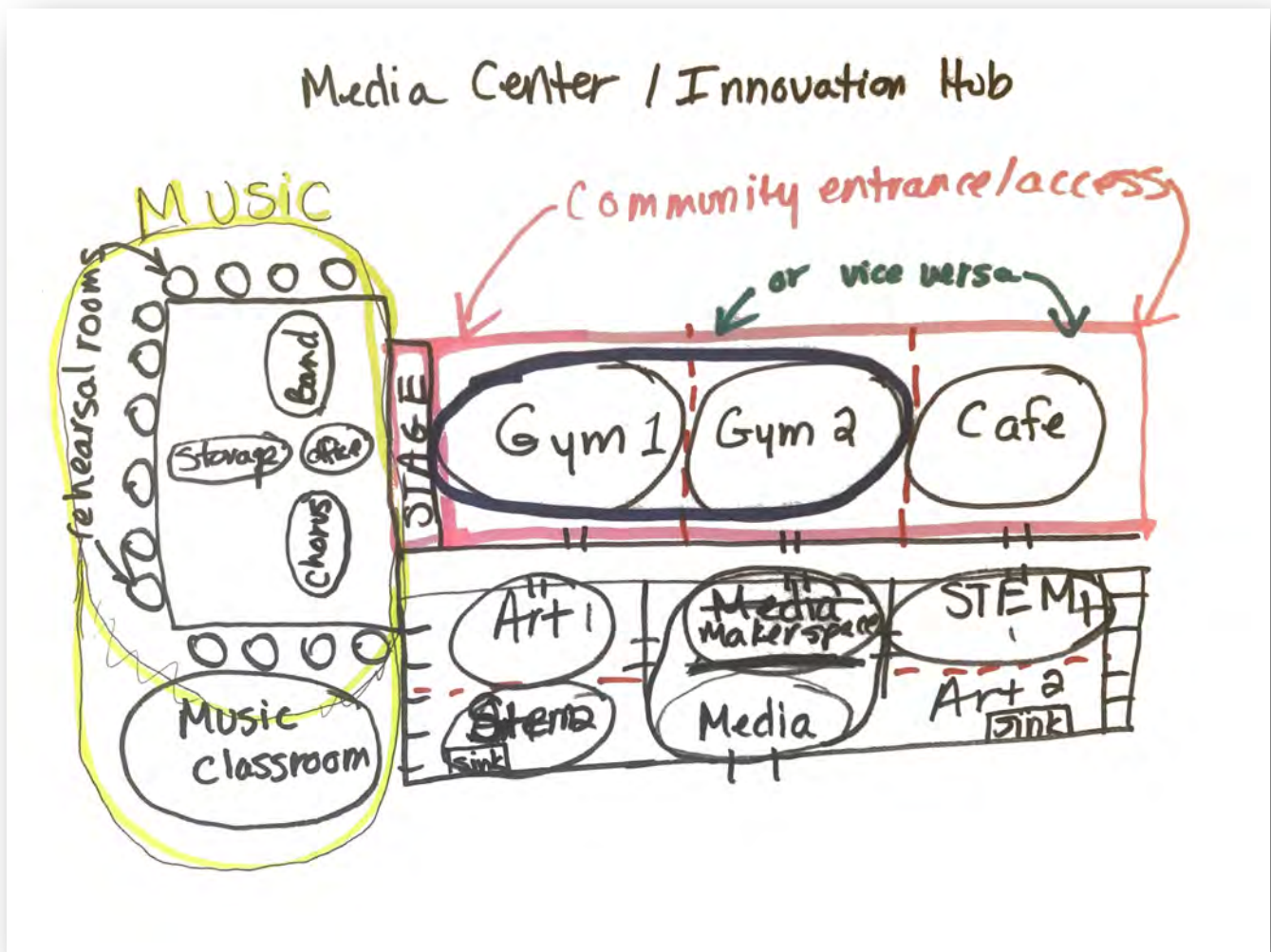
Entry Sequence Diagram

This Entry Sequence adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.

Community Access Diagram

This Community Access adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.
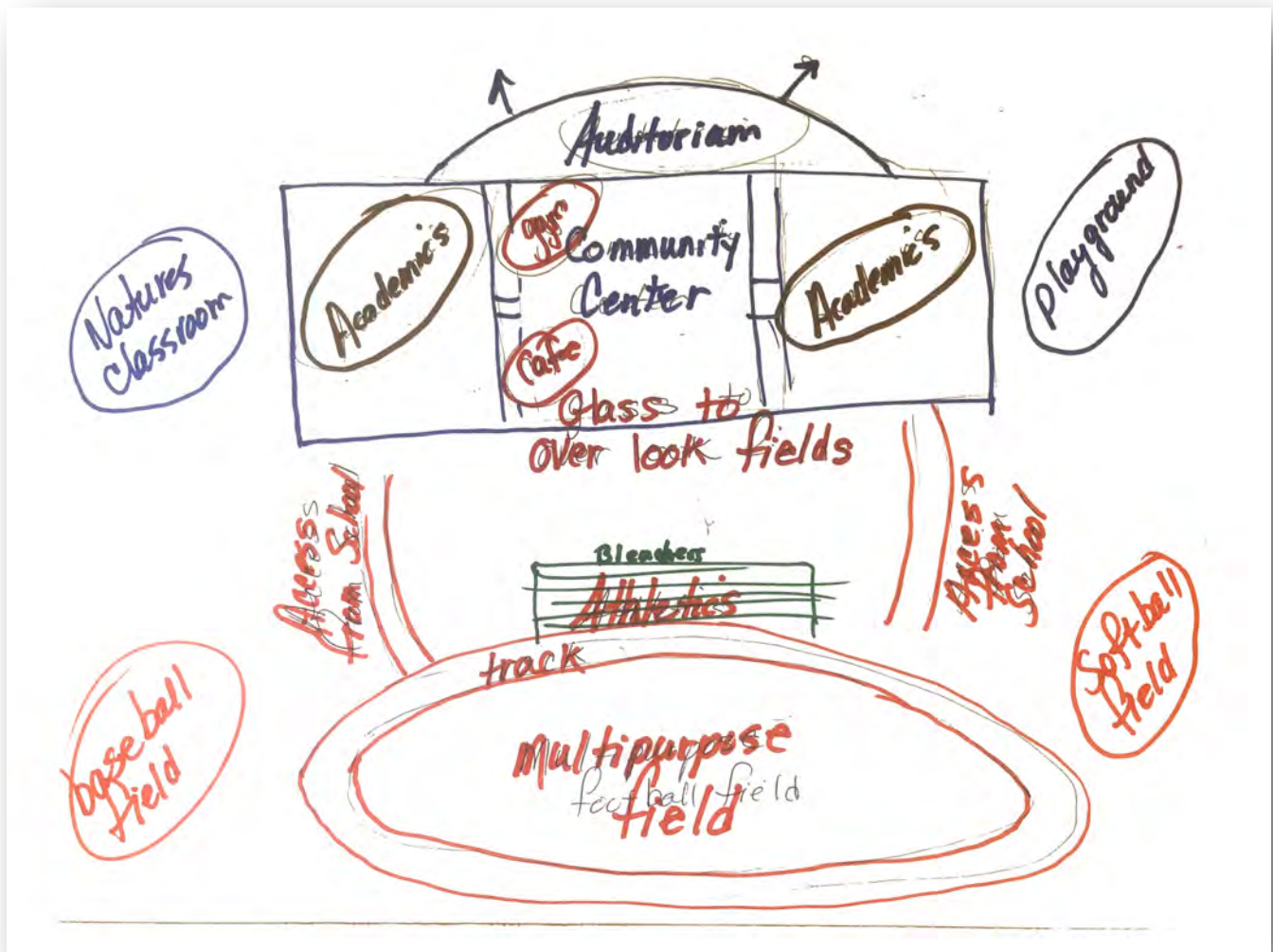
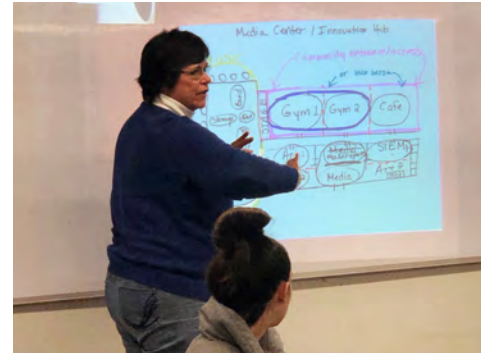# Elementary School Diagram

This Elementary School adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.

Middle School Diagram

This Middle School adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.

Media Center and
Innovation Hub Diagram

This Media Center and Innovation Hub adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.

Outdoor and Site Diagram

This Outdoor and Site adjacency diagram was created by a small group of workshop participants in order to communicate their ideas about space adjacencies for the renovated and/or new elementary school.

Leicester Middle School Educational Working Group

Visioning Workshop One
January 29, 2019

Agenda

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: By the end of the session we will have begun to…

- Share **Priority Goals** for Leicester Public School's master planning process and the design of the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle School
- Discuss 21st century teaching and learning strategies and identify **21st Century Learning Goals** as connected to current and future best-practices within LPS's K-12 schools
- Assess Leicester Public School's **Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals** with regard to the development of its academic programs and school facilities
- Share **Visions for the Future** evolution and growth of the LPS K-8 schools

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Time	Activity	Purpose
4:00 – 4:45	**Workshop Goals and Introductions** • Workshop overview • The Design Process / Creating a Design Guide • Introductions ○ Priority Goals for the elementary school planning process	Introduce participants and clarify agenda and desired outcomes for this workshop. Share some of our priority goals for Leicester Public School's K-12 planning process.
4:45 – 6:00	**21st Century Schools and Learning Goals** • Interactive Presentation: 21st Century Teaching and Learning • Videos and discussion • Small group review of assorted 21st century learning goals and outcomes and creation of priority listings • Large group prioritization	Identify and discuss elements of 21st century teaching and learning as connected to Leicester Public School's approach to its educational programming. Ground our thinking about design guidelines and desired building features in a discussion and exploration of 21st century learning goals for Leicester Public School's K-12 school programming.

6:00 – 6:30	**Dinner**	
6:30 – 7:15	***LPS Present and Future Educational Priorities*** • Brief presentations of essential and innovative school programs and initiatives presently in practice within LPS and Leicester Middle School	Identify present and future educational initiatives and programs within LPS K-12 schools and discuss their effect on the design of the new facility.
7:15 – 7:50	***Leicester Public Schools SCOG Analysis*** • Brainstorm of Leicester Public School's Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals	Identify what is presently working well within LPS, what is challenging, and what opportunities exist with regard to the further development of academic programs and the renovated and/or new school facility.
7:50 – 8:00	***Closing and Next Steps*** • Next Steps review and Q&A • Envisioning the Future – Writing Prompt: o Describe some of the ways in which you would like to see the LPS's K-12 schools change, grow and evolve over the next 5-10 years	Hear from participants about their questions and thoughts. Review next steps for development of our process working together and share visions for the future of LPS's K-12 schools.

Leicester Middle School Educational Working Group
Visioning Workshop Two   February 5, 2019

Agenda

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: By the end of the session we will have begun to…

- Review and expand upon the **Learning Goals** and **SCOG Analysis** for Leicester Public Schools
- Explore and prioritize a range of architectural **Design Patterns** that will best support 21st century teaching and learning within LPS's K-12 schools
- Understand the role that **Guiding Principles** play in setting facility design priorities and intent
- Create a set of **Guiding Principles and priorities for design** of Leicester Middle School's renovated and/or new facility
- Share **Blue Sky Ideas** for the design of Leicester Middle Schools renovated and/or new facility

Time	Activity	Purpose
4:00 – 4:45	**Workshop Goals and WS One Debrief** • Introduction of new members • Review of: ○ Learning Goals ○ SCOG Analysis What strikes us? What's missing?	Review today's agenda and debrief the January 29, 2019 workshop activities, and discuss key themes and takeaways.
4:45– 6:00	**21st Century School Facility Design Patterns** • Presentation and Q&A **Design Patterns for Leicester Middle School** • Small group review of assorted facility Design Patterns • Creation of priority listings • Large group prioritization	Ground our thinking about design guidelines and desired building features in a discussion and exploration of new school Design Patterns. Identify priority Design Patterns for LPS's renovated and/or new Leicester Middle School

6:00– 6:30	**Dinner**	
6:30– 7:45	*Guiding Principles for Design* o Presentation and Q&A o Small group review of assorted Guiding Principles and creation of priority listings o Large group sharing and prioritization	Explore the connections between Guiding Principles and school design solutions. Translate our Leicester Public School facility Design Patterns into a listing of priority Guiding Principles for design of the new and/or renovated facility.
7:45 – 8:00	*Closing and Next Steps* • Next Steps review and Q&A • Blue Sky Ideas (Exit Ticket): What no-holds-barred, over-the-top, budget-is-no-issue idea(s) and/or space(s) would you like to see take shape in the new and/or renovated facility?	Hear from participants about their questions and thoughts. Review next steps for development of our process working together and share Blue Sky Ideas for the design of the renovated and/or new facility.

LEICESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
KNOWLEDGE · SKILLS · CHARACTER

Leicester Middle School Educational Working Group
Visioning Workshop Three   February 26, 2019

Agenda

> **EXPECTED OUTCOMES: By the end of the session we will have begun to...**
>
> - Review a compilation of notes from Workshop Two, including priority **Design Patterns**, **Guiding Principles** for the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle School facility
> - Debrief **School Tours** to Hunking K-8 and Beverly Middle School
> - Generate a listing of **Key Spaces and Adjacencies** for the renovated and/or new facility
> - Engage in a **Bubble Diagramming Activity** to identify important spaces and adjacencies within the renovated and/or new facility
> - Identify key **Talking Points** that are important to share with the community about LPS's design priorities for the renovated and/or new facility

Time	Activity	Purpose

4:00 – 4:45	***Workshop Goals and WS Two Debrief***
	• Introduction of new members
	• Review of:
	   ○ Priority Design Patterns 1.0
	   ○ Guiding Principles for Design 1.0
	   ○ Tours Debrief
	• What strikes us? What's missing?
		Debrief the February 5, 2019 workshop activities and discuss key themes and takeaways. Debrief highlights of school tours to the Hunking K-8 and Beverly Middle School.

4:45 – 5:15	***Key Spaces and Blue-Sky Ideas*** • Individual reflections • Small group discussion • Large group discussion of key spaces and desired adjacencies	Share practical and creative design ideas that will help us to reach our LPS Learning Goals, implement desired Design Patterns and put our Guiding Principles into practice.

5:15 – 6:45	***Bubble Diagramming (with Working Dinner)*** • Individual and small group diagramming of key spaces and desired adjacencies within the renovated and/or new Leicester Middle School • Large group sharing	Identify important adjacencies and design ideas that can be explored further in the planning and design process.
6:45 –7:00	***Key Talking Points*** • Work individually and then in your small group to articulate 2-3 "talking points" you think it important to share with the Leicester community about opportunities and priorities for the new and/or renovated building that have been identified within this series of workshops. • Large group debrief	Reflect on important takeaways from the educational visioning process and how they can be expressed and communicated to the Leicester community as we build buy-in to and excitement about the Leicester Middle School Feasibility Study.

Leicester Middle School Educational Working Group

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Leicester Middle School Educational Working Group
Participant List

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