

Indian Hills Middle School

Indian Hills Middle School, redesign: architects, Hagan Cahill and Trey Dehaven.

Indian Hills circa 1955, situated at the corner of 63rd St. and Mission Road. A modest, simple building today, was once a state of the art design in the age of the mid-century movement. Now the current Indian Hills building feels constricting, dark, low, and a layout that feels penitentiary like. Our new Indian Hills middle school. Celebrating nature, light and movement. While fostering the sense of curiosity, openness. And the connection between indoor and outdoor space, our design draws from many styles, but still pays homage to the googie futuristic, sweeping eaves and dramatic wings of mid-century modern architecture.

Our site. The current building is situated very close to Mission road on the east side of the lot with a tight circle drive and limited space for parking. Our solution is to place the building towards the center of the lot while having a car drive starting from 63rd St. and connecting to Mission Road one way. To the west side of the building, we will have a bus loop preventing a backup of cars and buses. Our parking will be set higher up on the lot than the building while also providing enough parking, not only for teachers and staff, but for all parents and guests attending events held at this school. We want to provide a vibrant landscape for the students to be able to spend their free time enjoying a picnic, playing a little game of football on our field or just enjoying the scenery. We were blessed to have a little stream running throughout our lot that we want to create a focal point around somehow and create tiered garden beds around the stream to give it a wonderful lush garden motif.

Our floor plan. Our floor plan is centered around a circular courtyard. Everything branches off of it. The school contains three main wings, academics, arts gym/weights, all stemming like a beautiful flower from our courtyard, intertwining our students with nature through the use of glass curtain walls. The school contains around 40 to 45 classrooms. Each classroom is equipped with a teacher office and a wall of windows. Our hallways range from 12 feet to 25 feet wide, including space for hallway learning as well the teacher's lounge contains a full-size kitchen along with enough space for four tables our library has floor, two ceiling windows, sky-high vaulted ceilings and a grand fireplace to add warmth to the space while students cozy up with a good book on our wide array of seating selections our band and Orchestra rooms are plenty large enough for multiple classes to perform at once together, the art rooms are plenty good size with their own sinks, storage rooms, and kiln rooms. The wood shop is large enough for many tools and machines. Our gymnasiums are oversized, the main gymnasium featuring a full-size stage for performances both gyms contain accordion bleachers. Our second floor boasts the cafeteria and another academic wing. Our cafeteria is a unique shape, a rhombus with huge, great vaulted ceilings, sweeping eaves, gorgeous wooden beams and floor to ceiling windows, to add sophistication while also bringing in so much natural light, the use for artificial light is almost completely eliminated. You might be wondering, how do you have the cafeteria and kitchen on the second floor when you need to bring so much supplies and food up two flights. Well our solution to that is to install a state-of-the-art freight elevator as large as you can get it. We hope to at least get a 10 x 10 elevator that can fit a pallet carrier for food supplies. Our central courtyard features a beautiful Koi pond and serene garden which the cafeteria has a perfect view

down upon. Our school also contains a third floor academic wing where each classroom not only has Floor to ceiling windows, but each teacher is equipped with their own closed off office enough room for a desk, bookcase, and meeting corner to discuss plans with students. Not only that but our school includes a complete basement with an oversize storm shelter with occupancy for 800 to 850 students.

The grounds. The grounds of our Indian Hills redesign include something very unique. The grounds of our school will have 4 to 5 exterior pod classrooms that teachers can reserve for indoor outdoor learning experiences that expand children's minds while also getting a change in scenery. Each classroom contains a learning space with enough room for 40 children, a teacher office with plenty of room for consultations and a gender-neutral bathroom discarding the need for opposite sex bathrooms We also have a greenhouse where students can plant their own crops to sell during Saturday and Sunday markets to help raise money for school activities. On our school site, there is also an exterior auditorium building that will be used to host all the school's band, choir, and orchestra performances. The space can also be used as an event center and can be rented out by community for weddings and concert events to help raise money for the school as well as bringing the community in.

When redesigning the school we had in mind not only to bring nature and openness into students' learning, but also give the community a chance to become more involved with the school, we hope that this redesign will not only improve students overall well-being in school, but also create a sense of belonging and family within the community. Thank you.

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