

BEST PRACTICES FOR K12 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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LS3P

MEET THE SPEAKERS



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SECTOR LEADER



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CPD**
PROJECT ARCHITECT

LS3P OVERVIEW

61 YEARS IN BUSINESS

12 OFFICES ACROSS
THE SOUTHEAST

500+ FIRMWIDE
TEAM MEMBERS



90+ K-12 DESIGN PROFESSIONALS



K-12 DESIGN EXPERTISE



2500+
K12 PROJECTS

PASSIONATE ABOUT
**SCHOOL
DESIGN**



WHY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

- Fosters Inclusive, Community Driven Design Solutions
- A means to gathering meaningful feedback
- Develops “buy-in” from multiple stakeholders
- Results in a successful project for the students, parents, administration, District and Community



ESTABLISHING GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

- Who is the audience?
- How many in attendance?
- Best time for engagement?
- What type of feedback do you need?



District Leaders
Students
Teachers
School Admin + Staff
Alumni
Neighbors + Community



BEST PRACTICES FOR SUCCESS

- Be prepared! Planning and details are critical.
- Tailor engagement activities to the community
- Provide a variety of ways for engagement for multi-generational and multi-cultural feedback:
 - Questionnaires (handwritten and on-line)
 - Photographs of spaces to evoke feelings and thoughts
 - Thoughts expressed through nostalgia
 - Utilize multiple languages
- Be great listeners and ask “WHY” elements are important
- Capture the event in a comprehensive booklet
- Potentially provide a follow up meeting to the community on hearing their input and how it has impacted the design



CASE STUDIES FOR EXPLORATION

- Isaac Bear **Early College High School** – Wilmington, NC
 - Site: Campus Relationship
 - Students: Gathering Spaces
 - Stage: Advanced Planning
- Sunset Park **Elementary School** – Rock Hill, SC
 - Site: Shared Community Use Spaces
 - Students: Nurturing Learning Environment
 - Stage: Under Construction
- West Charlotte **High School** – Charlotte, NC
 - Site: On-Site Replacement
 - History: Legacy
 - Stage: Project Completed





ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL



NEW HANOVER COUNTY SCHOOLS

630

ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

1. Identify Feedback Priority: School to be located on UNCW Campus

- Multiple Clients Involved



- Exist. HS Building on Campus being replaced with a new facility and moved to a new site
- Feedback on** accessibility and travel to academic buildings as well as special green space and buildings

Legend

- ★ UNCW Academic Buildings
- Existing IBEC Building
- New Location of IBEC Building



ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

1. Create the Engagement Activity: Campus Connections

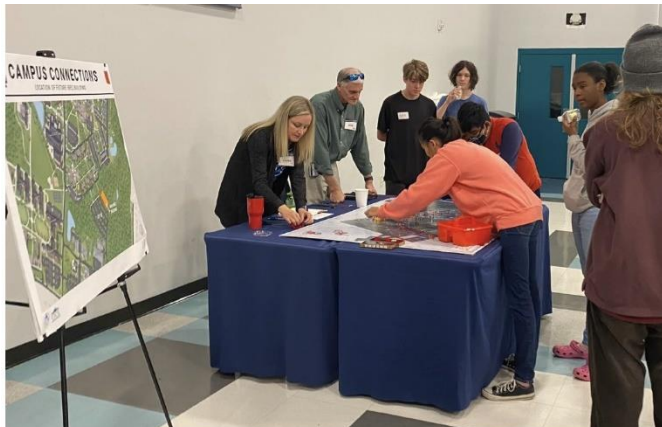
- Create the type of engagement:
 - Use the **red pins and string** to show where you go on campus to take classes
 - Put a **yellow pin** on your favorite building
 - Put a **green pin** on your favorite outdoor space



ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

1. Engagement Activity: Campus Connections

- Students engage with the activity and are grouped by grade level
- Photograph results after each grade level participation
- Discussion with students about campus



ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

1. Document Activity: Campus Connections

- Photograph interaction with activity
- Photograph results of the map as needed
- Integrate related survey questions and responses

9TH GRADE

FAVORITE BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS:

- Randall Library: big, nice, great place to study, variety of
- Cameron Hall: great classroom spaces
- NeNeill Hall quad: outdoor space that is great to hang out
- Watson School of Education: architecture, lobby, window
- Bike trails in the wooded areas of campus
- Painted spirit rock: cool that the students can decorate it
- Amphitheater near Randall Library: outdoor study and hang
- Friday Hall: fish tanks
- Kenan Theater: would like a theater space or stage in ne
- Congdon Hall: great indoor space with space to study; lik

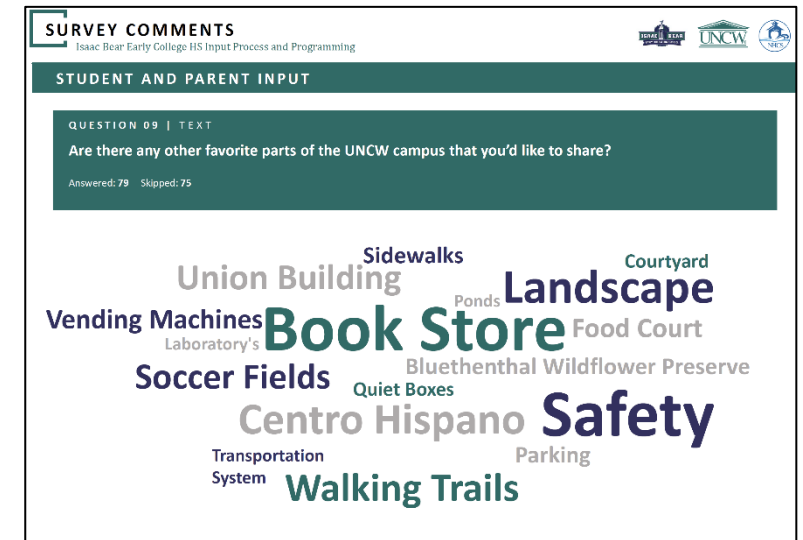
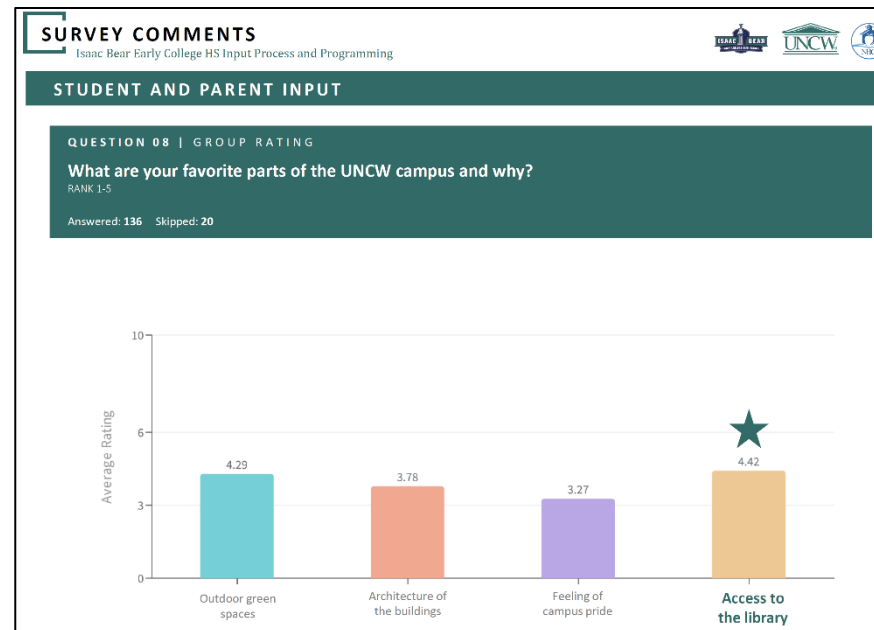
MOST FREQUENTED SPACES ON CAMPUS:

- Cameron Hall for classes
- Randall Library for studying after school
- Fisher Student Center & Fisher Student Union for food

FAVORITE BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS

WHY ARE THESE BUILDINGS SO SPECIAL TO STUDENTS?

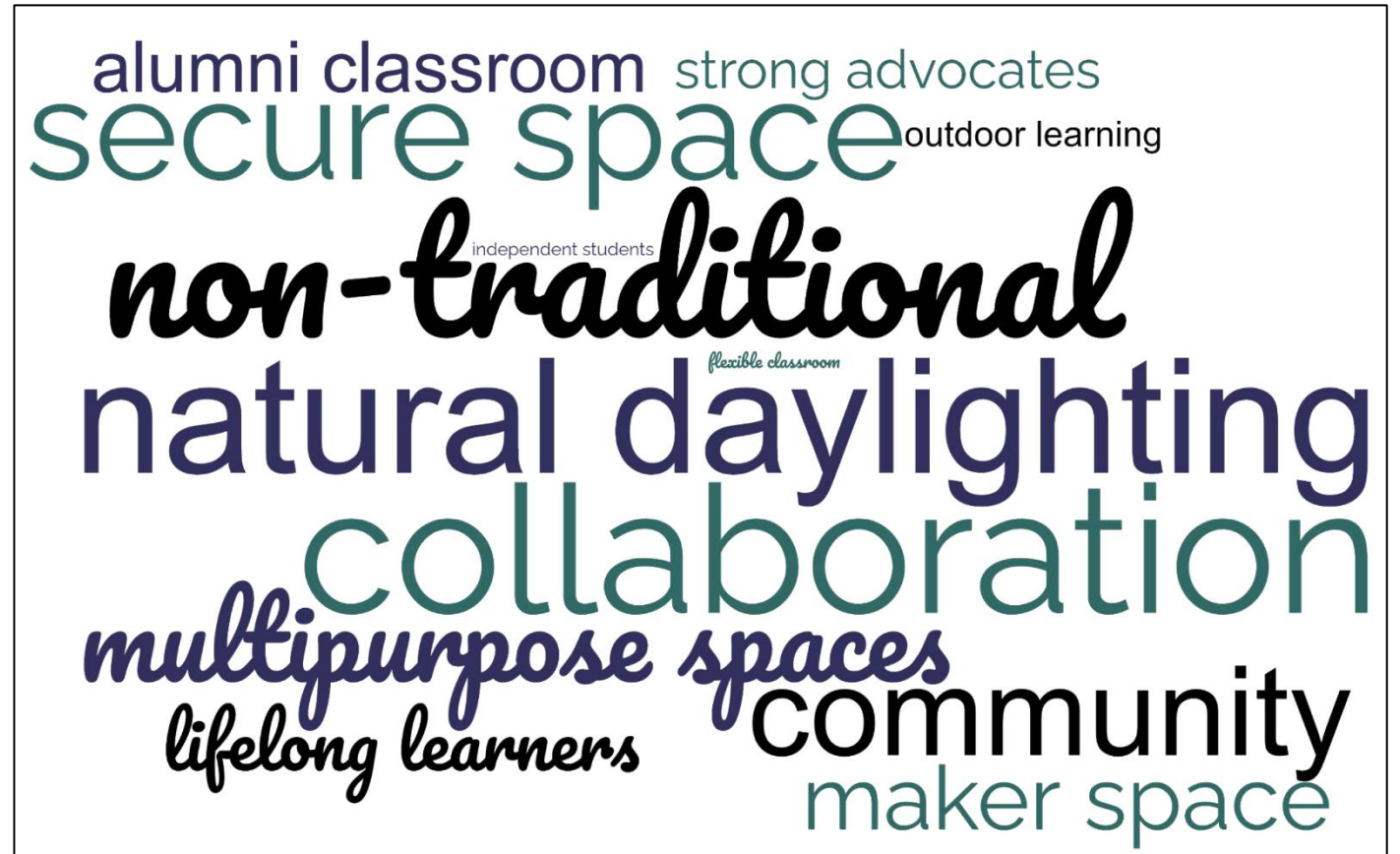
- Randall Library**
 - Variety of spaces
 - We can go there, and we don't get kicked out, feeling of being welcome
 - They are in control of the space that they are in
- School of Education**
 - Quality, light, unique, lobby space to talk with peers



ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Identify Feedback Priority: Creating Large Gathering Spaces

- School for 400 Total: 200 in school all day and 200 on campus at UNCW returning to school only few times/day
- So, the school needed to accommodate 200 with certain spaces for “gathering” 400 students
- **Feedback needed** on what types of gathering spaces appeal to the students and teachers



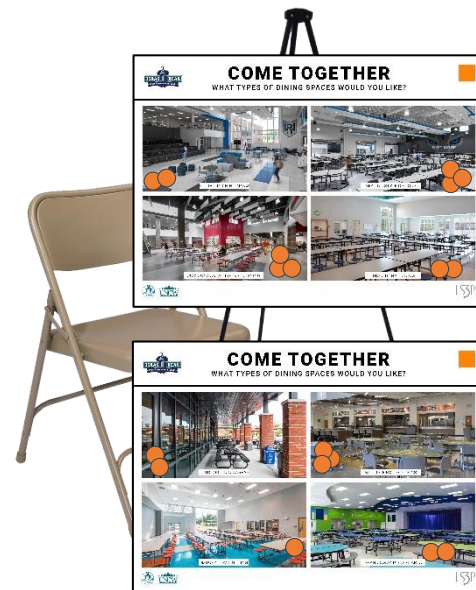
ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Create the Engagement Activity: Come Together

- Create the type of engagement:
 - Use the **two orange** stickers to show which collaboration spaces you would **most** like to see at IBEC
 - Engage the students in conversation about “WHY” they chose those spaces

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY COME TOGETHER

Mary Beth Branham (LS3P)



Matt Bramstedt (LS3P)



ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Engagement Activity: Come Together

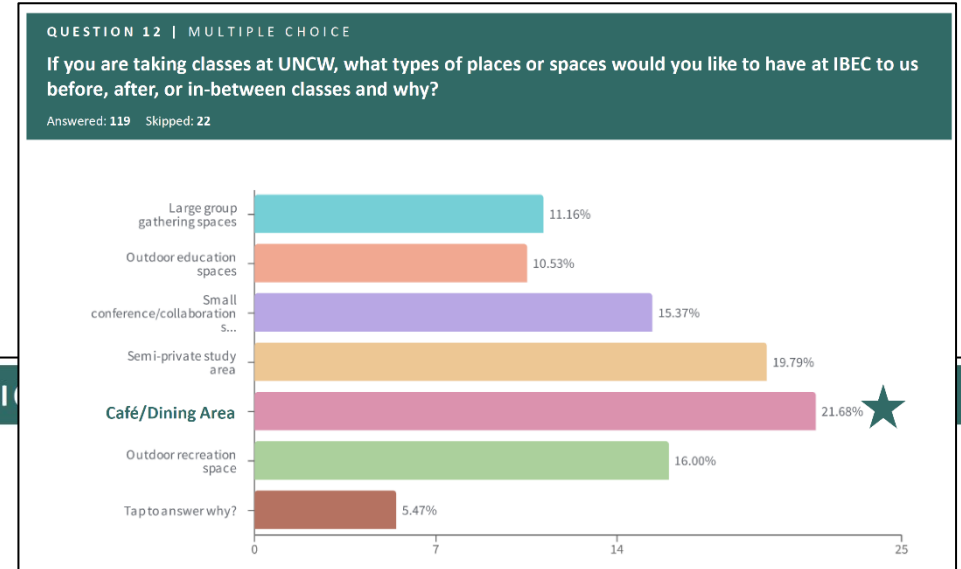
- Students view the images, place their stickers and explain why those spaces are special



ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Document Activity: Come Together

- Photograph results after participation to see which images received the most orange dots
- Capture discussion with students for key take aways
- Integrate related survey questions and responses



9TH GRADE | COLLABORATION

TOP CHOICES

- Open Study Lounge
- Open Commons Area
- Multi-level Connectivity

COME TOGETHER

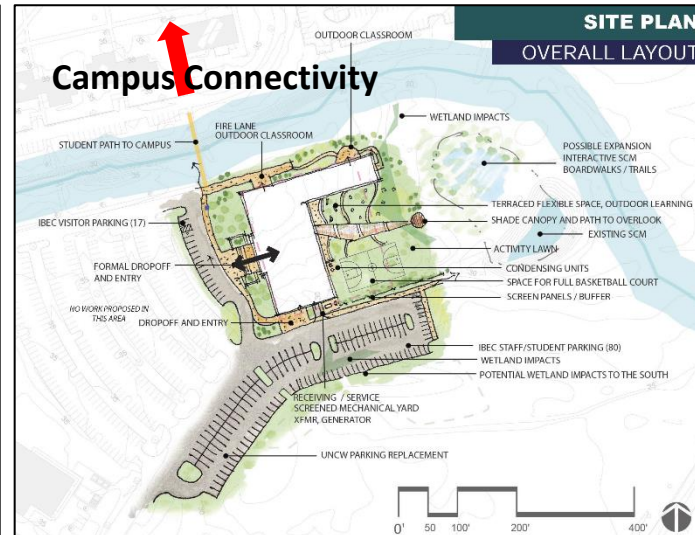
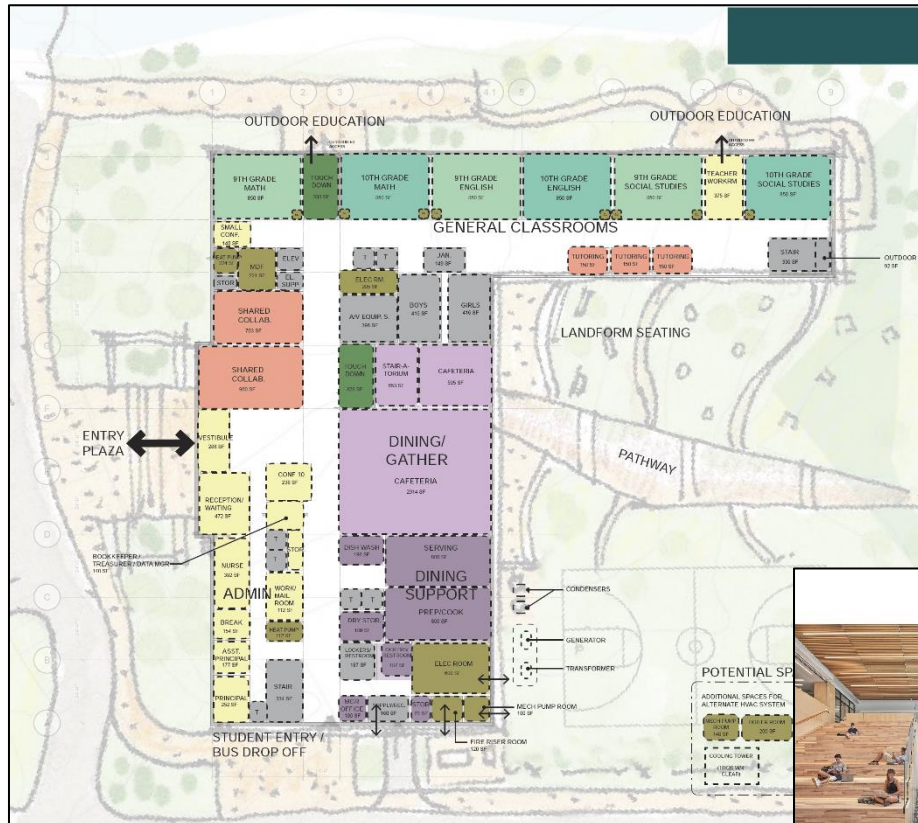
IN WHAT TYPES OF SPACES DO YOU WANT TO GATHER OR COLLABORATE?

COME TOGETHER

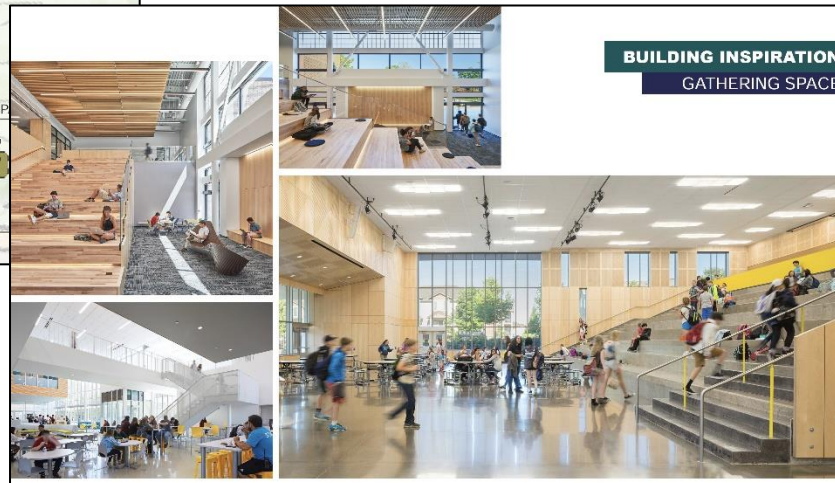
IN WHAT TYPES OF SPACES DO YOU WANT TO GATHER OR COLLABORATE?

ISAAC BEAR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design



Note: This project has completed Advanced Planning and is awaiting funding.





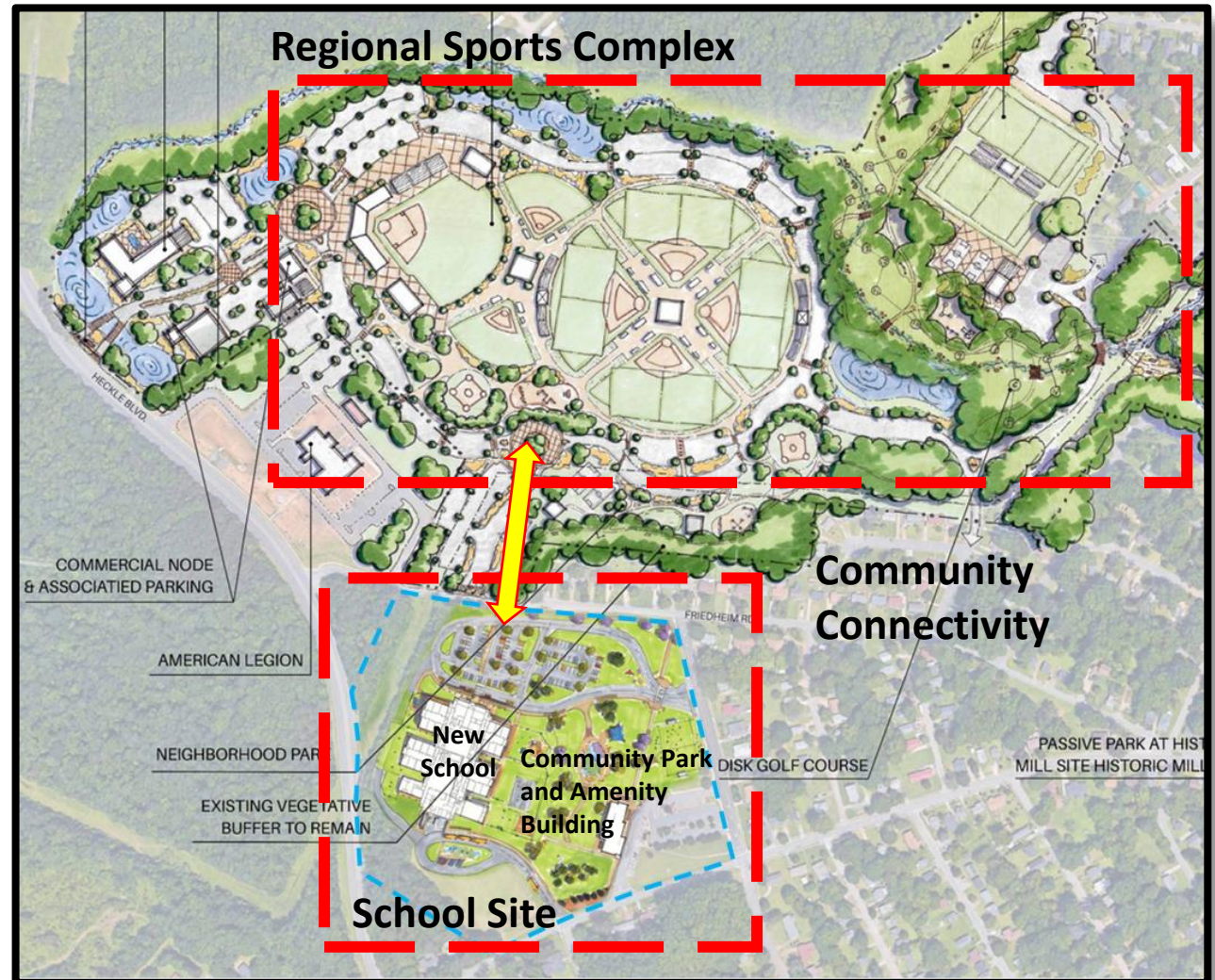
SUNSET PARK

CENTER FOR
ACCELERATED STUDIES

SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. Identify Feedback Priority: Community Use Site and Connectivity

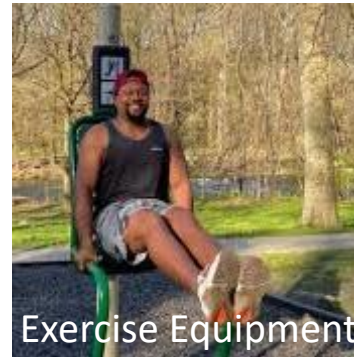
- Historically a Community School for 7 decades
- Exist. ES Building on Campus being replaced with a new facility
- Portion of existing school and site to remain for community use programming
- **Feedback needed** on community use activities and resources



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. Create the Engagement Activity: Your School Site / Community Engagement

- Create the type of engagement:
 - On the site model, use the community use images to indicate where and what types of outdoor spaces and uses you would like to see for use by the community.



Exercise Equipment



Swing



Covered Picnic



Walking Track



Community Garden



Green Open Space



Sundial

SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. Engagement Activity: Your School Site / Community Engagement

- Community engages with the site model to see the new school location and shared community use spaces
- Discussion with participants about why these activities are important
- Photograph results after participation



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. Document Activity: Your School Site / Community Engagement

- Photograph interaction with activity
- Capture comments and document
- Integrate into site design



COMMUNITY MEETING FEEDBACK

Sunset Park Elementary Community Input Meeting

YOUR SCHOOL SITE | COMMENTS

1. Discussions involving the model included explaining the existing and planned site construction and future demolition and the portion of the existing Sunset Park ES remaining. The model was invaluable to show this conversation.
2. Much of the discussion also concerned the new City Park. Not many of the visitors were aware of the City plans.
3. Response ideas for potential uses on the Sunset Park ES site:
 - a. Fitness Trail
 - b. Fitness stations
 - c. Shelters
 - d. Seating
 - e. Brick pavers
 - i. Existing brick
 - ii. Fund raiser
 - iii. Near entrance to the school and in the community park
 - f. Potential Memorial or garden?
 - g. Community garden but community managed. No relationship to the school.
 - h. Teaching garden as outdoor learning and for the students, managed by Sunset Park ES. School.
 - i. Pursue the existing buffer / wooded area for outdoor learning, outdoor classroom, trails.

SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2. Identify Feedback Priority: Nurturing Environment / Enhanced Learning

- Current Sunset Park ES was built in 1954 and has 620 students
- Growing student population so new school is sized for 930 students (PK-5th) = grade level neighborhoods
- **Feedback on** how to create a nurturing environment that enhances learning with more students



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2. Create the Engagement Activity: Nurturing Environment / Enhanced Learning

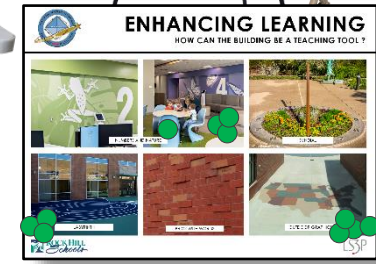
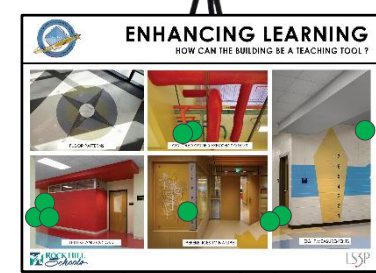
- Create the type of engagement:
 - Use three **green dots** to indicate which images best support student achievement to you.
 - Use three **green dots** to indicate which images best support ways the building can be a teaching tool.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY ENVIRONMENT & LEARNING

Mary Beth Branham (LS3P)



Jimmy Wilhide (LS3P)

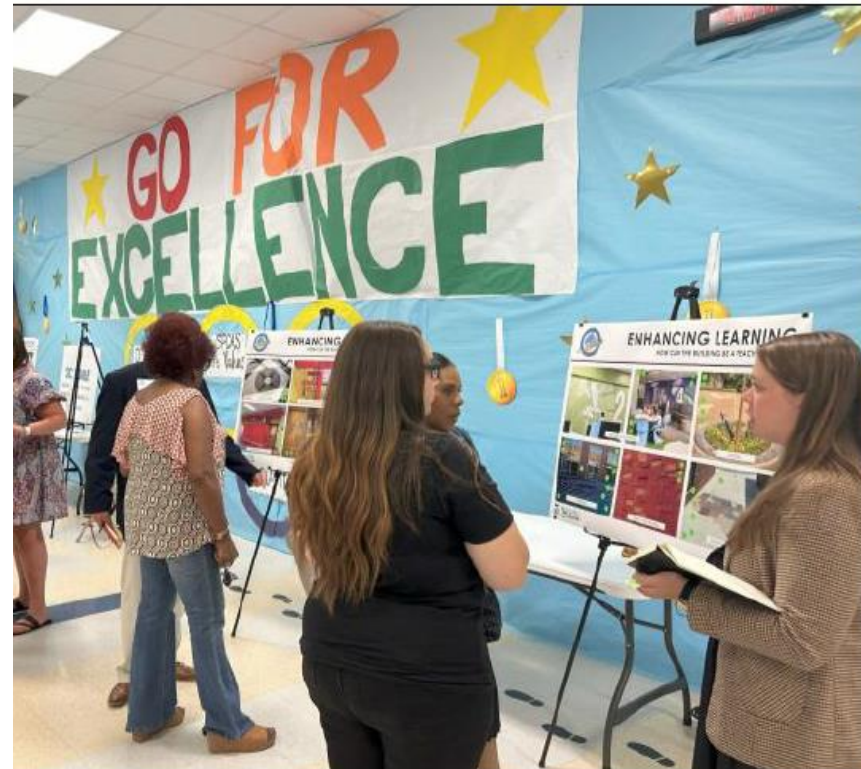


GREEN DOTS
NOTEPAD
PEN

SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2. Engagement Activity: Nurturing Environment / Enhanced Learning

- Community engages with the images and places stickers on most compelling imagery
- Discussion with participants on “why” those images were important to them



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2. Document Activity: Nurturing Environment / Enhanced Learning

- Photograph interaction with activity
- Capture comments and document
- Integrate into design concepts



NURTURING ENVIRONMENT

HOW CAN WE BEST SUPPORT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT?



FEELING OF "HOME"



FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS



OUTDOOR/INDOOR



SECURE PLAYGROUNDS



READING NOOKS



OUTDOOR/INDOOR

23 VOTES

24 VOTES




NURTURING ENVIRONMENT: MOST VOTES – BOARD 1

- 1) Outdoor Learning Opportunities – 28 Votes
- 2) Words of Encouragement – 16 Votes


NURTURING ENVIRONMENT: MOST VOTES – BOARD 2

- 1) Reading Nooks – 24 Votes
- 2) Secure Playgrounds – 23 Votes




ENHANCING LEARNING


HOW CAN THE BUILDING BE A TEACHING TOOL ?




FLOOR PATTERNS




COLORLED CODED EXPOSED SYSTEMS




HEIGHT MEASUREMENTS



LETTERS AND COLORS




REFERENCES TO NATURE



HEIGHT MEASUREMENTS

16 VOTES

18 VOTES



ENHANCING LEARNING: MOST VOTES – BOARD 1

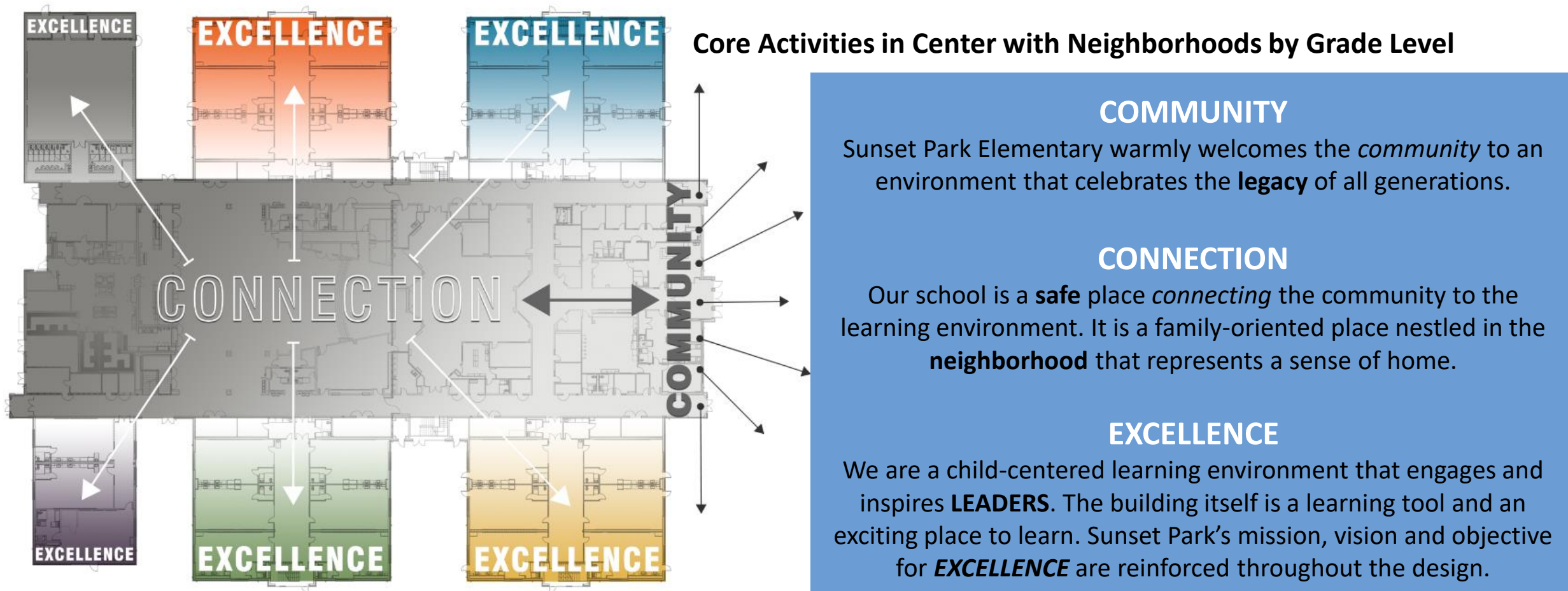
- 1) Outdoor Graphics – 25 Votes
- 2) Numbers and Nature – 21 Votes

ENHANCING LEARNING: MOST VOTES – BOARD 2

- 1) Height Measurements – 18 Votes
- 2) Letters and Colors – 16 Votes

SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design

Key Inspirational Concepts

Connection to nature imagery



School Spirit: EXCELLENCE Leadership/ Acceleration/ Differentiation/ Enrichment



Whimsical Wall Graphics: "The sun raises and sets at sunset park" "At Sunset Park you'll find the sparkle..."



Ideas from Freedom Walkway & painted gym flooring for games

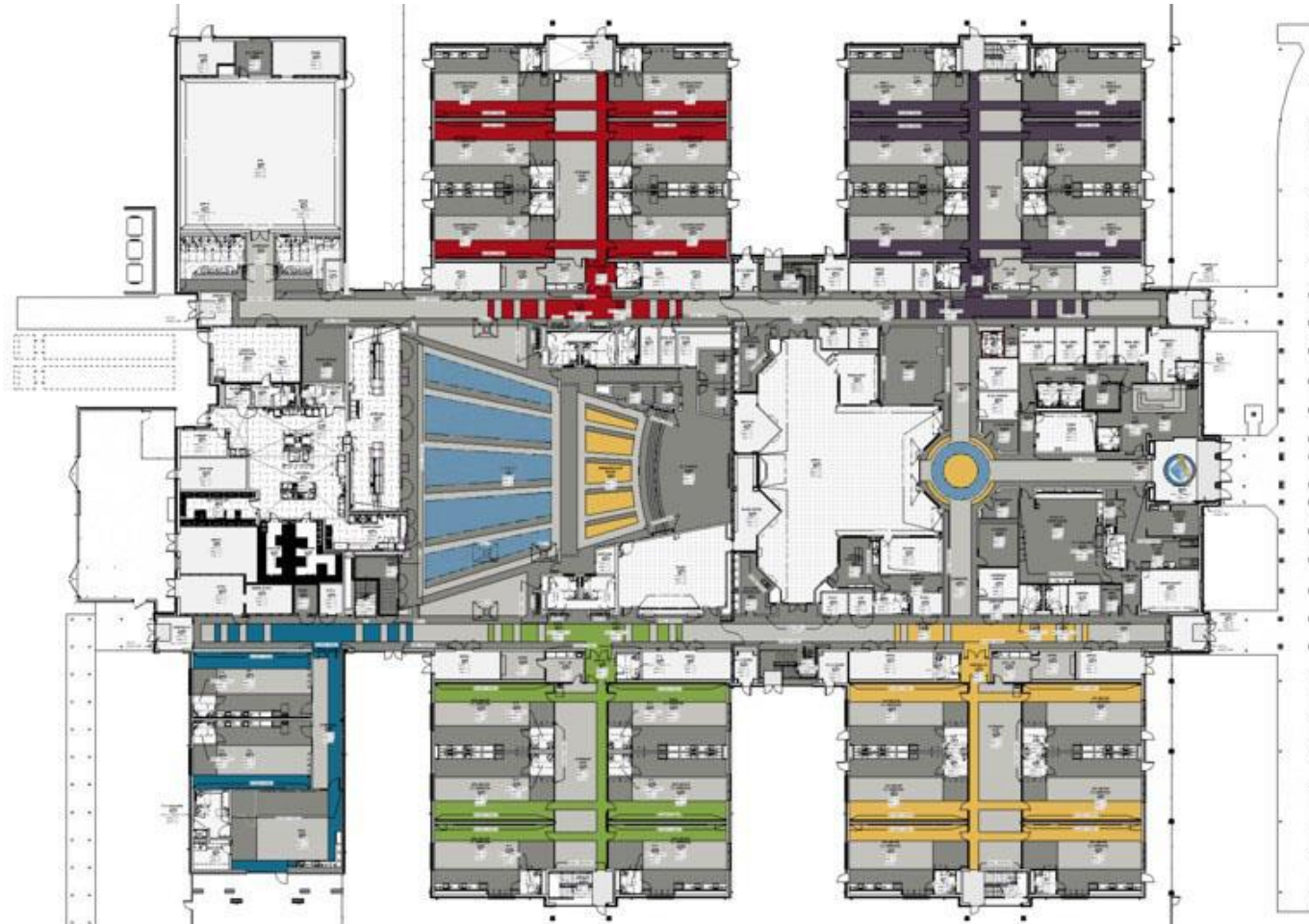


"SPCAS" in large letters in a wall graphic



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design

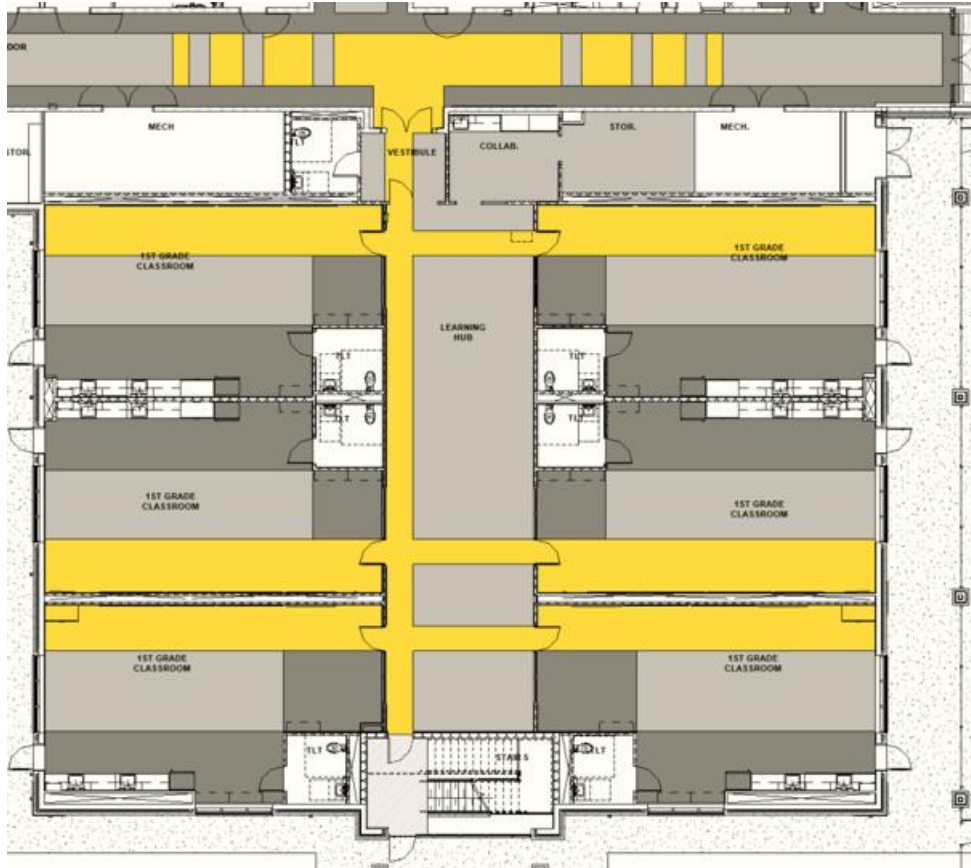


Highlighting School Pride



SUNSET PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design



Nurturing Environment within Neighborhoods / Wayfinding Entrances

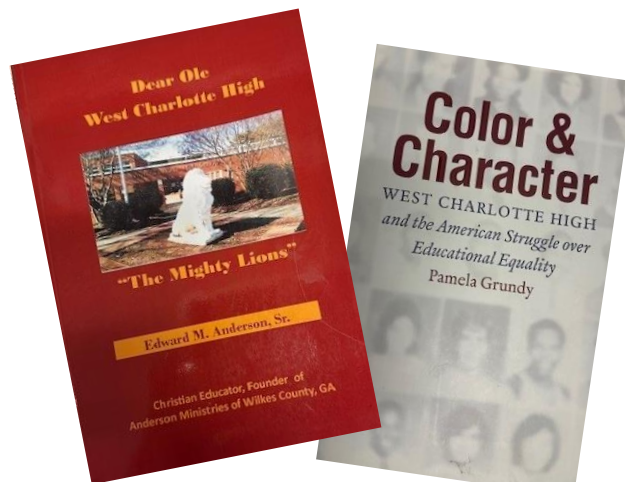


WC
WEST
CHARLOTTE

WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

1. Identify Feedback Priority: History

- Established in 1938 and is one of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's oldest public schools.
- Active Alumni Association
- Feedback** on Rich School History and Legacy



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

1. Create the Engagement Activity: West Charlotte High School Is...

- Create the type of engagement:
 - On the boards, use the sticky notes to write what words come to mind when you think of West Charlotte High School.



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

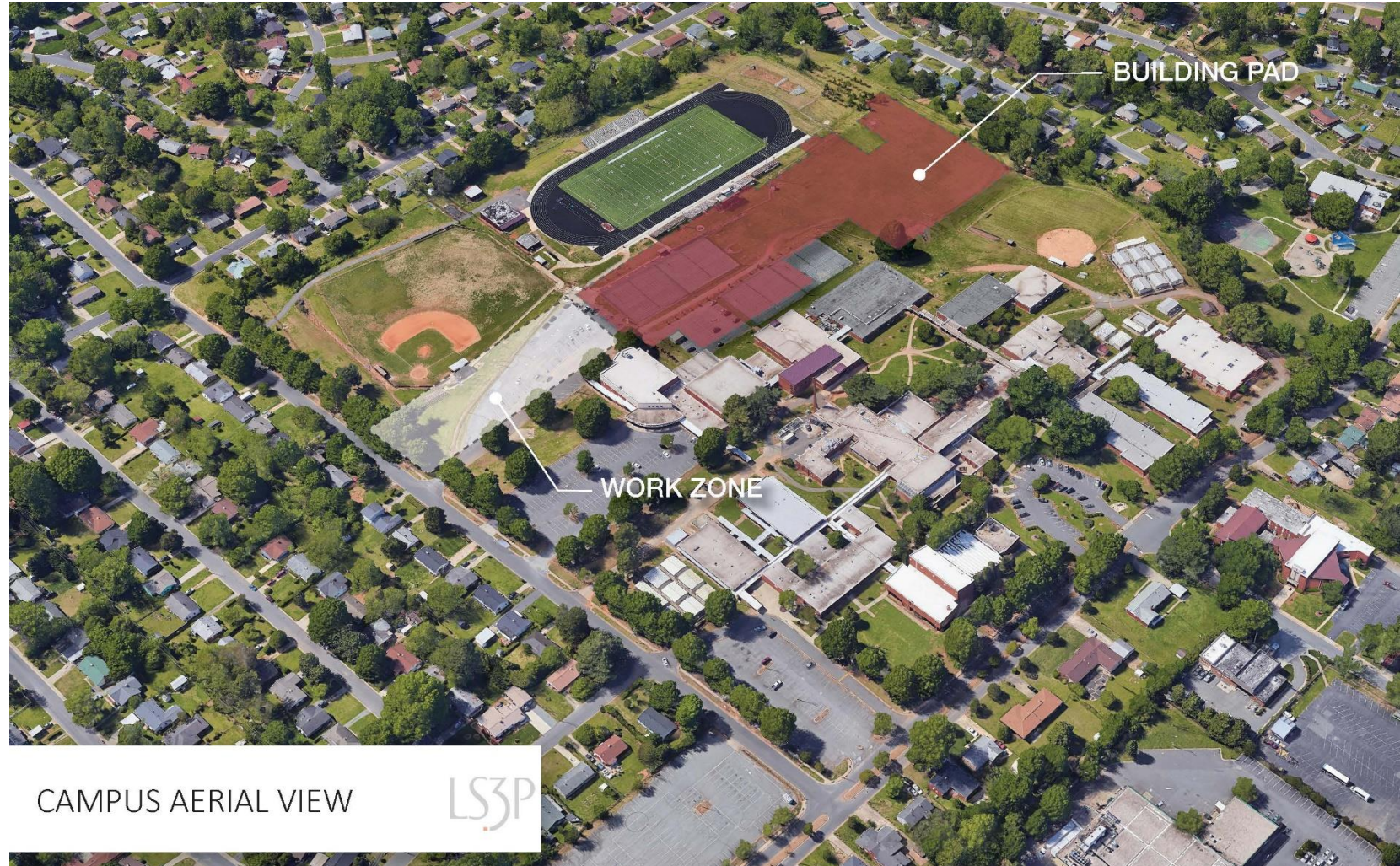
How Feedback Informed Design



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Identify Feedback Priority: On-Site Replacement

- 14 separate buildings on existing campus
- Recently renovated track and football field
- School to remain active throughout construction
- **Feedback** on existing campus and new building placement



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Create the Engagement Activity: Building Blocks

- Create the type of engagement:
 - Recreate **existing site and buildings with scale** with scale topographic model
 - Use the **program blocks** to place pieces of the building on site



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Engagement Activity: Building Blocks

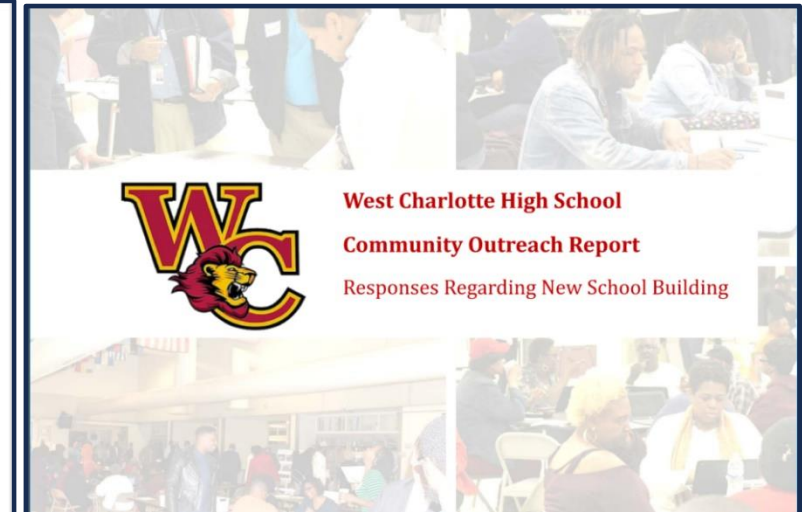
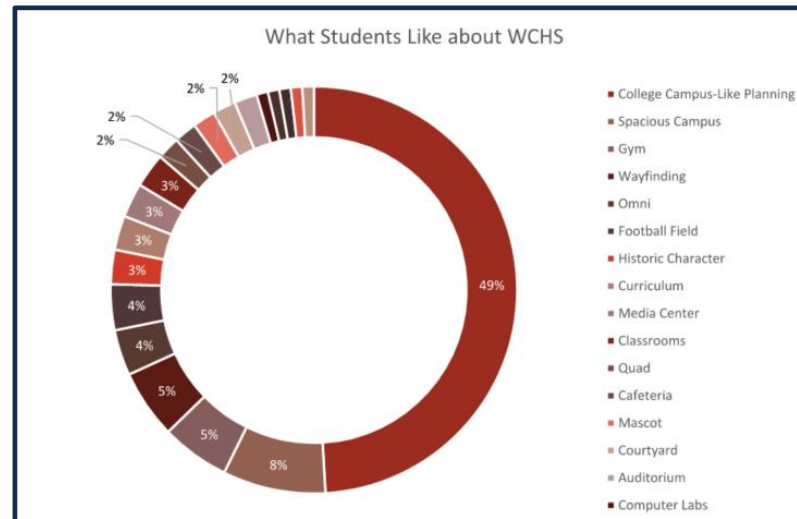
- Community members engage with the activity by placing blocks on the physical site model
- Discussion with participants about what they placed where and why
- Shared stories, memories, and important facts about buildings and artifacts



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

2. Document Activity: Building Blocks

- Photograph interaction with activity to document event
- Photograph final program block locations on the site model
- Integrate related survey questions and responses



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design



WEST CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

How Feedback Informed Design





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Thank You!