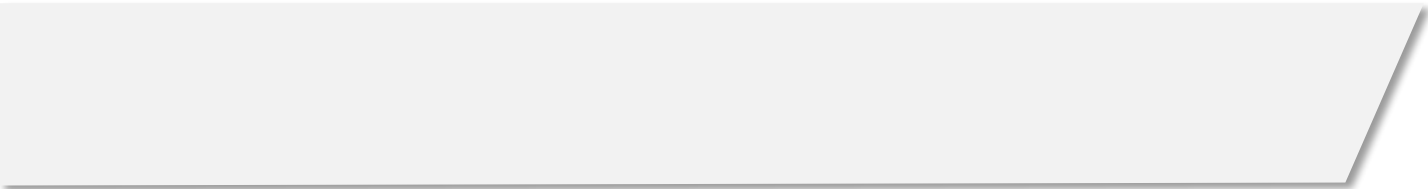




Agenda

- 01 Introductions
- 02 Leander ISD Collaboration Philosophy
- 03 Identifying Realistic Opportunities
- 04 Balancing Safety and Security



Learning Objectives

1. Understand the developmental progression of collaborative learning, from prescriptive models in elementary school to self-directed, flexible approaches in high school and beyond.
2. Explore strategies for designing diverse learning environments—both inside and outside the classroom—that support student choice, engagement, and safety at every age.
3. Examine how expanding learning across zones and hybrid spaces fosters self-awareness and prepares students for workforce adaptability and lifelong learning.
4. Identify ways educators and designers can facilitate collaboration while maintaining the balance between supervision, flexibility, and student autonomy.



District Overview

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

- Established in 1899
- 200 Square Miles
- 48 Campuses
- 42,000+ Students



THE DISTRICT'S VISION

The #1LISD community cultivates each student individually to produce the most sought-after creators of our future world.

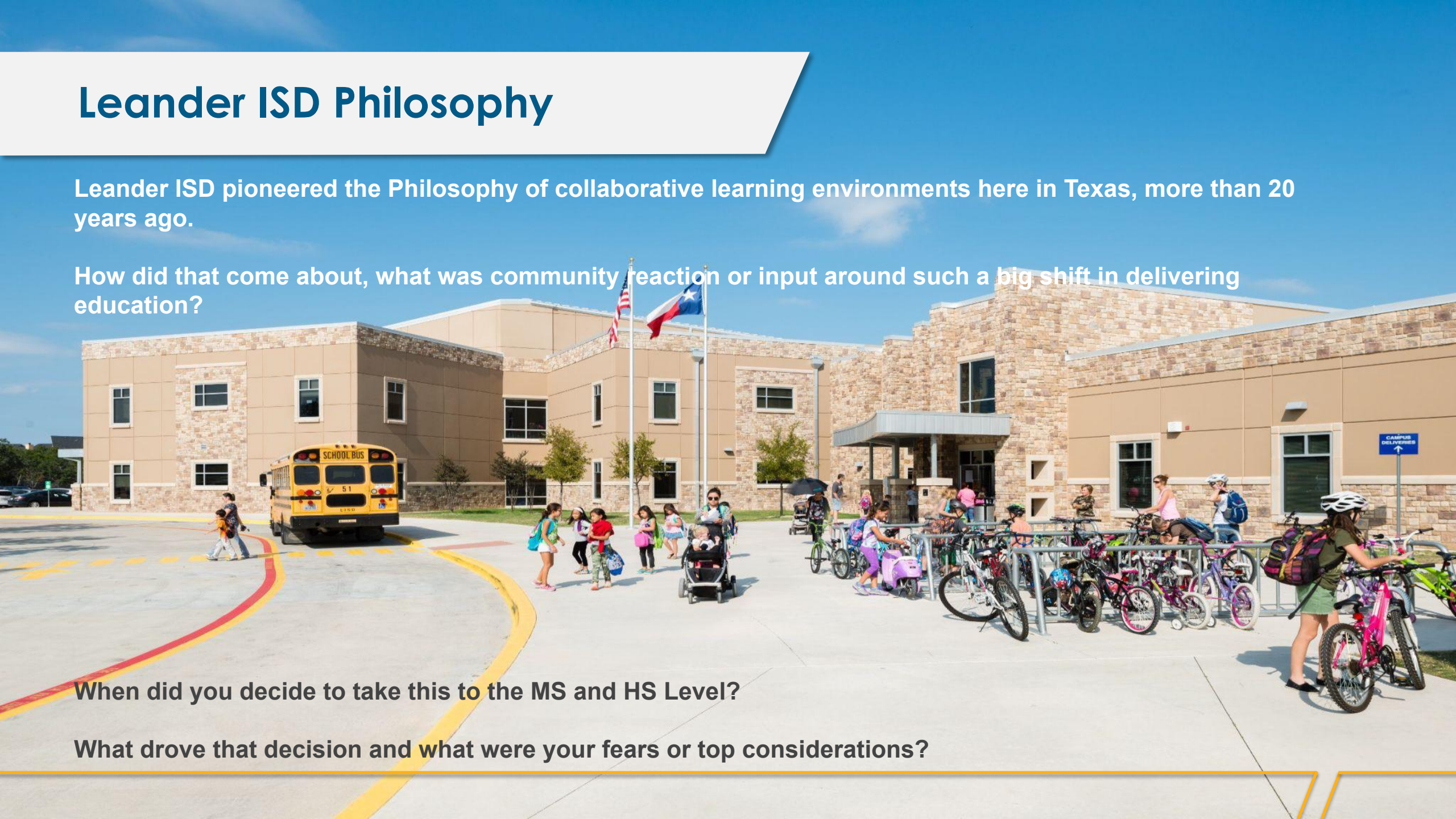
Leander ISD Philosophy

Leander ISD pioneered the Philosophy of collaborative learning environments here in Texas, more than 20 years ago.

How did that come about, what was community reaction or input around such a big shift in delivering education?

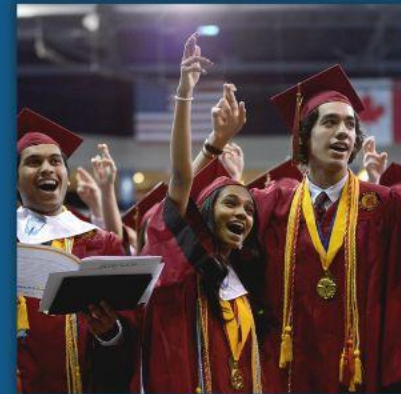
When did you decide to take this to the MS and HS Level?

What drove that decision and what were your fears or top considerations?



GRADUATE PROFILE

Leander ISD learners are empowered to enrich our world and excel in a rapidly changing global society through a life-long journey of character development, academic success, and fulfillment.



LEANDER ISD LEARNERS ARE EMPOWERED TO BE:

Critical & Creative Thinkers

who seek and solve problems through curiosity, flexibility and innovation.

Compassionate Community Contributors

who value diverse perspectives and share their unique gifts with the world.

Skilled Communicators & Collaborators

who listen to understand, express ideas with empathy and work collectively toward shared outcomes.

Adaptable & Reflective Individuals

who confidently embrace their strengths and challenges while pursuing their interests and passions.



Collaboration Integration

New students and staff enter the district all the time, not every district has this type of collaboration and autonomy, how do new students and teachers adjust?

Is there 'training' for new students and teachers?



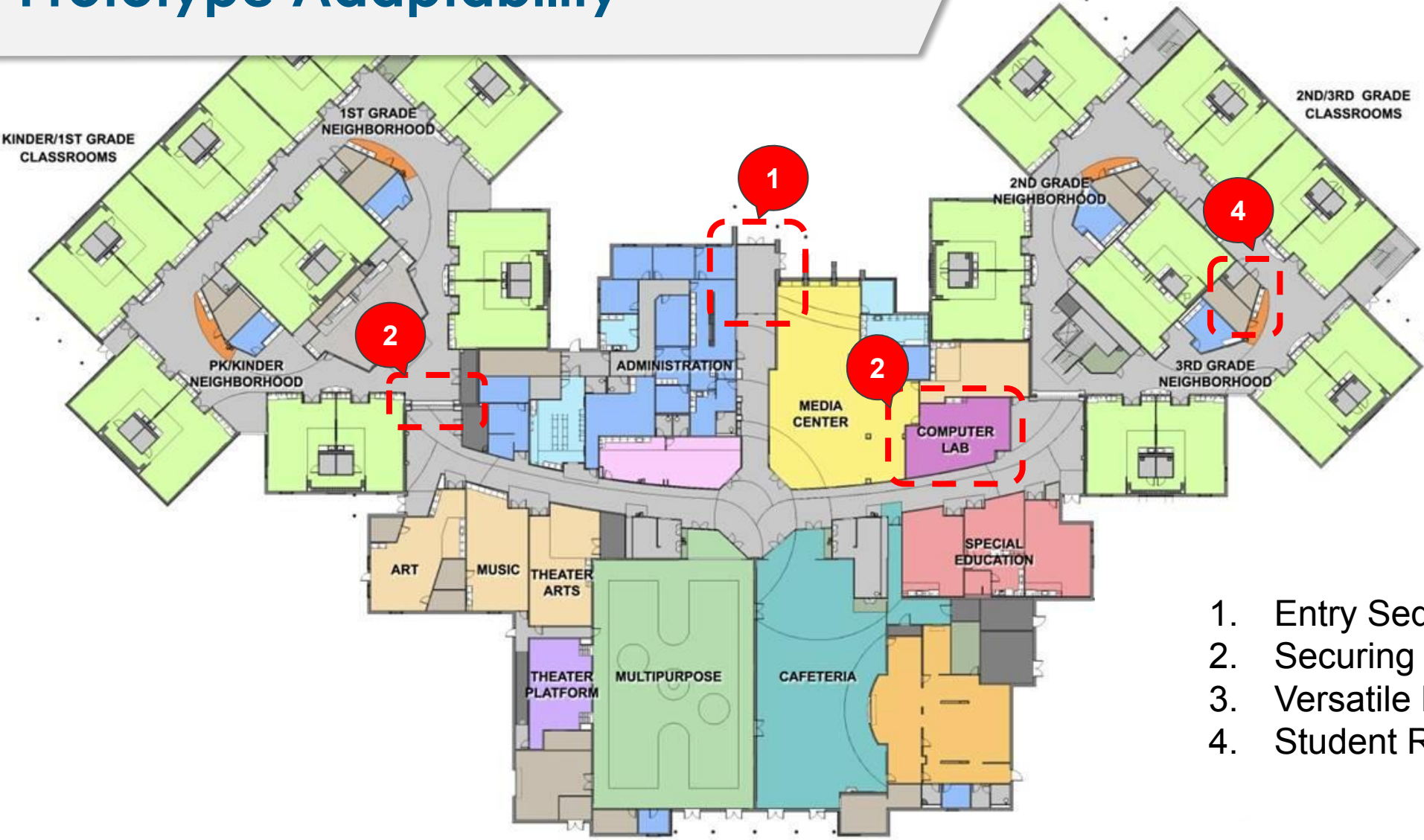
Design Considerations

From a design perspective, what considerations or best practices are there to ensuring a successful new school?

- Engaging with instructional team and senior administrative team together
- Collaboration space looks different as students progress through the grade levels
- Balance between student choice and student safety



Prototype Adaptability



1. Entry Sequence + Reception
2. Securing Neighborhoods
3. Versatile Learning Space
4. Student Restrooms

Expanding to Early Childhood

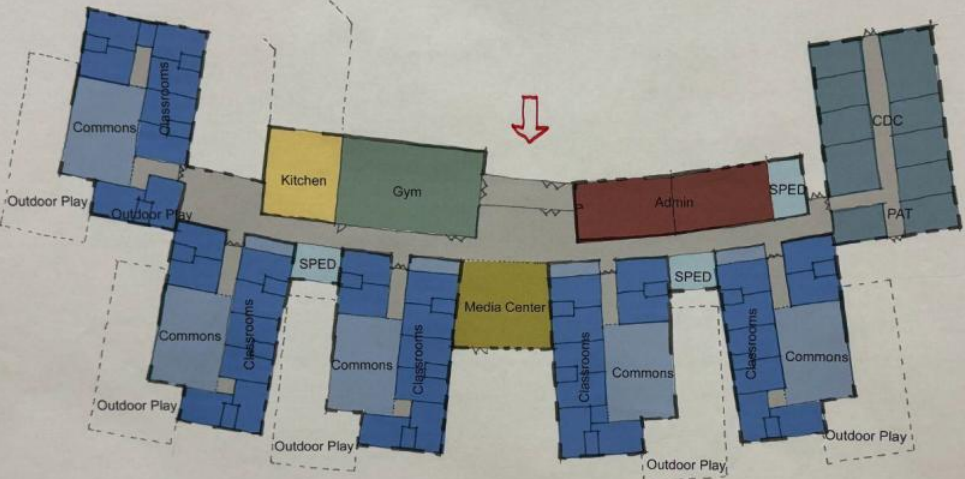


LEANDER ECC

ECC

As the design on the Early Childhood Center progressed, how were some of these key collaborative learning philosophies incorporated?

Expanding to Early Childhood



Expanding to Early Childhood



Expanding to Early Childhood



Expanding to Early Childhood



Expanding to Early Childhood



Design Driver Progression

What are some of the key considerations when designing collaboration spaces for various ages?

How do these design drivers shift with age?

- From more prescriptive to less
- Targeted programs
- Permission to have agency
- Demonstration of opportunities



Collaboration mirrors real-world environments where success depends on cooperation and shared knowledge. By fostering curiosity, confidence, and empathy, collaborative learning prepares children to thrive in an interconnected world.

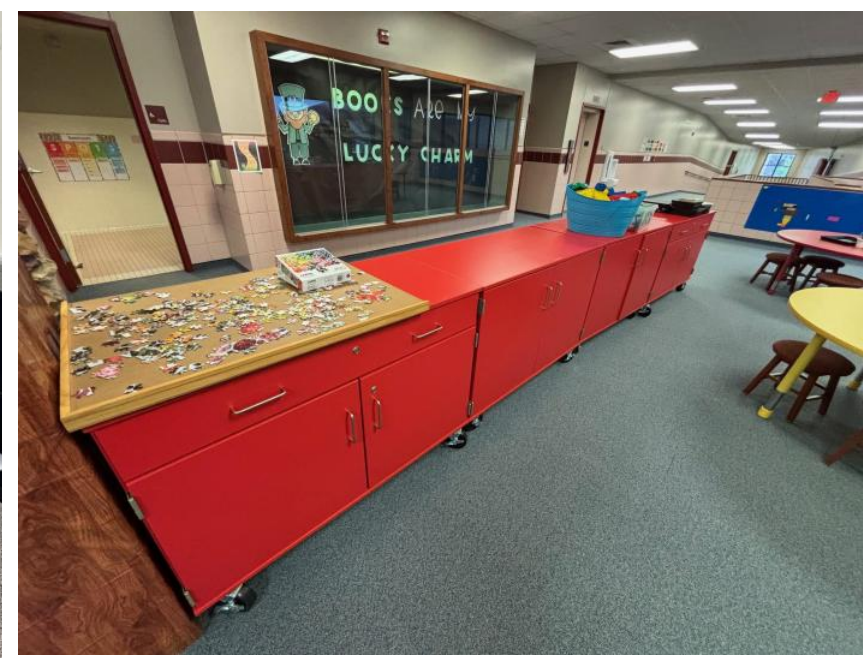


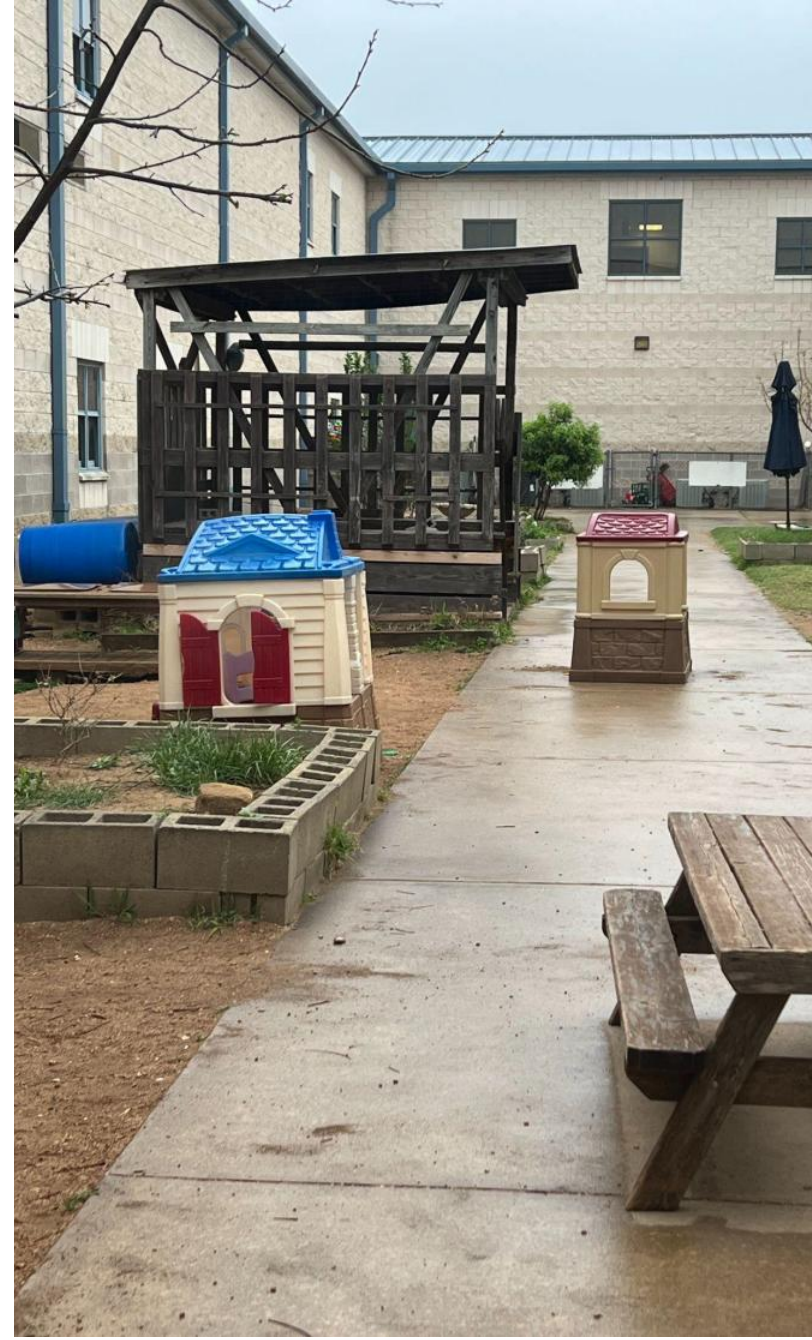
Identify Existing Opportunities

How can you create collaboration areas in existing facilities?



Furniture solutions / Large, open spaces / Identify desired functionality







Collaborative learning nurtures critical life skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. When children work together, they learn to listen, express their ideas, and respect different perspectives—foundations for strong social and emotional development.





In the modern workforce, success often depends on the ability to work effectively with diverse teams, share ideas, and find creative solutions to complex challenges.

Collaborative education ensures that students enter the workforce ready to thrive in team-driven environments and contribute meaningfully to their industries.



Key Impacts



Studies show spaces that empower teachers and students, variety in scale and resources, all contribute to engagement and sense of autonomy.

Safety & Security

How has the safety and security conversation evolved over the years?

How have you been able to maintain the prototype while also adapting to new norms?



Discussion



