



## Priorities and Considerations

The following list of priorities and considerations for the design of the renovated and/or new Orange Elementary Schools combines the responses of Orange Elementary Schools leadership during a Kick-Off Meeting that took place on February 4, 2019, as well as participants responses during the Educational Working Group's (EWG) Workshop One that took place on March 8, 2019. The EWG is a group of approximately 28 participants that includes Orange Elementary Schools leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners.

### Welcoming

- Friendly, warm, and inviting

### Safety and Security

- Double lock entry area
- Phone lines in private places

### A Place You Want to Be

- A building that is happy - feels good and reflects our good programming, and demonstrates to kids and staff their worth

### Innovation and Engagement

- Connected to strategy
- Student caring about work/process not just grades
- Places for students to demonstrate mastery
  - Highlight and showcase student work
- Spaces and technology that facilitate collaboration/sharing - virtual and global connections

### Flexible and Collaborative Spaces

- Large and small group areas (i.e. science/cooking)
- Multi-purpose spaces
- Small space for break-out
- Rooms for enrichment

### Shared Culture

- Pk-6 building
- Interconnected building between PK-6
- Pods around an open area - maybe grade level

### Community Access

- School as community resource
- Community oriented spaces
- Community space - support a variety of activities
- Area for community agencies

### More and Varied Spaces

- More things to do or places to go when taking a break
  - Places to relax - for students
- More hallway space
- A library - study area
- Separate room for band
- Bigger admin space / secretary office

### Enrichment Spaces

- Gymnasium - that is just a gym (No sharing)
  - More sport equipment
- Appropriate and soundproof space for art
- Bigger auditorium

# Priorities and Considerations Continued

## Robust Technology

- Seamless technology

## Outdoor Spaces & Connections

- Age appropriate playgrounds
- Playing fields and play spaces - indoor/outdoor
- Covered outdoor areas
- Covered waiting area at entry
- Gardening area - central atrium/courtyard
- Pre-school playground
- Fields that are flat with drainage
- A greenhouse connected to garden
- Explore outdoor classroom possibilities
  - Labs, performances, trails

## Sustainability

- Energy efficiency
- Self-sustainable (electrical)
- Paperless school

## Ease of Use and Maintenance

- A design and quality of materials that sets a standard of high expectations
- Long lasting design -50 years - not trendy
- Ease of maintenance (flat pews are problematic)
- A structure that is not wood (attracts bees)

## Special Education and Differentiated Instruction

- Separate cool down space
- Accessibility - space for equipment

## Improved Site Circulation

- Parking
- Safe drop off and pick-up

## Student Health and Wellness

- More counseling in building
- Laundry area - some kids don't have access
  - Maybe in nursing suite
  - Shower
  - Sinks
- Nursing space with privacy for students
- Individual lockers







## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Goals 1.0

The following set of priority “21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Goals 1.0” for Orange Elementary School students was developed by the Educational Working Group (EWG) during Workshop One. Five teams of 5-6 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.

### 1. Collaboration and Communication (90 votes)

- Relationships and Team Work
- Effective Communication
- Ability to Understand and Express Yourself
- Digital Literacy

### 2. Empathy and Caring (71 votes)

- Learning to Live Together
- Integrity and Citizenship
- Big Picture Thinking
- Community Thinking
- Perspective Taking
- Cultural Competencies
- Global Awareness

### 3. Learning to Learn (71 votes)

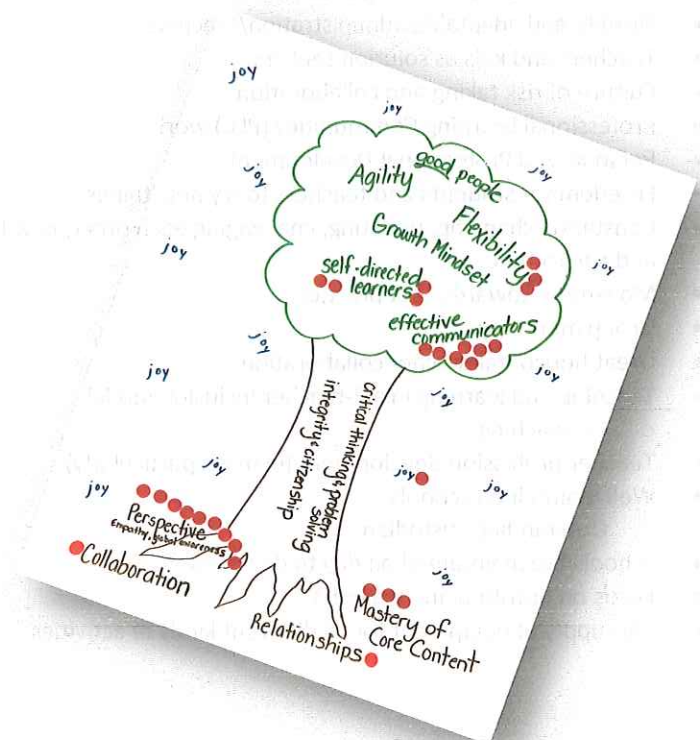
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Student Ownership and Autonomy
- Purposeful Use of Technology
- Students as Teachers
- Mastery of Content
- Self-Directed Learning
- Growing

### 4. Curiosity, Imagination and Joy (64 votes)

- Excitement About Learning
- Adaptability and Creativity
- Inventive Thinking

### 5. Growth Mindset (43 votes)

- Risk Taking and Resilience
- Agility and Flexibility
- Be Yourself





### SCOG Analysis

The following list of Strengths, Challenges and Opportunities & Goals with regard to Orange Elementary Schools' programming and facilities, combines the responses of Orange Elementary Schools leadership during a Kick-Off Meeting that took place on February 4, 2019, as well as participants responses during the Educational Working Group's (EWG) Workshop One that took place on March 8, 2019. The EWG is a group of approximately 28 participants that includes Orange Elementary Schools' leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners.



### STRENGTHS

- Awesome kids - resiliency in the face of some tough stuff
- Kids are the focus
- Growing sense of pride in and recognition of schools
- Caring adults - from the secretary, lunch ladies, teachers, everyone
- Good relationships - families, children, colleagues
- Consistency - small community
- Location - huge campus - woods/trails
- Amazing staff, teachers and specialists (despite lack of funds)
- Lots of expertise/knowledge base
- Flexible and adaptable administration/teachers
- Teachers and kids as solution seekers
- Culture of risk taking and collaboration
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC) work
- Personalized Professional Development
- Freedom for students and teachers to try new things
- Constantly changing, updating, challenging each other, new ideas and curriculum
- Movement towards best practices
- Group mentality
- Great horizontal teacher collaboration
- Teaching and learning in a 2-teacher inclusion model
  - Co-teaching
- Teacher profession development (in math particularly)
- Well maintained schools
  - Outstanding custodians
- Schools are maintained on day to day basis
- Focus on nutrition and wellness
- Big supply of equipment for all different kinds of activities

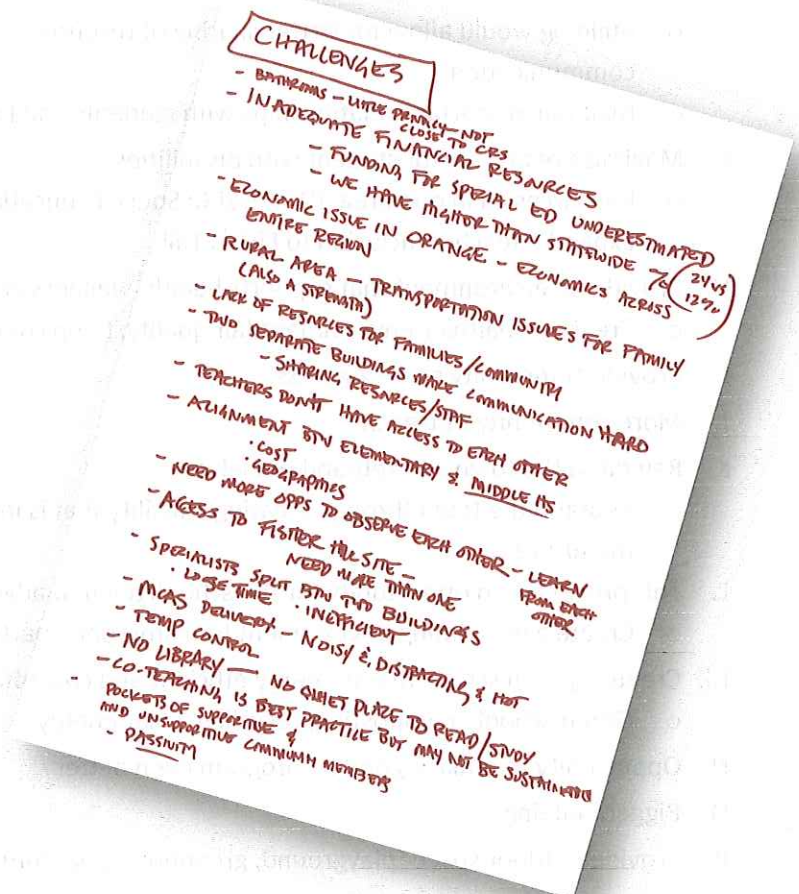






## CHALLENGES

- Budget (state funding)
- Inadequate financial resources
  - On a variety of levels
  - Not enough staff
  - Limited community resources
- Funding for special ED is underestimated
  - We have higher (24%) than statewide (12%)
  - Ratio of need for intervention to number of staff (one math interventionist for K-6)
- Economic issues in Orange - economics across entire region
  - Lack of resources for families/community
  - Rising community poverty level
  - A depressed community (no growth)
- Disjointed mental health services for kids
- Specials (PE, art, music, tech = once a week. Health = once a month)
- Rural area - transportation is an issue for families
- Two separate buildings make communication hard
- Sharing resources and staff is a challenge:
  - Difficult to maintain cohesion
  - Specialists split between two buildings
  - Loose time moving between building
  - Inefficient
- Traditional thinking in community
- Pockets of supportive and unsupportive community members
- Passivity
- Cultural tensions between and within buildings; pockets of negativity
- MCAS delivery - noisy, distracting, and HOT
- Lack of before and after school programming
- Transportation challenges for families and busses
- Confidentiality - not enough phone access
- Need a better way to share resources
- Not having access to other grade level teachers
- Time for vertical teacher collaboration (and space)
- Co-teaching is best practice but may not be sustainable financially
- Need more opportunities to observe each other - learn from each other
- Alignment of MS/HS
- Inadequate space
- Heating and cooling limited and uncontrolled
- Lack of accessibility for handicapped students
- No Library - no quiet place to read/study
- Dual entrance or one entrance? Last studied showed the need for 2
- Small rooms
- Not much outside space
- Small gym (Dexter Park)
- Bad auditorium
- Inefficient technology
- Noise level
- Access to Fisher Hill Site - need more than one
- Drop off/pick up
- Lack of storage
- Classrooms with rugs smell
- Dark hallways
- Bathrooms have little privacy





## OPPORTUNITIES & GOALS

- A. Create a cohesive and joyful school environment and culture
- B. Give our community something to be proud of
- C. Create a school that is inspiring for students, staff and the community at large
  - A place where people want to be
  - A model for the future
  - A new building to make students/staff and community feel more valued
- D. Create one school culture and vision
- E. Design flexible/adaptable physical space to foster a sustainable co-teaching model PK-6
- F. Consolidate services for PK - 6
  - Align and knit together the PK-6 students, staff and community (relationships)
  - Cohesive K-6 programs and practices
  - Align culture, messaging and communication within district
  - Vertical alignment of curriculum and instruction
  - Share staff knowledge, talent, skills
  - Opportunities for connections between and amongst grade levels
  - Increase efficiency on a myriad of levels and therefore allow district to spend monies on kids and teachers
  - Building would allow for better sharing of resources (staff, materials) and improved collaboration and communication
  - Maintain important relationships with students and families in a PK - 6
- G. Maximize resources for student with disabilities
  - Resources all in one area: PT -OT-SPC; Special Education; School Psychologist; BCBA)
  - Expand 2 teacher inclusion to Fisher Hill
- H. Provide an environment that supports health, wellness and nutrition
  - Create a healthier environment (air quality/temp control)
- I. Provide community space / access
- J. More community outreach
- K. Revitalize the town and rebrand ourselves
  - Rebrand the town through creating a facility that is inspiring, inviting, energy efficient, and a model for the future
- L. This process is an opportunity for the school/town to advertise to industry to come and invest
  - Create a welcoming environment for community partners
- M. Create a green school that is energy efficient and cost effective
  - Green school - composting, recycling, solar energy
- N. Opportunity to make a good PE program even better
- O. Bigger building
- P. Provide outdoor space (playground, greenhouse, garden) that is used more frequently and accessible





## Desired 21<sup>st</sup> Century Design Patterns 1.0

The following set of priority “21<sup>st</sup> Century Design Patterns” for the design of the renovated and/or new Orange Elementary Schools was developed by the Educational Working Group (EWG). The EWG is a group of approximately 28 participants that includes Orange Elementary Schools leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners. Five teams of 5-6 participants each worked to create their own set of priority Design Patterns, after which each team presented to the larger group. Participants were then given the opportunity to prioritize their top six Design Patterns. These are listed below in order of the number of votes they received, with each Design Pattern given five votes for appearing on one of the original team lists, and each subsequent priority vote given one point.

### A. **Breakout Spaces** (44 votes)

- Quiet Spaces
- Safe and Closed-In Spaces
- Varied Size Workspaces for Kids
- Alcoves Nooks and Caves
- Flexible Tables and Chairs
- Hallway Spaces with Clear Lines of Sight



### B. **Engaged Outdoor Play** (39 votes)

- Outdoor Connections
- Outdoor Classrooms



### C. **Welcome Entry** (33 votes)

### D. **Community Access** (32 votes)

- Community Use Areas with Separate Entrance
- Private Learning Spaces



### E. **Distributed Dining** (31 votes)

- Alternative Dining
- Round and Flexible Tables
- With Creative, Movable Seating
- Close Proximity to Classrooms to Assist with Breakfast in Classrooms



# Desired 21<sup>st</sup> Century Design Patterns 1.0

## F. Classroom Neighborhoods (29 votes)

- With Common Areas for Each Grade Level
- With Their Own Branding and Identity
- Pods Between Classrooms

## G. Family Resource Room (23 votes)

- High Priority/Economic Need

## H. Natural Light (21 votes)

- Light Shelves

## I. Security and Welcome (19 votes)

- Double Security Entry
- Visible from Conference Room

## J. Anywhere, Anytime Learning (15 votes)

## K. History and Storytelling (10 votes)

- History of Orange Schools

## L. Sustainability (9 votes)

- Green Roofs

## M. Big Gym (9 votes)

- Garage Doors to Outside

## N. Whiteboard Walls (8 votes)

- White Board Paint

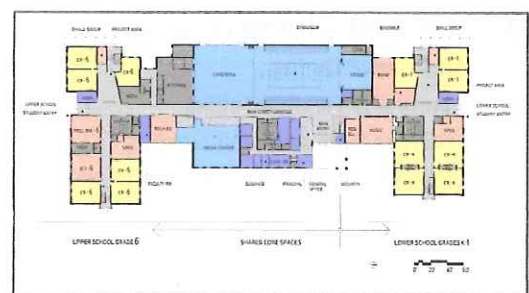
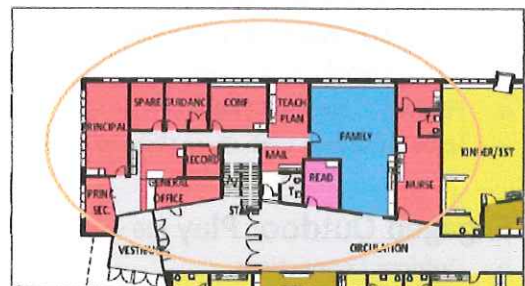
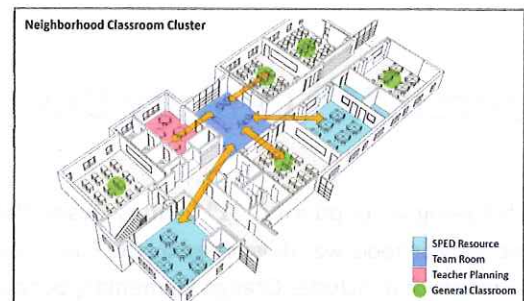
## O. Lower and Upper School Wings (7 votes)

- For Younger and Older Students

## P. Distributed Bathrooms (7 votes)

- Ideally in Each Early Learning Classroom

## Q. Storage Everywhere (7 votes)





# Desired 21<sup>st</sup> Century Design Patterns 1.0

- R. **Ideally Single Story** (7 votes)
  - Promote Flow
- S. **Media Space as Gathering Hub** (6 votes)
- T. **Teacher Workspace** (6 votes)
  - With Phone and Privacy
- U. **Organic Shapes** (6 votes)
  - Round Soffits
- V. **Bright Colors** (6 votes)
  - Fun
- W. **Maker Space and FAB Lab** (5 votes)
- X. **No Carpeting** (8 votes)
  - Lots of Area Rugs



