

Community Consolidated School District 181: Facilities Master Plan

Hinsdale Middle School: Space Planning for the Future

Last Updated: May 19, 2015

The information below represents input provided by the current Hinsdale Middle School staff when asked to identify needs and wants for the building if it was renovated and/or rebuilt. Architectural firms will use this data in creating renderings and cost estimates for this potential project. Community members are asked to review this list and consider edits or additions they would suggest.

Overall Building Needs and Wants

- Flexible for the future
- Fully accessible for students, staff, and visitors with special physical needs
- Secure / Safe
- Wide hallways
- Classrooms that are consistent in size, equitable across content areas and grade levels as appropriate, enough classrooms to ensure all teachers have dedicated space, near one another for easy staff collaboration, grouped by grade level or content area, with common learning area for grade / content area
- Natural light
- Climate controlled / Good air circulation / Fresh air
- Hot water
- Adequate Parking (free and enough for staff plus visitors)
- Green space
- Technology ready throughout (wireless Internet, adequate outlets, outlets at varying heights to accommodate devices at standing-height, charging stations (USB plus regular outlet for carts and individual devices), adequate network outlets for printers and computer carts, speakers in the ceiling for teacher amplification system)
- Lockers with built-in locks (appropriately sized lockers)
- Water fountains on all floors (filtered water, fits water bottles)
- Limited carpeting (allergen prevention)

Common Characteristics of Classroom Spaces

- Flexible for the future
- Accessible for individuals with special physical needs
- Natural light / Windows that open
- Phone / Technology ready
- Ample storage
- Ample whiteboard and bulletin board space
- Tables/Chairs rather than standard small armchair desks

Notes on Specific Instructional Spaces

- Applied Technology: traditional classroom space plus pre-modular education space and sinks
- Art: kiln room with emergency exit; two connecting rooms (both larger than standard classroom) with a large, shared storage room; north-facing windows; ample counter space; 4 or more sinks; space for drying rack, computer cart, and green screen
- Family and Consumer Science: Two fully equipped and separate classrooms on the first floor, ideally somewhat near to the school cafeteria with lab tables (each seating 4-5 students) plus desks; one room is for foods (six kitchen areas with stove, microwave, counter space, ample storage and second means to exit in an emergency and bring in grocery items, three refrigerators); one room is for sewing (ample storage, counters, work stations)

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- Meeting Rooms: spaces for conferences, planning, professional development, collaboration, testing, etc.
- Media Resource Center: central to the building, not so open (with small, connected spaces for teaching)
- Music: more separated from classrooms / sound-proofed
- Music (Band/Orchestra): 2 large instrumental rooms, 1 medium practice room, 1 instrumental storage room, 3-4 small practice rooms
- Music (Chorus/Drama): 2 large rehearsal/classrooms (acoustically-designed, tiered seating, varying height locking cabinets), large storage room for props / pieces
- P.E. / Health: some desire the gym to be on the first floor, but square footage is most important; near the nurse; larger student locker rooms with doorways separate from public entrances; nearby public restrooms; P.E. and health adjacent to one another (with a separate space for health), ample storage
- Science: Lab tables plus regular desks (equipped with gas, water, chemical hoods)
- Social Worker / Psychologist / Counselor: separate offices (five total) plus a separate "safe spot" for students (quiet area)
- Special Education: multiple special education rooms, one for each grade level; half-size classrooms for parallel instruction and reading specialist(s) (storage, bookcases, room for seating)
- Special Education: Sensory room / Calming room that can accommodate a music player, swing, 3'x3' trampoline, soft lighting, bean bags, tension-bands attached to the wall, sensory wall
- World Language: A-V equipped, amplification system for instructor, sound-proofed, small group spaces

Notes on Specific Non-Instructional Spaces

- Bathrooms: all accessible for individuals with special physical needs, plus individual washrooms for wheelchair with support and/or changing tables; teacher bathrooms not in common areas
- Cafeteria: separated from classrooms, perhaps enclosed
- MDF / Server Room: ample size and storage; back-up generator
- Meeting Rooms: Ample spaces for meetings, conferences, planning, collaboration, testing, etc.
- Nurse: Room off of nurse's office for students with medical needs (i.e. changing, tube feeding, wheelchair)
- Staff lunchroom: separate entrance from instructional / student spaces, with private lounge area (private area for breast-pumping); area for staff to make private phone calls
- Staff storage: individual lockers for staff without their own rooms (for purses, coats)
- Work Rooms / Copier Rooms: multiple, close to all staff (exhaust or other solution for laminator)

"Big Ideas"

The ideas below represent a significant addition / improvement to the building that could directly benefit both students and the broader community. Any such space could be used for cross-curricular connections during the school day (including field trips for elementary students) and for public use during non-school hours.

- Fitness Center / Wellness Space
 - Large enough to accommodate at least 30 students; Walking track
- Auditorium / Theater
 - Large enough for the entire school and use as a community theater; multiple points of entry / approach, professional lighting, full sound/audio equipment; flip-top desk attached to theater chairs for doubled use as instructional space (with outlet access)
- Broadcast Room
 - Radio / TV / Video recording; green screen; could connect to auditorium
- Green House / Community garden
 - Students and community members could help cultivate and maintain; fresh fruits / vegetables could benefit those in need through partnership with a local organization such as Hinsdale Family Services
- Planetarium
- Administration Center
 - Consider if the Administration Center should be integrated into a new / renovated building
- Environmentally-friendly design