## K-8 STRATEGIC SOLUTION AND UNIFIED PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## HOW WAS THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL DETERMINED?

(1) DETERMINE THE DESIGN POPULATION

Based on the 2023 Enrollment Projections, we identified the year with the highest projected enrollment for the K-3 population: the 2030-31 school year, which has a projected population of 1076 students. A contingency factor of $5 \%$ was added, bringing us to 1130 students for a design population.

Further contingency is factored in by designing spaces to accommodate the middle of the Scarborough classroom student loading standard range (the number of students per class), but being able to accommodate the maxiumum student loading. For example, when loading at the maximum target of 20 students per Kindergarten through 2nd grade classroom and 22 students per 3rd grade classroom, the school, classrooms, and cores spaces are designed to accommodate a maximum capacity of 1230 students.
(2) FUTURE PROOFING: PROVIDING ADEQUATE SPACE FOR TODAY'S \& TOMORROW'S LEARNERS
We designed the school to absorb the projected enrollment growth and accommodate future additions, if necessary. This was a lesson learned after the Middle School (a State-funded school) was over capacity on the day it first opened its doors, and 20 years later the entire 6ith grade resides in portable classrooms. The planned addilions are similar to what was planned at the end of the Wentworth classroom wings to accommodate grade level growth.
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\begin{array}{ccc}\begin{array}{c}\text { SCHOOL }\end{array} & \text { MAXIMUM } & \text { MAXIMUM }\end{array}
$$ \begin{array}{c}ADDED FUTURE <br>

OPENS (2027-28)\end{array}\right)\) CROJECTION (2030-31) | CAPACITY |
| :---: |

Based On 2023 Enrollment Projections, Appendix Table 8 - Best Fit Plus Covid Adjustment, Plus 5\%

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## HOW WAS THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL DETERMINED? (CONTINUED)

## (3) DEVELOPMENT OF A SPACE ALLOCATION WORKBOOK (SAW)

Finding the right size for a school is a balance. You don't want the school to be so big that you have underutilized spaces or too many spaces for the need, but you also need adequate learning spaces to support 21 st century teaching and learning, now and in the future. A well-designed school includes room to grow so it doesn't max out capacity the day it opens, as was the case for Scarborough Middle School (a state-funded school project).

The spaces designed in the unified school are all identified NEEDS, not "wants." Following the State guidelines for each educational space, District Leadership and their consultants, along with input from school staff, developed a Space Allocation Workbook (SAW) for the project. This is a tool used by the State and school designers to determine what existing program spaces serve the current and future needs and what space deficiencies exist that need to be accounted for in the new school, based on school capacity. The size of each space follows the State's Space Allocation Guidelines for the number of students and staff it must serve and the type of activity/program within each space. For example, Kindergarten classrooms are approximately 1,000 square feet (SF) and 1st through 3rd classrooms are approximately 800 SF.

The quantity of each type of space needed is determined by the number of students, educational requirements, and schedule. The quantity of Specials (programs such as Art, Music, STEM, Library) are determined by the projected school schedule. Their size is based on the square footage guidelines and/or formulas provided by the Department of Education and the maximum school population of 1,230.

An example of a need vs. a want is the gymnasium spaces. To accommodate the physical education program needs and schedule for all K-3 students, two elementary sized gymnasiums are needed. There are two gymnasiums with a dividing curtain so that two classes can occur simultaneously in each gym, 4 classes total. These are NOT large gymnasiums like Wentworth and the High School, which are regulation size gymnasiums. Other wants, such as pool, arose in the process and were not included as they were "wants" and not "needs" that align with educational requirements.

## EXAMPLES OF EDUCATIONAL SPACES

|  | State Space <br> Allocation Guidelines | Space in the Unified <br> Primary School |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Kindergarten Classroom | $\leq 1,000$ SF | $\leq 1,000$ SF |
| Grades 1-3 Classroom | $\leq 800$ SF | $\leq 800$ SF |

