

Village School District

Educational Visioning Summary Report

June 2022



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Overview

How can we make this building a point of pride for the whole community? Let's make it everything that it can be. And this is where it starts-right here.

-Domenic Paolo, Fairport Harbor EVSD Superintendent

On June 6, 2022, members of the Fairport Harbor EVSD administration, educators, village services, parents and students gathered to attend an Educational Visioning Session hosted by ThenDesign Architecture (TDA). This all-day session focused on collaboration and brainstorming on designs for their new school, the impact on the community and how it will improve students' education in the district.

Superintendent Domenic Paolo commented: "Today we came together with members of the community and stakeholders in this project to begin the process of creating a vision for this school."

With over 70 people in attendance, everyone had a say in the design activities throughout the day. Paolo shared "Collaboration is how we make progress in Fairport Harbor. I often refer to it as the engine that drives us. Everything we have accomplished in the District is a result of it and with Visioning today that is definitely the case."

The new 116,000 sf PreK-12 will be located on the existing Harding High School site. It will replace the two aging buildings in the District and provide a modern educational environment which is better positioned to accommodate personalized student needs and foster learning and collaboration.

The following pages detail the output from this session and how this information will be incorporated into the design process for the project.

The new school is going to be awesome. Students are going to have the best opportunity to be the best self they can be, and I think that's really important.

-Will Fazekas Fairport Harbor EVSD Student

Where Are We Now?

A look at the current buildings at Fairport Harbor Exempted Village Schools.

Summary

To gain a general understanding of the current state of the facilities at Fairport Harbor Exempted Village Schools, the principals of each school presented an evaluation of the successes and challenges of the existing school buildings. The information shared allowed those in attendance to realize some of the priorities with the new design.

Successes Reported

The most emphasized success of Fairport Harbor Schools is the flexibility of the teachers, making the best of what is available. Other successes to note are the accessibility and use of outdoor space for learning opportunities, accessibility to the public library for students during and after school, and the development of a personalized learning lab space.

Challenges reported

The challenges reported at both buildings include a failure of ADA compliance, lack of instructional storage, and inflexible classrooms to adapt to changing curriculum and class size. Other community concerns noted are poor traffic flow during arrival/dismissal times, limited security measures, and antiquated mechanical facilities within the buildings.



In our school district we focus on personalized learning. By going through this process, I feel like we can personalize those spaces to fit our students.

> -Katie Rumbarger, Harding High School Principal



Being able to get different perspectives and mesh those ideas-it's a great starting point for us.

-Heidi Elmore, McKinley Elementary School Principal

Where Are We Headed?

Opportunities for Fairport Harbor Exempted Village Schools.

Fairport Harbor Schools' Superintendent Domenic Paolo spoke to the group on the possibilities of education with the new school facility. In his presentation, he thanked the community for their involvement in making a new school possible, crediting parents, teachers, board members, and all who advocated for the students of Fairport Harbor.

Current Fairport Harbor facilities rely on antiquated teaching methods such as sitting in rows, reading from textbooks and listening to lectures. With a new facility on the way, Superintendent Paolo brought attention to what really matters in 21st century education: flexibility, application, and collaboration. He reinforced that learning environments should support the instruction being delivered; effective learning occurs when information is delivered in meaningful ways. The new building will support both current and future needs of the district, allowing for all methods of instruction and learning styles. Although the new building provides slightly less square footage than current facilities, the new spaces will be more efficient, flexible and adaptable, therefore offering more usable space.

Superintendent Paolo encouraged the attendees to think outside the box for the day's activities and to keep an open mind for all possibilities of personalized learning at Fairport Harbor Schools.

When the space you're in is conducive to learning and you're comfortable, it has an impact. We can't deny that.

-Domenic Paolo, Fairport Harbor EVSD Superintendent



Exploring how these spaces should relate to one another at the new Fairport Harbor PreK-12 School

After hearing the goals and plans of the district, attendees were tasked with discussing how different spaces of the new facility should relate to one another. Using scaled cutouts of each program space, groups developed concepts for adjacencies independent of site constraints. Below is a summary of the common themes identified in multiple group results as well as some unique ideas considered.

COMMON THEMES FOR THE NEW BUILDING

- Separate entrance for the Library to enhance security and limit public access to student academics
- Central student dining space to be shared by all PreK-12 students
- Playground space adjacent to Elementary Core Academics
- Courtyards and/or green space adjacent to Middle and High School Core Academics
- Visual Arts and Tech Lab adjacencies to utilize collaboration between spaces
- PE spaces housed as close to the existing field space as possible
- Music spaces equally adjacent to PE and Student Dining space
- Special Education split up within Core Academics, so that each age group has similar adjacencies

UNIQUE IDEAS FOR THE NEW BUILDING

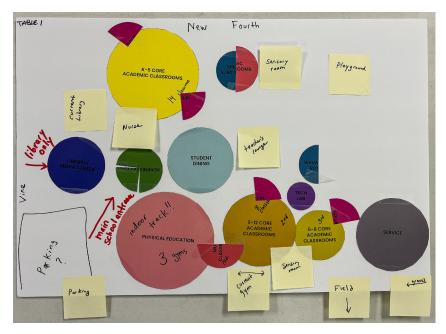
- PE spaces placed near parking for easy access during public events
- Spaces organized by audio levels, with quietest space (Library) on one end, and louder spaces on the other (Gyms, Music)
- Spreading administration spaces within the core academics, while reception and board office remain near main entrance
- Teacher Lounge/Prep space in between Elementary Academic Wing and Middle/ High School Academic Wing to promote collaboration and communication for all staff







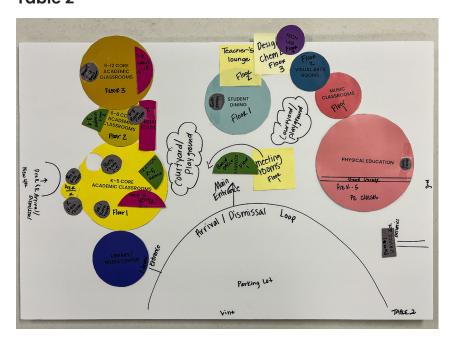
Table 1



SUMMARY

- · One main school entrance
- Library has its own entrance, located off of Vine St
- Separate wings for Elementary and Middle/High School
- · Playground along the Elementary wing
- Central Student Dining
 - Elementary on one side of Student Dining, 6-12 on the other
- · Gym as close to parking as possible
- Middle/High School Music adjacent to Gym space
- 9-12 Academic Classrooms on second floor and 6-8 above
- Library, Gym and Admin considered the "hub" – adjacent to parking
- Tech Lab within Middle/High School Wing

Table 2



SUMMARY

- · Special Ed on each floor
- Split up Admin to coordinate with grade levels
 - Board and "main admin" at entry
 - Meeting Rooms at the "central admin location"
- Separate academics and public/shared spaces
 - One academic wing for all PreK-12
 - ♦ 2 Courtyard/Playground Spaces
 - One by the academic wing, one between Dining and the "collaboration rooms"
 - Labs housed on third floor
- · Dining kept central
- Second entry for PreK-K
- · Separate Library entrance



Table 3



SUMMARY

- Admin needs to be in central hub
 - But there should be a room for each principal adjacent to respective grades
- Academic Wing
 - PreK-5 on first floor
- Tech Lab between Elementary and Middle/High School spaces
- High School and Middle School located nearby due to sharing staff
- Central Student Dining by main entrance
- Separate Library entrance
- Conference rooms between Library and Admin

Table 4



SUMMARY

- Service entrance off of Plum St.
- Music, Dining, and Physical Education adjacent to each other – easy access to outdoors towards the field
- Courtyard/Playground adjacent to Student Dining
- · Three tier Academics
 - ♦ Admin on each floor
 - Special Ed on each floor
 - ♦ PreK-5 on first floor
 - Middle on 3rd floor
 - High School on 2nd floor
- Tech Lab, Visual Arts, and Library off to the side
- "Loudest to quietest"
 - Gym/Music/Dining on one end near existing field, Library/Arts/Tech on the other, academics in the middle
- Outdoor learning space



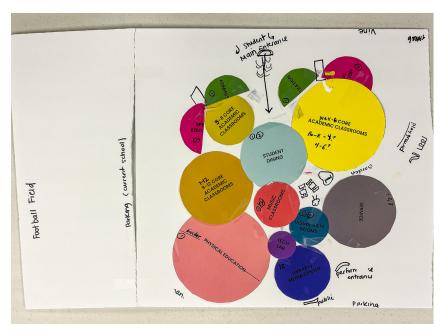
Table 5



SUMMARY

- Physical Education split between Elementary and Middle/High, with Student Dining in between
 - Extra public entrance for events
 - Band Room adjacent to Physical Education/Dining
 - Other Music and Arts spaces adjacent, more central
- · Two academic wings
 - PreK-2 on first floor, 3-5 on second floor
 - Teacher Lounge between two wings
 - Tech Lab also between, accessible to all students
 - High School on first floor, Middle on second
 - Special Ed spaces on each floor for each wing
- Green space between Academic Wing and Library
- Separate public entrance to Library, but adjacent to Admin
- · Main entrance through Admin

Table 6



SUMMARY

- Main entrance along Vine St.
- Main admin hub split in two
 - Elementary and Middle/High
- Central Dining
- Academics brought to front, collab spaces more in the back
 - Separate event entrance
- Music between Dining and Gym
- Special Ed split in two adjacent to respective Admin spaces

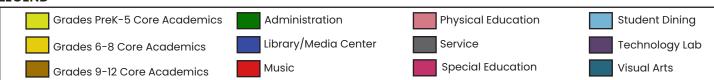
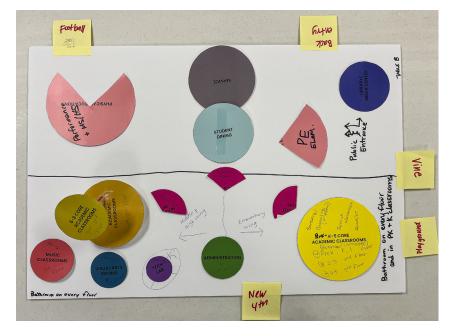


Table 7



Table 8



Grades 9-12 Core Academics

SUMMARY

- Physical Education near Football Field
- Physical Education adjacent to Music and Dining
 - With assumption those would all be double height spaces
- In front of two story spaces:
 - Library, Tech Lab, Visual Arts, and Admin on first floor
- Including main entrance
 - 9-12 Academic Classrooms on second floor above that
- · Enclosed Courtyard
 - ♦ Sun roof
 - Not public accessible
 - Central
 - Playground within it
 - Double height
- On other side of courtyard. PreK-8 Grades
 - * "Little ones" on first floor
 - Middle School on second floor
- · Special Ed on the PreK-8 Wing

SUMMARY

- · Main entrance off of New 4th St.
- PreK-5 Academic Classrooms on one side, 6-12 on the other
- Central shared resource room adjacent to Admin
- Visual Arts, Tech, and Music rooms on first floor adjacent to Middle/High School Admin
 Music spaces kept together
- Middle/High School Academics on 2nd and 3rd floors
- PreK-5 spread over three floors
- Special Ed services split amongst grades
- Elementary Gym split to Elementary side
- Library at Northeast end, adjacent to Elementary Gym
 - Separate public entrance to serve both Library and Gym
- Student Dining between two Physical Education spaces
- Most Physical Education areas on the Middle/High School side
- Back entry and service entrance
- Restrooms on every floor including PreK-K

Visual Arts



Music

Special Education

Identifying Our Needs

Imagining the potential for design of spaces at the new Fairport Harbor PK-12 School

TDA shared a slideshow that highlighted other Northeast Ohio school districts with flexible and progressive educational spaces. Afterward, attendees participated in an exercise to envision design possibilities by listing their goals for the following spaces within the District:

PreK-5 Core Academics

6-8 Core Academics

9-12 Core Academics

Administration

Library/Media Center

Music

Physical Education

Special Education

Student Dining

Technology Lab

Visual Arts









Identifying Our Needs

Imagining the potential for the design of spaces at the new Fairport Harbor PK-12 School

Below is a brief summary of key goals identified by stakeholders for the various spaces:



SPACE	SUMMARY OF GOALS FOR SPACES AT THE NEW SCHOOL
PreK-5 Core Academics	Flexible spaces and seating; outdoor learning; storage; tackable wall space; natural light; science lab; modern technology; sensory spaces; accessibility to support spaces; bathrooms in PreK-1; sink and water fountain in each room; central teacher hub; phones in every room.
6-8 Core Academics	Collaborative space; flexible seating; storage; flexible classroom space; walls with tackable surface; natural light; operable windows; central teacher hub; modern technology; science labs; access to library; phones in every room.
9-12 Core Academics	Modern technology and collaborative spacing; design and science labs; student lounge and check-in point for kids attending Auburn Career Center/College credit Plus; access to all resources.
Administration	Admin at each level of the building; conference rooms with visual technology for Board, staff and students; Private restrooms for Superintendent, Board, and Nurse; Copy/Print/Prep Rooms for staff; counselor near admin.
Library/Media Center	Secure entrances for both school and community; spaces to support different age groups, collaboration, community, staff, meetings and quiet study; modern technology; natural light; access to green space; computer lab; shared resources with school; handicap accessible.
Music	First floor with access to loading areas, football field and cafetorium; away from academic areas; band room pre-wired for audio system; room designed for proper acoustics; space to accommodate main band room, practice rooms, storage, offices and music library.
Physical Education	Accessible to community; main competition gym; practice courts; concessions/ticket area; space for storage, locker rooms, batting cages, weight room, training, film/press, coaches, conference; indoor track.
Special Education	Sensory rooms; flexible seating; interactive technology; conference rooms; storage; OT/PT space; phones in every room; bathrooms in unit rooms; incorporate Social and Emotional Learning services; special education room for each floor.
Student Dining + Playground	Flexible/Multipurpose space; available to community; indoor and outdoor; vending machines; tiered seating with storage. Synthetic surface; separate Playground for PreK-1 with classroom access; developmentally appropriate equipment.
Technology Lab	Flexible seating; storage; film editing/viewing; media room for recording/creating movies; vlogging space/room; access to student and community training, in proximity to library for joint use; loading dock.
Visual Arts	Storage; dressing room; prop room; access to community; access to theater; access to outdoor space; parking for community; modern lighting and sound; safety features.

Exploring where the school program components are situated on the new Fairport Harbor PreK-12 School site

After studying program relationships and establishing key goals of these spaces, the last activity required groups to explore where building program components are situated on the site. Each group used scaled 3D foam blocks to organize and plan out spaces on the new PreK-12 site plan to study interior and exterior spatial relationships. Below is a summary of common themes identified in multiple group results as well as some unique ideas considered.

COMMON THEMES FOR THE NEW BUILDING

- Parking and arrival/dismissal loop off of Vine St. to avoid traffic in front of residential driveways
- Library placed along New 4th St. with separate parking and entrance
- Use of Plum St. property as a one-way entrance to school property
- Separation of Academic Wings between grades PreK-5 and 6-12
- Close relationships between Physical Education, Student Dining, Stage, and Music spaces for shared and collaborative uses
- Enclosed Courtyard/Green Space/Playground for controlled use
- PreK-K Academics kept at the ground level

UNIQUE IDEAS FOR THE NEW BUILDING

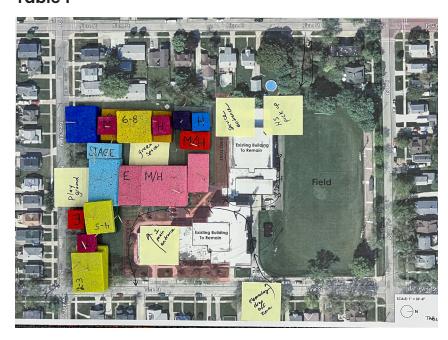
- Second entrance loop for PreK-K students
- Wait for the demolition of existing building to use that space for enlarged Playground area
- Service spaces tucked within slope of site for easy service drive access (from Plum St.)
- Separate Green Space for 6-12 students to limit crowding around Elementary Playground spaces
- Elementary Music Room kept adjacent to Elementary Core Academics
- Stacked Special Education spaces for similar layouts on each floor







Table 1









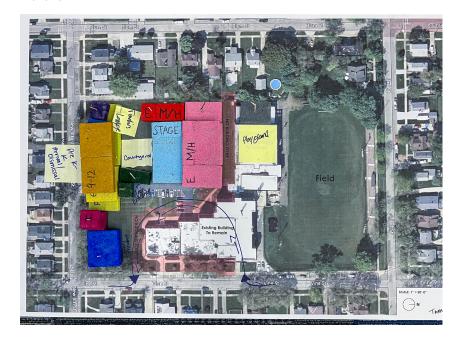


SUMMARY

- Two separate entrances for High School and Middle/ Elementary Drivers
 - High School uses the drive off of Plum St.
 - Middle/Elementary loops off of Vine St.
 - Service entrance also along Plum St.
 - Plum St. drive becomes two lanes for entry and exit
- One main entrance through Admin, off of the loop created from Vine St.
- PreK-5 grades separated from 6-12, with Dining and Gym spaces central
- All within 2 floors
- Green Space in between Dining/Stage, Gym, and Middle/ High School academics
- Playground off of Elementary Wing along New 4th St.
- Library on Southwest end along New 4th St. with separate parking and entrance
- PreK-1st grade on first floor, 2-5 on second floor
- High School classrooms on ground floor, Middle on second floor
- All Special Education on second floor



Table 2





- · One Academic Wing
 - Elementary on first floor
 - Middle School on second floor
 - High School on third floor
 - Arts, Tech on second floor
 - Special Ed space stacked upon each other adjacent to appropriate grades
- Library Wing on end of Academic Wing, against Vine St. and New 4th St.
- Main Entrance through one main Admin
 - ♦ Board on first floor
 - Some offices on second floor principals
- · Gyms near existing field
- Music adjacent to Stage and Dining
- Separate Library entrance along the same arrival/dismissal loop of school entrance
- Wait after demo for Playground located where existing Gvm is
- · Courtyard between Dining and Academic Wing
- "Committed to one academic building"
 - * "Allow everybody to have shared space; easy for kids to get to"











Table 3





- Central Courtyard
- Two entrances through Admin:
 - Car loop and entry along Vine St.
 - Pedestrian entrance along New 4th St.
- · Service drive from Plum St. to the Southwest end
- Elementary and Middle/High School wings
 - ♦ PreK-K on first floor, West of Admin
 - ♦ Grades 1-3 above PreK-K
 - ♦ Grades 4-5 on 3rd floor
 - ♦ Grades 11-12 on ground floor, East of Admin
 - Grades 9-10 on second floor, above 11-12
 - Middle School on 3rd floor, above High School
- · Admin on ground floor
- Visual Arts on second floor
- Special Ed on third floor
- · Library on Southeast end
- Tech Lab above Library
- · Music Rooms adjacent to Stage and Gyms
 - Playground in Courtyard











Table 4



SUMMARY

- 2-lane one way entrance along Plum St.
- · Staff parking where existing Gym space is
- · Playground between Gym spaces and Staff Parking
- 2 exits onto Vine St.
 - One exit used as entrance after morning drop-off
- Special Ed on each floor
- Admin angled at front corner entrance
 - Admin has a presence on all three floors, with some void space for visual connection and unique front entrance design opportunities
- · Grades PreK-5 on first floor
- Grades 9-12 on second floor
- Grades 6-8 on third floor
- All of these academic spaces behind Admin, enclosing a courtyard space behind them
- · Visual Arts on second floor
- · Tech Lab on 3rd floor
- Library located at the South side along New 4th St. with separate parking and entrance
- · Gym located near field
- · Service entrance on New 4th St.
- Dining and stage along New 4th St.
- · Music spaces align courtyard-adjacent to Dining and Stage
- Mechanical Yard by Gym
- Lots of open green space at New 4th St. and Vine St.

Ext. 92









Table 5





- Driving loop off of Vine St., Admin at main entrance
- Admin is separated into three "wings"
 - One main entrance vestibule
 - Separated by Elementary, Middle/High, and the Board
- Grades 9-12 on first floor
- Grades 6-8 on second floor
- Separate green spaces for 6-12
- Playground/courtyard enclosed centrally (for Elementary students)
- Pedestrian entrance from New 4th St.
- Separate Library parking
- Dining/Stage, Physical Education, and Service near field
- Music between Physical Education spaces and Elementary spaces
- Elementary classrooms spread along three floors
- Visual Arts, Tech Lab, and Special Ed between Elementary and Middle/High School











Table 6





- Similar one way entrance from Plum St.
- Admin split
- 3 stories for an Elementary Wing and 3 stories for Middle/ High School Wing
 - ♦ PreK-K on first floor
 - Middle School on third floor
- Dining central, between the two Admin spaces
- 6-12 Wing on North end, near field
- PreK-5 on South side, along New 4th St.
- Playground at New 4th and Vine St.
- Separate Library parking and entrance at Southwest corner
- Courtyard between Dining and 6-12 Wing
- · Physical Education behind Library, near field
 - Physical Education support above the Service space, which is built lower, with the slope of the field
- Music between Stage and Physical Education spaces
- Visual Arts south of Music, Tech Lab above Arts (closer to Elementary Wing
- Each Special Ed space near appropriate grades











Table 7





- Two separate entrances for High School and Middle/ Elementary Drivers
 - High School uses the drive off of Plum St.
 - Middle/Elementary loops off of Vine St.
 - Service entrance also along Plum St.
 - Plum St. drive becomes two lanes for entry and exit
- · Main entrance off of New 4th St.
- Separate Library entrance
- All 2 stories
- Middle/High School Music spaces directly behind stage
- Dining and Stage adjacent to Physical Education
- · Library adjacent to Admin and Dining
- Enclosed Courtyard/Atrium/Playground
 - Surrounded by Admin, Elementary Academics, Dining, and Elementary Gym
- Elementary Wing and 6-12 Wing
 - ♦ Grades 9-12 on first floor along Vine St.
 - ♦ Grades 6-8 on second floor
 - "We've got some extra space so we've decided we want a rooftop garden/lab/hangout space"
 - PreK-K on ground level at Southwest corner
 - ♦ Grades 1-5 above
 - Special Ed and Visual Arts between the 2 wings











Table 8



SUMMARY

- One way entrance on Plum St.
- One main Admin hub, with two separate vestibules for Elementary and Middle/High School
- Separate Elementary Gym from Middle/High School Physical Education
- Library along New 4th St. so residents can easily walk
- Library has two floors, usable 3rd floor connected two Academic Wings
- Grades PreK-1 on first floor, 2-3 on 2nd floor, 4-5 on third floor
 - Elementary Special Ed on 2nd floor
- Playground between Elementary Academics and Elementary Gym
- Gym and Dining adjacent
- Arts, Tech, and Music on 1st floor of 6-12 Academic Wing
- · Middle School on 2nd floor, with Special Ed
- 9-12 on third floor, with Special Ed











Vision in a Word

All attendees were given the opportunity to write down a single word that best conveyed their vision for the new Fairport Harbor PreK-12 School. Below is a visual representation of their vision.



Conclusion

The Educational Visioning session at Fairport Harbor Exempted Village School District resulted in a productive and insightful day, serving as a kickoff to the design process for the new PreK-12 school project. The cross section of representatives across the District and community provided a forum to celebrate the many successes across the district, share ideas, and explore how the new facility can positively impact education in Fairport Harbor.

Some of the key takeaways captured from this session are the need for flexible, collaborative spaces to support the delivery of education and student learning; maintaining and celebrating the rich tradition of Fairport Harbor; creating separation of Elementary, Middle and High School but utilizing common spaces where appropriate; providing green space for students and staff; promoting the library as a resource for both residents and students; and supporting the needs of both the district and the community.

The design team will use information collected throughout this session along with other engagement opportunities to serve as the foundation for the design of the new PreK-12 school.

My original reason for getting onto the board was to make sure that all students had the same opportunity for a quality education. And this new school can do nothing but help them in that aspect. They'll have state-of-the-art facilities to help them go further.

-Bill Lukshaw Fairport Harbor Schools Board of Education

