



OVERVIEW

We believe that school facilities are community buildings that should reflect the neighborhood where they are constructed.

The Visual Preference Survey is used by the designers at ThenDesign Architecture (TDA) to better understand the preferred design style for the exterior of the new K-12 campus in Fairport Harbor.

A survey of 20 sets of images (40 images total) of different school facilities were presented for respondents to consider. Respondents had the opportunity to select from and comment on building features such as design style, building materials, number of floors, window styles, colors, patterns, and playgrounds.

The results found in this report reflect the design preferences of 152 respondents from Fairport Harbor Exempted Village School District's community.

TDA's design team has reviewed the survey results, and have incorporated the feedback into the design of the building.



OPTION 14A



OPTION 10A



OPTION 7A

Fairport Harbor Exempted Village School District

VISUAL PREFERENCE SURVEY INTRODUCTORY TEXT

Fairport Harbor Visual Preference Survey



We are interested in gathering your feedback on the aesthetic elements for the exterior of the new PK-12 school building in the Fairport Harbor Exempted Village School District.

The survey consists of a series of images pairings which reflect examples of various styles, window types, material colors, and other design elements. Please indicate your preference for each of the two image pairings by selecting the preferred option. In addition to indicating your preference, please share why you prefer the image to provide further feedback to the architectural design team.

Please note the image examples included in the survey are for illustration and information gathering purposes only. They do not reflect the final design of the new building. The feedback from this survey may be used in the design process.

Thank you for your time and participation.

OVERVIEW OF RESULTS

40

images

152

responses

Overall, respondents expressed that the features they find important in a school facility include:

- A contemporary design style while utilizing traditional school design aesthetics to:
 - a) fit the architecture already found in the community,
 - Fits in the community
 - "Fairport Feel" / Feels like Fairport Harbor
 - Anecdotally, respondents share that they prefer the design style of a "traditional school"
 - b) prioritizes student experience and safety
 - Areas where students can wait for pick up in inclement weather
 - c) look inviting and welcoming for students
 - "Simple"
 - "Modern"
 - "inviting to students of all ages"
- Anecdotally, respondents share that the school design should "look like a school," be inviting and exemplify the exterior traits of a traditional school building.
- Playground:
 - secure area
 - prioritizes student safety
 - fun for kids
 - visibility for recess monitors
- The most liked buildings were 14a (131), 10a (128), and 7a (123) (LEFT)
- Anecdotally respondents did not like option 12 buildings (BELOW)



OPTION 12A



OPTION 12B

Question 1



OPTION 1A

75

respondents selected this option.

1. It looks more like a school
2. More natural sunlight. Looks more inviting
3. Contemporary styles don't look dated as time goes on.
4. Option 1A has large windows which look nice and I like the look. But mostly I like the overhang area. We need a large shelter like that for our many kids who walk or need to wait for rides. I like the tower in option 1B only because I'm hoping one can look out the tall windows. It would be great if we had a tall area that one could see the lake from if possible. If not, then it is a moot point to have a tower.
5. It "feels" more warm and inviting. I also like that there is an overhang for students to wait under if it rains, snows, etc.



OPTION 1B

76

respondents selected this option.

1. Reminiscent of the lighthouse! More inviting
2. I chose option B because it more clearly defines the main entrance and I think it makes more sense from a safety perspective.
3. I feel it looks less intimidating to younger kids.
4. natural light can get in, but it doesn't feel as exposed. (security and safety)
5. We liked B because of its simple yet modern architectural design. Plus we live across from the school and that's what we would prefer to see.

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

1

respondent did not select an option.

1. Doesn't fit with village



Question 2



OPTION 2A

55

respondents selected this option.

1. It's captures some of the traditional features if our old buildings
2. Looks more like a "traditional" school and I prefer that
3. It has a classic appearance which represents the history associated with the community.
4. It has a Fairport feel
5. Has more of a historic feel. Conforms more with the time period of the neighborhood.



OPTION 2B

91

respondents selected this option.

1. Modern
2. Provides shelter over the children in the event of weather.
3. Looks more modern
4. Practically B would be better if students were waiting for rides, etc. during any precipitation
5. The outside of the building having an awning makes it a better place for students to stand during inclement weather.

**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

6

respondents did not select
an option.

1. They are both unattractive and I did not have the option to choose "neither".
2. I dislike them both
3. Not a fan of either honestly.
4. Did not like either
5. I don't like either of these - both look outdated



Question 3



OPTION 3A

41

respondents selected this option.

1. I love both designs but I think Fairport needs something that is modern without seeming too modern. It needs to be an upgrade but still seem like a part of the community
2. More modern
3. Like all the windows gives more natural light
4. I would think straight/ flat front would fit more building/square footage in the space the school is going.
5. I prefer the look of option B but option A has an area where students can gather on inclement weather days.



OPTION 3B

107

respondents selected this option.

1. Simpler design and better look.
2. In this case, I like the curved look and the window placement and size make it seem brighter
3. Looks more inviting for students
4. The stone exterior is a more modern look and will add a flair of professionalism to the building (public perspective).
5. More windows makes it seem like a welcoming place

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

4

respondents did not select an option.

1. "Personal preference. I don't like either but I would rather see #A than #B."
2. Don't care for either in this neighborhood



Question 4



OPTION 4A

90

respondents selected this option.

1. Looks more like a school. The other building almost reminds me of a hospital.
2. 4a looks more modern with all of the windows and light but not too modern that would clash with the community it is in
3. Looks more classic. Longer awning for kids in case of rain or snow.
4. Modern
5. More windows offer more natural light, making various learning spaces more welcoming to students.



OPTION 4B

60

respondents selected this option.

1. Like red brick and natural lighting
2. "Traditional. One-time upfront cost of brick vs. breakable, expensive windows."
3. This design fits our community.
4. 4b brings the old school architecture into more of a modern look
5. Less modern. More aligned with neighborhood.

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

2

respondents did not select an option.

1. Look like it has more windows for light
2. Not a fan of either. B with the coloring of A
3. Don't really like either but with b the entrance is obvious



Question 5



OPTION 5A

77

respondents selected this option.

1. fun seating area!!
2. I like the seating area- gives a feeling of community and collaboration. Would be great to use in nice weather for outside small group time.
3. Sense of community with the outdoor benches, big bright windows, the varying heights and texture makes it more interesting
4. The brick reflects our historic downtown
5. A looks more inviting



OPTION 5B

70

respondents selected this option.

1. It's more open
2. Simpler design, more eye appeal.
3. Honestly like both 5a and 5b. Selected 5b for here because it looks a little more ascetically pleasing with the greenery.
4. More open outside space leading to the entrance
5. Has historical looks that would fit in the village better

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

5

respondents did not select an option.

1. Don't really care for either
2. Don't care for either



Question 6



OPTION 6A

103

respondents selected this option.

1. "Traditional look. Matches current look of Fairport schools."
2. I like 6A best of all. It is an updated version of our current buildings.
3. Has a little more character...I'm really tired of the grey look and not a fan. Rounded entrance is warmer and more inviting.
4. Just like 4b, it modernizes the old school architecture.
5. Has the historical sand stone and brick look



OPTION 6B

42

respondents selected this option.

1. The grey bricks looks clean
2. More modern
3. Not the tired old colors
4. it looks nicer
5. More modern less old fashioned.

The respondent did not
select an image.

1. I do not like either of these options.
2. Both look like jails do not pick these options
3. Neither
4. Neither
5. Neither

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

7

respondents did not select
an option.



Question 7



OPTION 7A

123

respondents selected this option.

1. Just seems kid friendly while still affording great outdoor space
2. Inviting
3. it has a playground for the children
4. "friendlier" look
5. Like all the natural light coming in at the doors



OPTION 7B

25

respondents selected this option.

1. "Traditional look. Matches current look of Fairport schools."
2. The natural light on multiple levels.
3. I liked the larger grass area.
4. 7A is a good option for elementary but no other grades.
5. Balance with neighborhood

The respondent did not
select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

4

respondents did not select
an option.

1. Neither
2. Don't care for either. Too sterile. Both look like medical facilities



Question 8



OPTION 8A

73

respondents selected this option.

1. Allows fresh air in.
2. Windows, windows, windows
3. A looks more modern.
4. 8A looks more like Fairport
5. More inviting



OPTION 8B

64

respondents selected this option.

1. I like the reflective windows
2. "More traditional look. Suspect that light colored bricks will get dirty over the years."
3. More windows means more natural light which is beneficial for learning spaces.
4. It is more of a modern style.
5. I like the reflective windows and the vertical lines.

**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

15

respondents did not select
an option.

1. I don't like either of these.
2. I don't care for either one of these.
3. Not a fan of either.
4. neither - 8a is boring 8b too flat and corporate looking
5. Both too modern for the neighborhood



Question 9



OPTION 9A

120

respondents selected this option.

1. Somewhat open feel, not overly "modern"
2. Larger awning for the kids with the weather. Looks less modern and more functional.
3. I like the balance of wood/stone/windows.
4. Better fit for neighborhood
5. Feels more inviting.



OPTION 9B

25

respondents selected this option.

1. Modern
2. Didn't like either
3. Northeast Ohio isn't really conducive to outdoor settings.
4. This view offers an overall perspective and prevents questions where things are located.
5. Appears fun

The respondent did not
select an image.

1. Nope
2. neither too modern
3. Neither
4. Both too modern for the neighborhood
5. Neither again to futuristic looking

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

7

respondents did not select
an option.



Question 10



OPTION 10A

128

respondents selected this option.

1. Makes it seem personable and artistic
2. Varying heights, textures, big windows
3. I like the windows, entrance with the shelter/overhang...not a fan of the green but like the lighter brick
4. 10A looks modern and functional with windows and appears to have wings on each side of the main office for a high school/middle school wing and an elementary wing.
5. I like the college campus look.



OPTION 10B

11

respondents selected this option.

1. Both awful, but B doesn't look like a jumble with random stripes of color.
2. Better use of space
3. Not a fan of either
4. Both pretty ugly, tbh

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

13

respondents did not select an option.

1. Neither
2. I do not like either option
3. Nope
4. Neither, too much loud color in a residential neighborhood.
5. Don't care for either



Question 11



OPTION 11A

98

respondents selected this option.

1. The windows remind me of the houses by Fairport's beach, and the brick has the feel of the town.
2. Nicer windows
3. It looks more traditional
4. Vintage vibe with a modern feel. Screams Fairport to me
5. Has nostalgic appearance. Complementary to older homes in the neighborhood



OPTION 11B

49

respondents selected this option.

1. Windows, windows, windows
2. Straight lines
3. More modern.
4. I like more of the modern look and area with larger windows
5. Don't need the fancy windows over the square windows

**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

5

respondents did not select
an option.

1. I don't mind either one but I would like the windows to open.
2. Neither too much brick
3. Don't like either
4. Looks like a school 1 looks like city hall



Question 12



OPTION 12A

55

respondents selected this option.

1. Feels more like Fairport. The other building is too modern and abstract, it would feel out of place in the town.
2. This is a tough one....I really like the overhang of 12A but really love the round windows in 12B. I almost like the cement wall better than the brick and the gray is not as bad, but still not a fan of the gray
3. Looks better
4. Only because it has an outdoor covered area.
5. Other image too modern



OPTION 12B

75

respondents selected this option.

1. fun window shape and nice touch of color
2. Looks inviting for kids in elementary school. Looks fun and inviting.
3. "It's very beautiful in the light and dark"
4. More modern looking
5. I like the brightness it brings

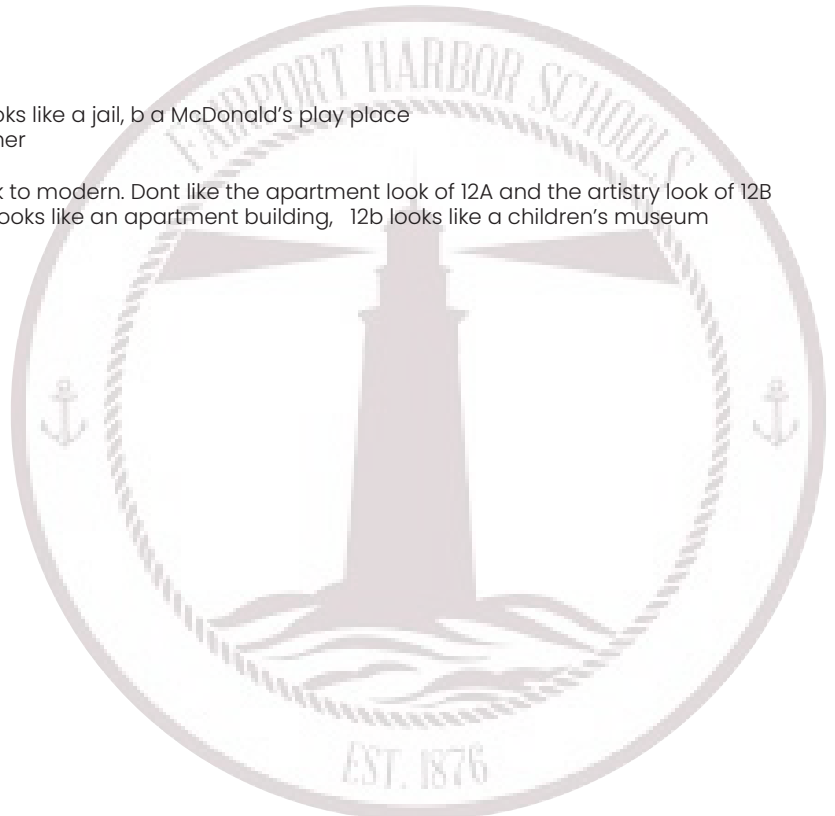
**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

22

respondents did not select
an option.

1. Neither! A looks like a jail, b a McDonald's play place
2. Don't like either
3. Nope
4. both 12's look to modern. Dont like the apartment look of 12A and the artistry look of 12B
5. Neither 12a looks like an apartment building, 12b looks like a children's museum



Question 13



1. It feels more welcoming.
2. Looks refreshing and less institutional. But could go with either one.
3. Warm and welcoming. Could use more windows for natural light
4. A gives a little personality without being over the top.
5. Feels welcoming, like slanted roof and signage.

OPTION 13A

96

respondents selected this option.



1. Feels more like Fairport. The other building is too modern and abstract, it would feel out of place in the town.
2. It looks more like a school.
3. I honestly just think it looks nicer but both options are nice.
4. This was a hard one for me. The more I looked at 13B, the more I liked the flow of the building and two different colored brickwork.
5. There is nothing blocking the site of the structure and provides a more welcoming environment.

OPTION 13B

52

respondents selected this option.

**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

4

respondents did not select
an option.



1. Not really fond of either
2. neither
3. Both are fine one modern with out being over the top

Question 14



OPTION 14A

131

respondents selected this option.

1. "very modern"
2. "I like the look (almost like an airport terminal). Nice drive with space for pickup/drop off."
3. Looks more classic and inviting for kids.
4. I like the color scheme, lighter brick, the windows, the modern look and curves, nice entrance with some shelter
5. Grand valley in Orwell Ohio has a similar looking main entrance. The student body size is very similar to Fairport. Might be worth taking a tour and/or talking to their administration/staff to see what they like/dislike or advantages/disadvantages of their lay out. (The first school year in the new building was 2005-2006)



OPTION 14B

16

respondents selected this option.

1. I prefer the shape of this one. Do not like the red brick!!
2. Looks nicer
3. More green...
4. Getting closer to what would fit the village. Like the circle drive in 14a
5. I like the direct view of the building and property displaying the path to the parking lot.

The respondent did not
select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

5

respondents did not select
an option.

1. Don't like either
2. neither... getting to be too many choices
3. Don't like striping of 2 either are ok



Question 15



OPTION 15A

118

respondents selected this option.

1. "I like the abundance of windows as opposed to 15B. Location of the entrance is centered and looks good (more welcoming)."
2. I like the covered entrance. The building looks more cohesive. 15B doesn't look like it fits together.
3. 15A is warm and inviting
4. Natural light
5. More inviting in a residential neighborhood. Feels like it would fit better in the village.



OPTION 15B

29

respondents selected this option.

1. Super cool
2. Tough choice here, I love the tall windows and overhang/shelter for 15A, but love the curves, modern look and lighter colors of 15B
3. Modern look.
4. I like the lighting in the entrance. The path and grounds gives a great perspective to the building.
5. I LOVE the lack of visual into the school while also bringing a fun design

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

5

respondents did not select an option.

1. neither
2. Don't like either
3. Definitely is better for neighborhood



Question 16



OPTION 16A

61

respondents selected this option.

1. I'm just not a fan of wasted unnecessary materials being used to creat extra angles. It's not a proper use of the grant money or the taxpayers money. Build a beautiful, new building without excess and spend any extra funds making the interior, the stuff the kids actually need in classrooms spectacular!!
2. "Good eye appeal and traditional look. School name is easy to see."
3. Better fit for the community/ surrounding homes
4. More traditional design.
5. classic but modern



OPTION 16B

86

respondents selected this option.

1. "weather shelter"
2. Looks different
3. windows, angular shape and looks very sleek
4. very neat look
5. Do not like the wasted space in the area of the name of school and so much cement of 16A. I like the modern look/feel of 16B and the entrance with the tall windows, and overhang/shelter space in front and along the building

The respondent did not
select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

5

respondents did not select
an option.

1. neither
2. Neither don't like brick columns. Don't like the roof on 2



Question 17



OPTION 17A

104

respondents selected this option.

1. More things for kids to explore and learn about.
2. I love the opportunity for a garden/flowerbeds, especially if students can be involved.
3. All schools should have an open space like this for students and teachers.
4. I love natural gardens. I think a garden should actually be incorporated to also help feed the students a clean organic produce option they help create and maintain
5. The natural environment of 17A promotes a variety of learning opportunities that could be presented in math, science and the arts for example. It's a more calming atmosphere with the landscaping.



OPTION 17B

45

respondents selected this option.

1. "The larger trees provide more shade.
You could even place more trees around the edges to provide more shade for the patio(?).
I do like the gravel walkways in 17A."
2. 17B has less for students to destroy, will require less maintenance and has a bigger area for an entire class.
3. I like the openness
4. More open
5. I like the landscaping in the other but it seemed to busy, the one I selected is more open

**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

3

respondents did not select
an option.

*No additional comments for "Other" or
"Neither".*



Question 18



OPTION 18A

91

respondents selected this option.

1. "Always better with trees. I like the benches under the trees."
2. seating looks comfortable, welcoming
3. I love the curves and unique interest as well as grassy area. Like the sheltered walk area along the building to shelter from rain or sun. The benches are more inviting too.
4. Green spaces should have green grass (real or artificial) for classes to sit.
5. This view highlights a nice courtyard that is spacious. More interactive.



OPTION 18B

58

respondents selected this option.

1. students may feel more comfortable near the shade of a tree as well as they would not be looking at everyone else sitting across from them in the loop
2. Looks neat and tidy.
3. Less upkeep
4. Has a look of nature and peacefulness
5. Nice area for our alumni bricks

**The respondent did not
select an image.**

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

3

respondents did not select
an option.

1. Neither look easy to maintain. We don't need to pay for concrete that leads to nowhere! And the multiple seems of the bricks in the other picture make me wonder about long term wear.



Question 19



OPTION 19A

66

respondents selected this option.

1. Traditional playground equipment is best.
2. Less maintenance
3. Materials are easier to upkeep
4. Classic design, leaves room for imagination, more aesthetically pleasing for neighbors.
5. Easier for the recess staff to see and monitor the students. Safety



OPTION 19B

84

respondents selected this option.

1. More places for imaginary play
2. I like the surface area and the climber has more activity choices plus it looks preschool-friendly.
3. The ship themed play set complements the nautical theme of a port community
4. Encourages imagination along w physical play and also because pirates are awesome
5. "1. Love the ground. 2. Who doesn't love pirate ships?!"

The respondent did not
select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

2

respondents did not select
an option.

1. Either is fine kids just need to play on something



Question 20



OPTION 20A

120

respondents selected this option.

1. I like how it blends in with nature and seems to be more handicapped accessible.
2. While I liked the obnoxious ship and use of some sun shelter and creative decorating potential, I prefer 20A and how well it blends in with the surrounding environment and has nice environmental interests. I also see some seasonal decorating potential in this one as well.
3. 20a looks more inclusive.
4. Open design so teachers can see whole playground from certain vantage points
5. The play set looks inclusive and accessible by all students



OPTION 20B

28

respondents selected this option.

1. They're both cool but the first one seems pretty low and when I was a kid I always wanted to play the tallest playgrounds. I love the more natural feel of the first one, though.
2. "All kids like a swirly slide. I like the ramp entrance of the other pic though too. (Side note: go look at St. Gabe's playground in Concord. It's one of our favorite spots to take ours boys!! "
3. The B play area looks like more fun, but I do prefer the color scheme of the first one.
4. Classic playground with more to offer
5. Looks like it would be fun to use

The respondent did not select an image.

"OTHER" OR "NEITHER"

4

respondents did not select an option.

1. neither

