

Facilitator Summary

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMUNITY FORUMS | JUNE 11 AND JUNE 13, 2024

POINT LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT
& DESIGN
ROAD
STUDIOS

Imagine together what the future of central campus might look like.

Co-create the Future of Central Campus

Sharing Sessions

Come together to share our wishes and worries about the transition to a central campus.

May 13, 2024 (6-8 pm) – High School Cafeteria

May 14, 2024 (6-8pm) – Zoom

Community Forums

Imagine together what the future of central campus could be.

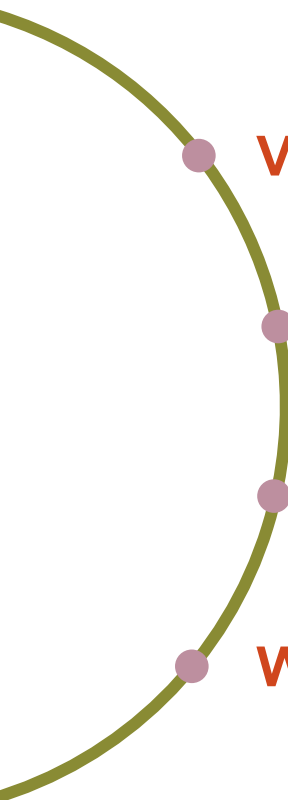
June 11, 2024 (6-8 pm) – High School Cafeteria

June 13, 2024 (6-8pm) – High School Cafeteria

Intention Behind Community Forums

- Community Forums designed to help us understand **your unique perspective on central campus vision** that stewards the learning and growth of our students.
- Focus is on **WHAT** you are wishing for in a central campus.
- What follows is the critical work of determining **what's possible and HOW** we get there.

Community Forum Flow

- 
- Vision Set Up**
 - Looking at Puzzle Pieces**
 - Central Campus Vision**
 - What's Next?**

VISION SET UP



Visioning is Part of the Plan (from May 2023 Board Resolution)

The Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District plans to undertake steps regarding the reconfiguration of grade levels with an **ultimate goal of locating all grade levels in buildings located on one central campus by 2028**, with an acknowledgment and understanding that working toward this goal will **require multiple steps and be guided by ongoing collaboration with the District community**, with such steps to include:

- **Visioning exercises** with students, teachers, families, and members of the community to address the hierarchy of needs and explore innovative ideas.
- **Consultation with the District's architects and fiscal advisors** regarding building conditions and capital project planning, **including determining the design and scope of work that would be necessary for a centralized campus, budget planning, and environmental review.**
- **Voter authorization to fund** such a project.
- **Review and approval of design plans by the New York State Education Department, a competitive bidding process** for the award of contracts, and the commencement and completion of **construction work.**

Commitment from Central Administrators

- Our guiding focus in this vision process is to create the best learning and developmental experience that our school district can for our students. Students are at the center of all we do.
- Student learning and experience is influenced by many things, including: Faculty and staff, curriculum, pace, social and emotional wellbeing, sense of belonging, equity and inclusion, community engagement and support.
- We will lead with intention as we create our central campus. We appreciate your engagement and support through this transition.

Commitment from Central Administrators

As we continue to clarify and work towards our vision for central campus, we will be transparent, open to feedback, and create opportunities to share, hear and respond to your input.

PUZZLE PIECES



Important Parts of Our School Vision

Developed based
on the “Wishes
and Worries” that
were shared in
the community
gatherings held
in May 2023

- Learning and Classroom Design
- Extracurriculars and Athletics
- Equity and Inclusion
- Campus Design and Infrastructure
- Culture and Place
- Wellness

PUZZLE PIECES



LEARNING & CLASSROOM DESIGN

TECHNOLOGY
ENVIRONMENT
LAYER WHEN DESIGNING
TEAM
STUDENT SUCCESS

EXTRACURRICULAR & ATHLETICS

PHYSICAL FACILITY
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
CREATIVITY & INNOVATION
WELL-BEING & ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
TEAM

EQUITY & INCLUSION

KEEPING THE DIVERSITY OF OUR
CAMPUS
FOSTERING DIVERSITY
CONSIDER DIVERSITY IN DESIGN
DESIGN SPACE FOR ACCESS & MOBILITY & ACCESS

CAMPUS DESIGN & INFRASTRUCTURE

CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

CULTURE & PLACE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
DIVERSITY & COLLABORATION
COMMUNICATION
LEGACY & REPUTATION
UNIVERSITY CATALYST

SS





CENTRAL CAMPUS VISION

Group Exercise: What do you really want?



Join a small group focused on one of the puzzle pieces to discuss the vision for our central campus. Take notes to share back with the whole group.



You might consider:

What would you like our school district to be known for?

What would be dreamy on our central campus?

What ideas are you most excited about

What else would you like to see included?

What are you curious about now?

What are ways you'd like to see the vision realized right away?

We Imagined Together

We worked independently, in small groups and as a whole group to imagine what our central campus might be. Below you will see an array of ideas that emerged and images of what the creative process looked like.

We purposefully avoided limiting our creative process.



STUDENTS AT THE CENTER!
LEARNING AND GROWING ON A CAMPUS
FULL OF OUR CREATIVE IDEAS.

C
B
A
M

Parts of Our Vision

- At the heart of our visioning: **Students at the Center** connected to and in partnership with: Engaged Community, Supported Teachers, Thoughtful Leadership, Inspiring and Evolving Spaces, Connected Culture.
- We want to **inspire students across each of the puzzle pieces**. We see the importance of each piece and how these pieces overlap and intersect.
- Student Agency – We want **students to feel comfortable and have choice** in how they move and learn.
- **Small class sizes** offer big opportunities.
- **Uniquely Catskills**. Use resources from end to end. Pride in nature. Learning in nature. Food from this place. Naming spaces and places after the mountains and flora and fauna of our home.
- **Bring the public in**. Community partnerships. Spaces and opportunities for community events. Safe and ease-filled way for community members to volunteer and support student learning and development. Chances to connect students to internships and paid jobs at home.
- **Culture of belonging across age, need and identity**. We want our schools to be safe. For students to see and realize new pathways for success. For our whole school community to thrive here together.





20/1/20



Mother walk
 hills to view
 obstacle course / ziplin
 parking a large glass oval table
 w/ benches - getting space
 smiles as an advantage stream program
 other children
 enrolled sports level

Catering for
 the whole
 school is
 typical

water health
 tips, etc

Parts of Our Vision

- We envision a **campus that fosters deep connections**. Between students and with the community. Across ages (K-12) with buddy programs, mentors, whole school gatherings. On campus with infrastructure that fosters this connection like bridges, covered connections between spaces, open spaces big enough for the whole school. Rituals and rhythms to bring people together e.g. morning meeting K-12.
- **Transfer and adapt**. We want to bring beloved Woodstock and Phoenicia traditions and cultures to Boiceville and let them take a new shape.
- Technology is a part of our student's landscape. We envision a **school that is human first while also looking toward a digital future**. We want to be tech-forward but not tech-first.
- When it comes to the workplace and landscape our students will graduate into, a lot is unknown. **How can our curriculum and sense of community make “not knowing” safe?**
- **We wish for our students and whole school community to be well**. There are many ideas for how to embody wellness – mentally and physically – including addressing mental health challenges with support, creating soothing environments, carving out spaces for quiet and meditation, creating a space for teens to hang on campus (and offline), promoting social emotional learning for all ages.
- Honor and appreciate: **The people make this place special**. Support for all. Be a place weekenders want to put down roots. Support keeping local families here. Advocate for affordable housing.



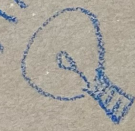
outh programs

ocial media

(semi-structured) PARTIES

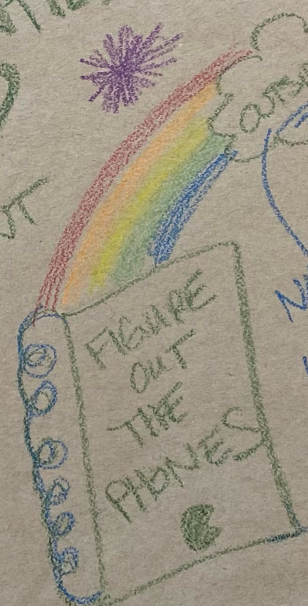
AIR QUALITY & VENTILATION

USING THE COMMUNITY skill set

LIGHTING? 

ADULT/STUDENT REL

HEARD HAPPY TEACHERS STAFF



NATURE & WELLNESS

Thinking outside the box to really use our natural environment

Parts of Our Vision

- Multiple groups envisioned a **glass dome**. The functions imagined were different. It could be a **green house with flowers, a space for an indoor walking track, a meditative space, aromatherapy**.
- **Field House**. An all-season structure with garage doors to let the outside in during warmer weather. Overflow space in cold weather for indoor play and movement. A community gathering space. Potential for being an event rental space with entrepreneurial opportunities for students to play a role in managing.
- **Take advantage of the views**. Could there be a new entry to Bennett that also offers a gathering space for students to look out onto the mountains? What would we want sited on the soccer field? The courtyards, nature trails and gardens. Can we make more opportunities for outdoor learning that connects students to what they see outside?
- **Glass enclosure between schools on campus**. A way to connect buildings for ease of movement. Could this also have collaborative spaces with curvy couches? Could it be designed to catch rain water and grow plants? Let this be a place that allows us to move freely, relax and find inspiration.

...for people to
 ...life skills → affects young & old
 ...independent →
 ...acoustics and sound
 ...music / sound → special space
 ...self-care
 ...physical wellness

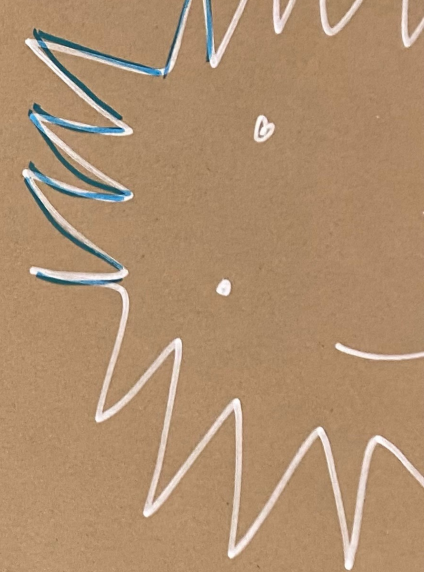
AFFIRMATIONS
IN HALLWAYS

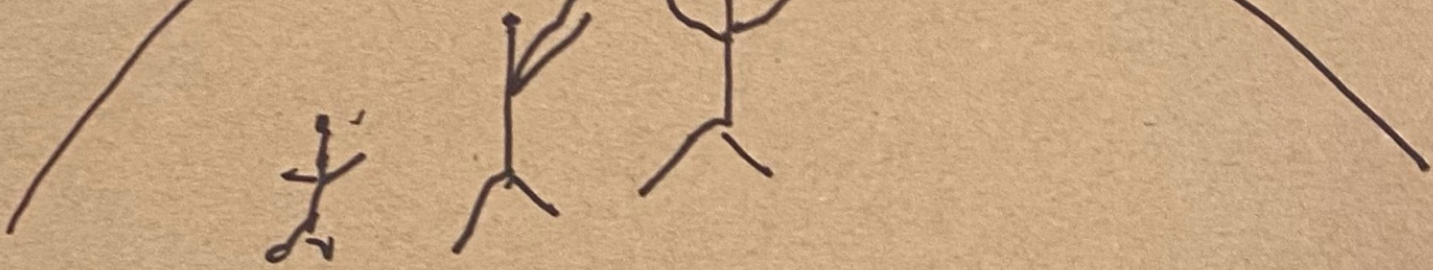
CULTURE:
Phonics
Foster Components

SELF-EXPRESSION
 Rhythm instruments
 stress ball / pencil
 Bunkie
 clean lockers
 No smoke!
 No touch
 Wash + dry

Ramps
 enclosed garden / nature space
 High ceiling auditorium
 Natural lighting
 Health snack vending
 Free fruit + H₂O
 Pro-learning
 breath center
 Breathe

CLASSROOMS:
 STEAM spec needs incorporation
 PLAY SPACES multi-use spaces





- MODERN FRONT WINDOWS
IN BENNETT

- LARGE OUTDOOR PLAY GROUNDS

- MODERN LATEST STEM TECH.

TEORAI!!!

COMMUNITY FORUM #1
JUNE 11, 2024

THE PEOPLE MAKE THE PLACE SPECIAL

EXTRACURRICULARS, ATHLETICS, &

PLAY!

STADIUM LIGHTS

ALL SPORT FIELDS WITH (DURABLE)
MOVE FIELDS + BUSES OFFSITE TO AID BUSES

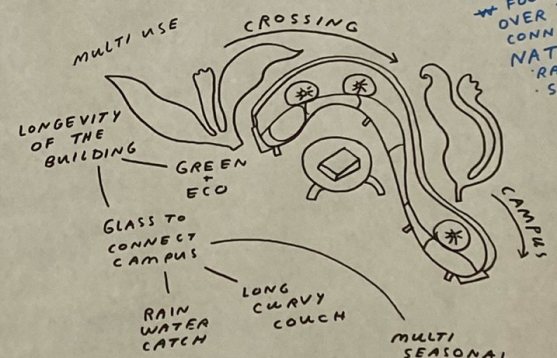
BEACH?
OUTDOOR VOLLEYBALL COURT

CC TRAILS + BIKING

NO ECC AT BENNETT, NOT JUST RELY ON PTA

NEXT YEAR, CONNECT TO WOODSTOCK

CAMPUS DESIGN & INFRASTRUCTURE



BIG IDEA:
FOOT BRIDGE OVER 28 TO CONNECT TO NATURE!
RAIL TRAIL SAFETY

PARKING HUB
ELEVATED PARKING
CONNECTING BENNETT

VIEW FROM TOP OF BENNETT
PERFORMANCE!
CLASSES
ENJOYING SIT (STAIRS)

FIELD HOUSE + GYM SPACE
LOCAL DESIGN MATERIALS
BLUE



MENTAL

USING

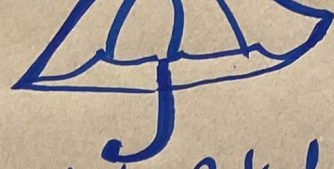
WA
FLO
ARON

Parts of Our Vision

- **Athletic Fields.** Add stadium lights. Create opportunities for night games where community members can come out and support our teams. Outdoor volleyball court. Durable fields with good drainage that allows students to play in all seasons. (Questions on what kind of turf – natural or synthetic – is right fit for our values and priorities.)
- **Expand parts of our campus to other locations.** Curiosity about moving the bus lot and athletic fields to another nearby location. Gives more space for other priorities on central campus. Potential to avoid site challenges for those services on central campus (e.g. electric infrastructure for EV busses; drainage challenges on athletic fields).
- **Bridge Over 28.** Connect our campus to the community and the community to our campus. Safely. Make it easy to get students out on the Rail Trail and along the Esopus. Might the bridge be part of an elevated parking garage.
- **Healthy food = healthy bodies.** Build connections to farmers. Farmers market hosted on campus. Growing food. Afterschool programs that connect students to growing, cooking – even selling food. Teach students life skills of how to nourish themselves.
- **Play creates healthy bodies.** Learn through movement.



- dedicated space
- Student internet
one access
point
for related services
- life/technical
skills program
for K-12
- Keeping our special
education students
stay within their
community rather
than outsource.



- Celebrating
different
needs &
neurodiversity
- Buddy + membership
programming
- English as a
new language



FUTURE OF ONTARIO

PIZZA PICTS GO
L. B. ...
K. ...
A. ...
M. ...

WHAT'S NEXT?



We will work over the summer with key partners - including the Board of Education, the District's architecture firm, and Point Road Studios – to develop the next chapter of community engagement.

We will share this plan in early Fall 2024.

**What is one way we can bring our vision
to life now?**

“

The path from dreams to success does exist. May you have the vision to find it, the courage to get on to it, and the perseverance to follow it.”

– KALPANA CHAWLA



Thank You!



LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT
& DESIGN

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**There is
nothing
stopping
you.**

POINT ROAD STUDIOS