



D11: Palmer Transformation In-Person Engagement Results



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Thank you D11
and Palmer
community!

Over
19,800
Touch points thus far



Community Engagement Recap



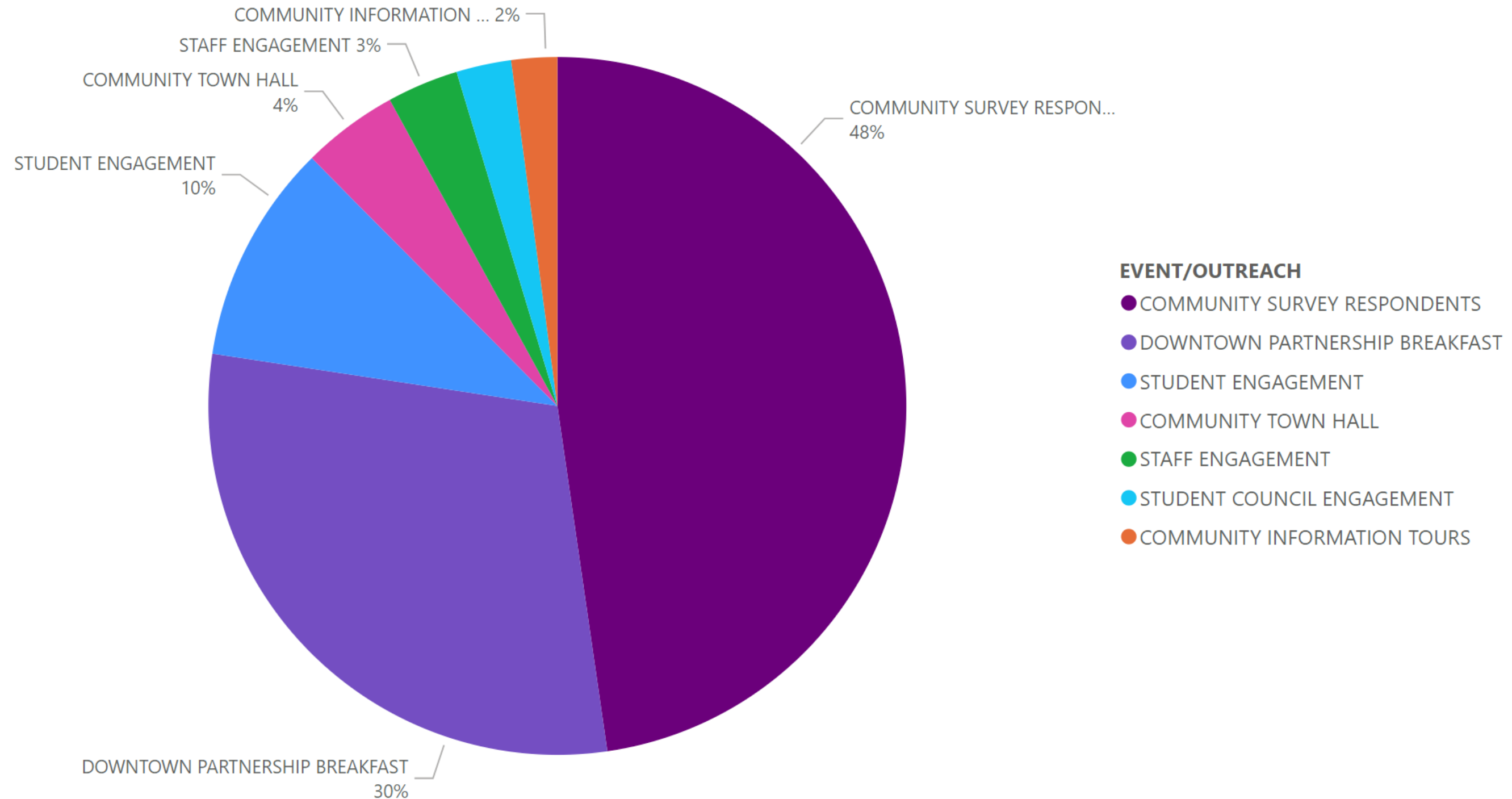
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Community Touchpoints

Included touchpoints

Community Survey
Student Engagement
Community Town Hall
Staff Engagement
Downtown Partnership
Breakfast
City/Staff Officials
Downtown Partnership
Newsletter*
Neighborhood Newsletter*

**both the Downtown partnership and neighborhood newsletters were omitted from the graphic above but had a combined outreach of 18,600 touchpoints*



Town Hall, Presentations, + Community Tours

Over
875
Attendees



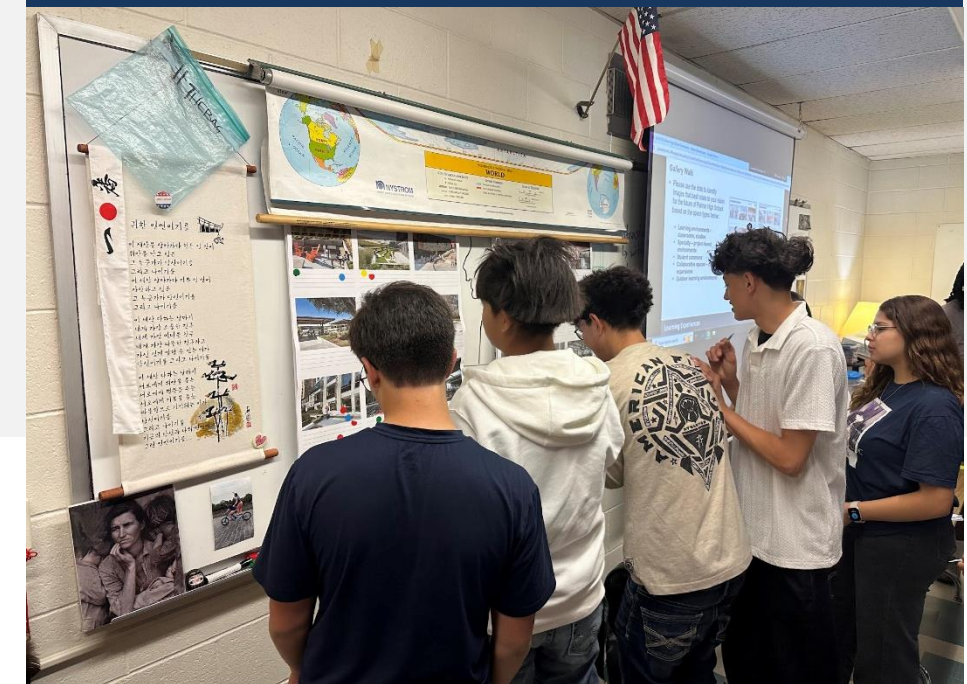
Survey & Email Distribution

Over
18,600
Respondents & Contacts



Student and Staff Engagement

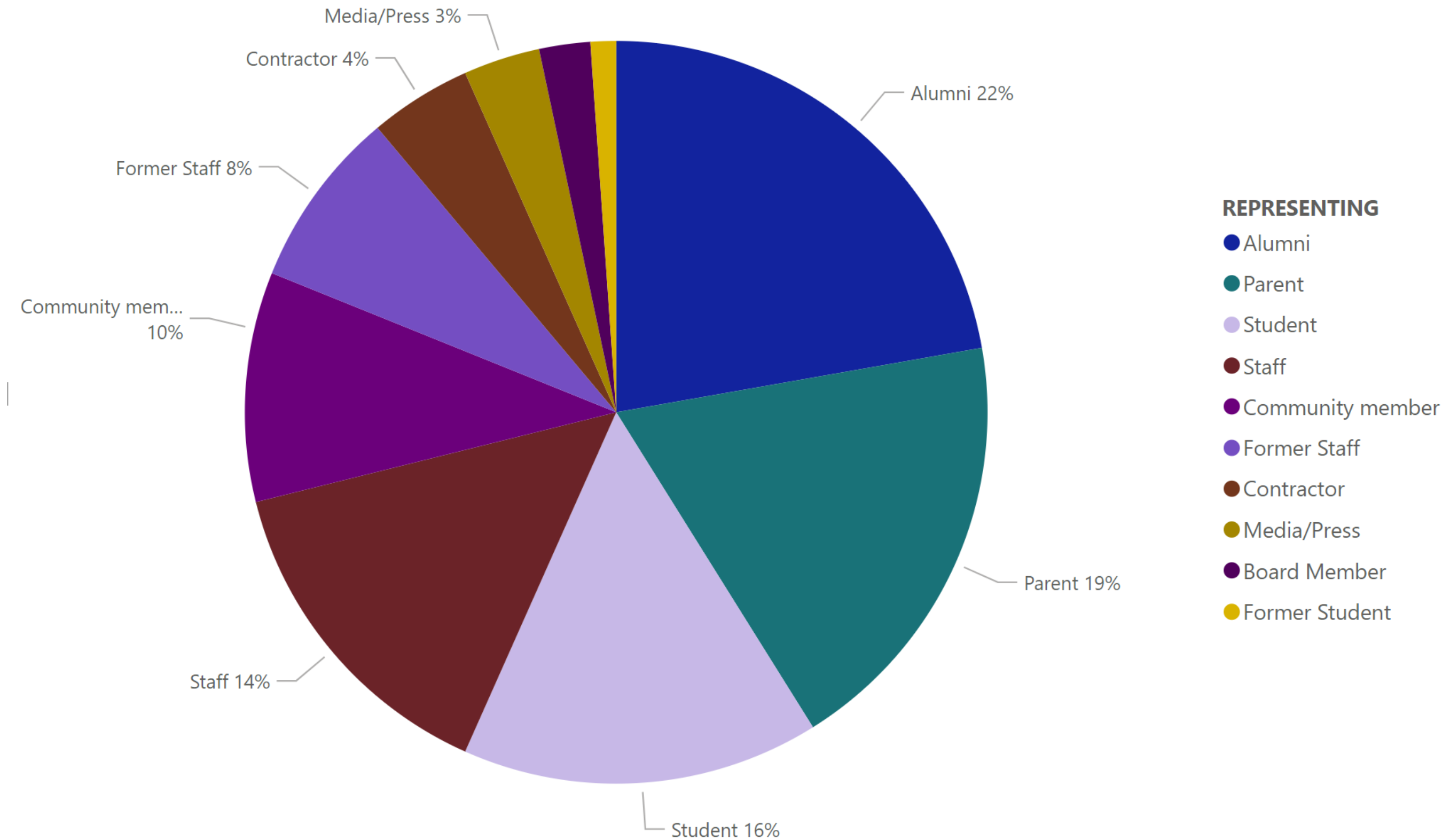
Over
375
Individual touchpoints



Town Hall

Representatives

Current and Former Parents
Students
Alumni
Current and Former Staff
Board of Directors
Community Members
Contractors
Media/Press
District representatives
Neighborhood Partners
Community Members
Local Businesses

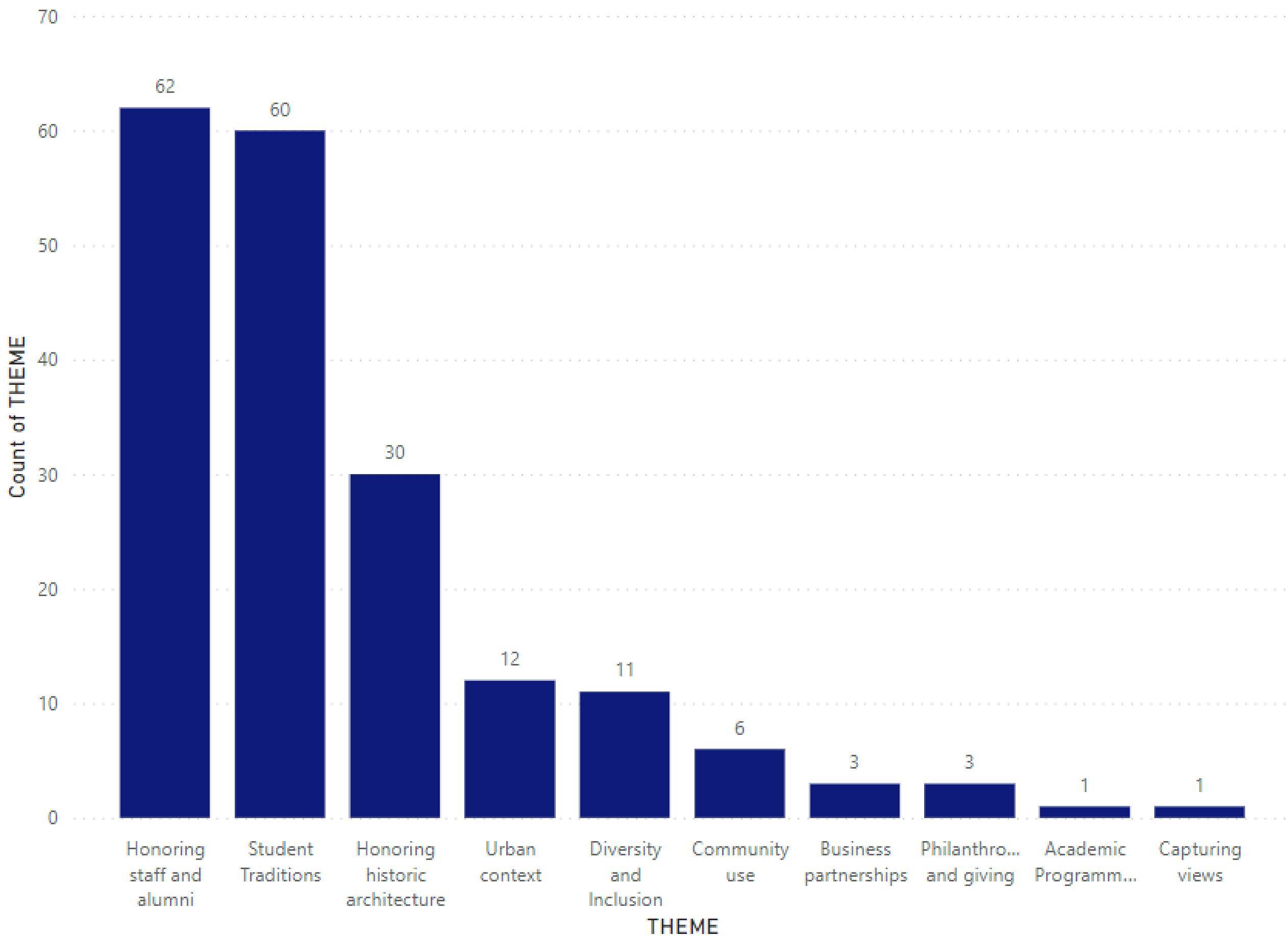


Town Hall

Traditions and History

Major Themes

- Honoring Alumni and Staff
- Student Traditions
- Honoring Historic Architecture
- Urban Context
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Community Use
- Business Partnerships
- Philanthropy and Giving
- Academic Programming
- Capturing Views



Honoring Alumni

“Alumni Museum”

“Keep location dedicated to history”

“Alumni breakfast”

“Recognizing past traditions and continuity”

“hall of fame”

Student Traditions

“Ringing the Bell”

“Homecoming week”

“Band and drumline leading the student body down to the big gym for assemblies”

“Pride and comradery with sports and academics”

Honoring Historic Architecture

“Love the open campus and integration into community”

“The Front Nine”

“The Clock tower”

“Reopen old cafeteria”

“Keep historical connection to courtyard”

Community Driven Ideas to Honor History and Tradition

Capitalize on third floor
views and space

Make the alumni museum
more prominent available
for community use and
access

Promote and enhance
historical Palmer landmarks:
“front nine”, the clock, the
bell and the courtyard

Preserve original 1939
architecture



Town Hall

Connection to Downtown

Major Themes

- Community Enrichment
- Business partnerships
- Student Access/Safety
- Urban context
- Student Access
- Academic and Cross Curricular Programming
- Athletics
- Recruitment
- Fine Arts Enrichment
- Honoring Historical Context
- Philanthropy and Giving



What's currently working well?

Community Enrichment

"Business partners for special events and projects"

"Outdoor space that interacts with the Acacia and community"

"Welcome D11 into downtown"

Student Autonomy

"Internships with downtown community"

"attract top students"

"Downtown access open campus lunch"

"Community concerts and performances"

Business Partnerships

Community Partners

“Outdoor meeting spaces in courtyard need to be shaded”

“Ask how the downtown community can contribute to Palmer”

“A better connection with Colorado College”

“Sporting facilities can be used and accessed by other organizations”

“Add School zones to keep children safe”

What could be improved?

“A better connection with downtown partnerships”

“Parking is a huge concern”

Student Safety



Community Driven Ideas to Enhance Student and Staff Experiences

Design flexible and multi-use spaces

Include a student commons and outdoor space to allow for places for students and staff

Connect learning spaces to the history

Inclusive and Accessible design

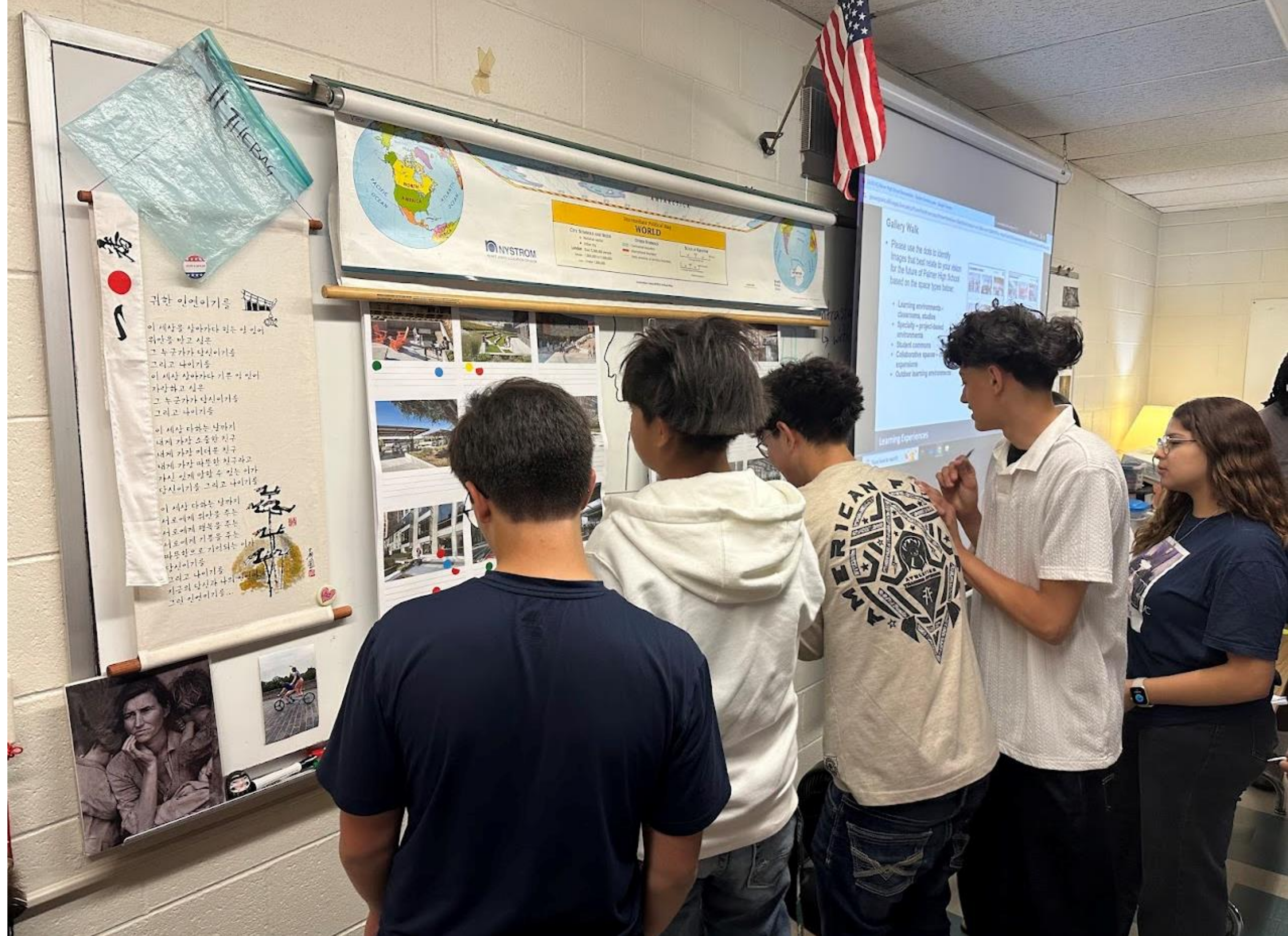
Access to natural light

Student and Staff Experiences



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Student Sessions



The best thing about being a Palmer Terror is...

lunch support
friends school
staff diversity people
Spirit open being
teachers opportunities
community
campus
part free
freedom
history sports

Student Sessions



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I chose to be a Palmer Terror because...



In Ten years, I want the students of Palmer to be...

sports best
prepared smarter
school
feel students
education comfortable
still palmer same
happy successful
curriculum today free different
included safe
future
themselves better respectful
good

My favorite part of campus is.....

building open museum
lunch
stage view campus
Courtyard
room gym tunnel
main



If there's one thing I could improve it would be...

classrooms
windows
spaces
gym
facilities
longer
better
air
bathrooms
outdoor
lunch
conditioning

Student Driven Ideas to Enhance Student and Staff Experiences

Incorporate daylight and
bring views into classrooms
and collaborative spaces

Outdoor seating

Quiet and comfortable
seating and lighting

More colorful, innovative
spaces with murals

Access to technology

Modernized facilities



Student and Staff Experiences









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Studio/Classroom




CLASSROOMS/STUDIOS



Palmer High School

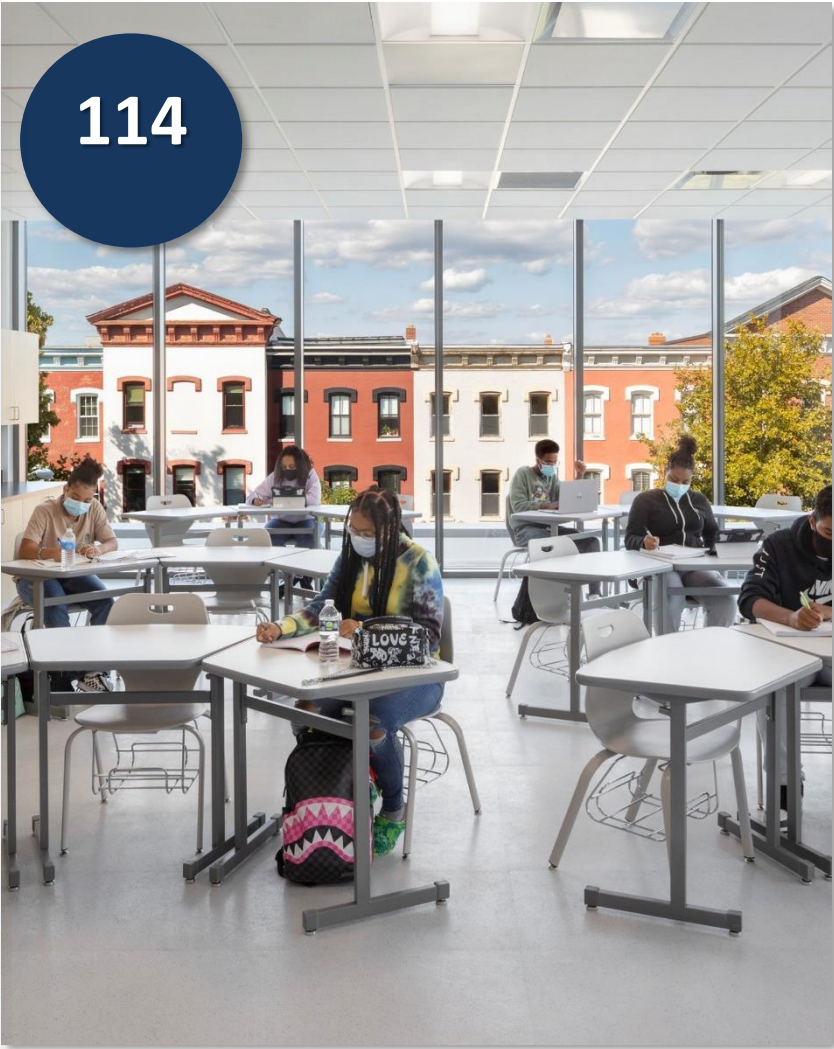








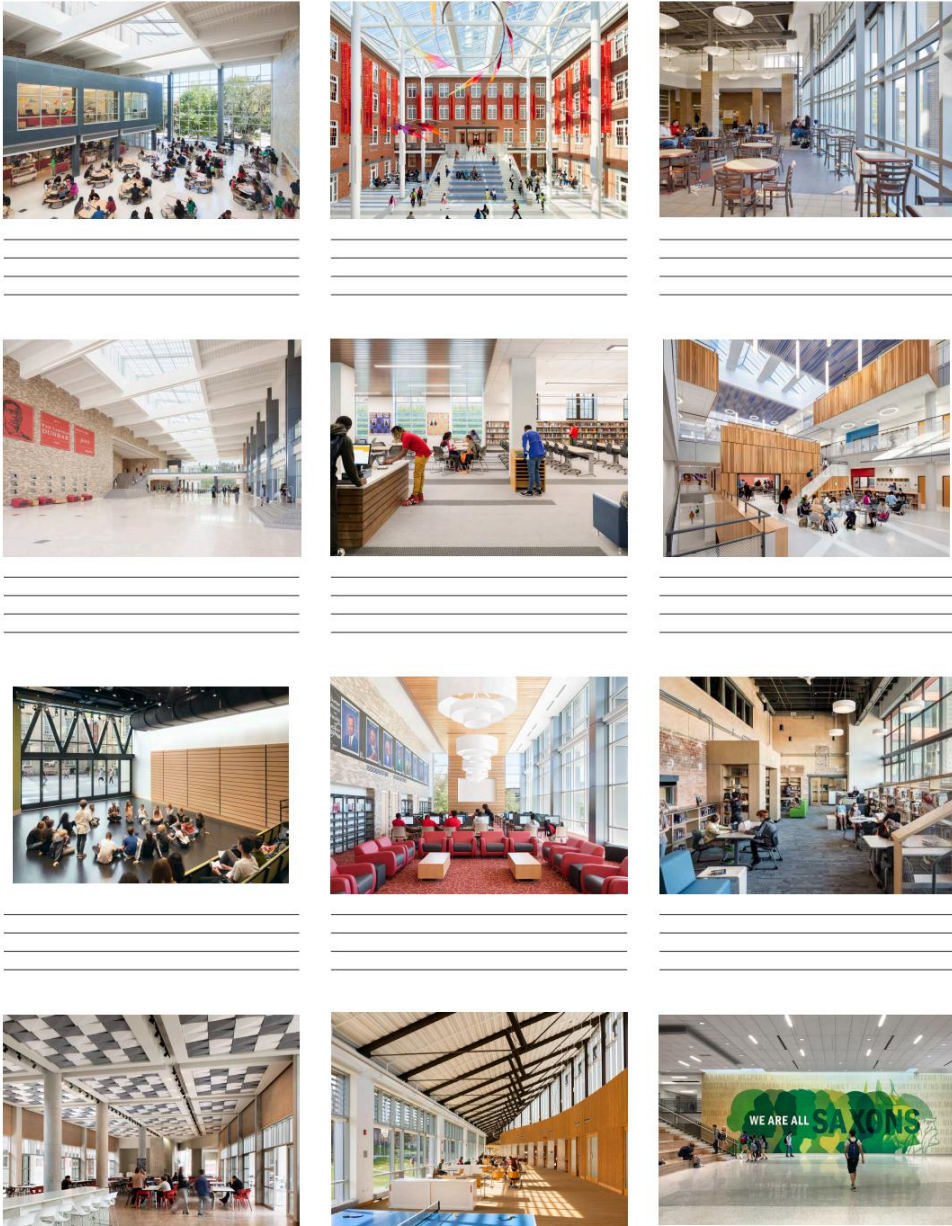






Student Commons

STUDENT COMMONS

Palmer High School Renovations





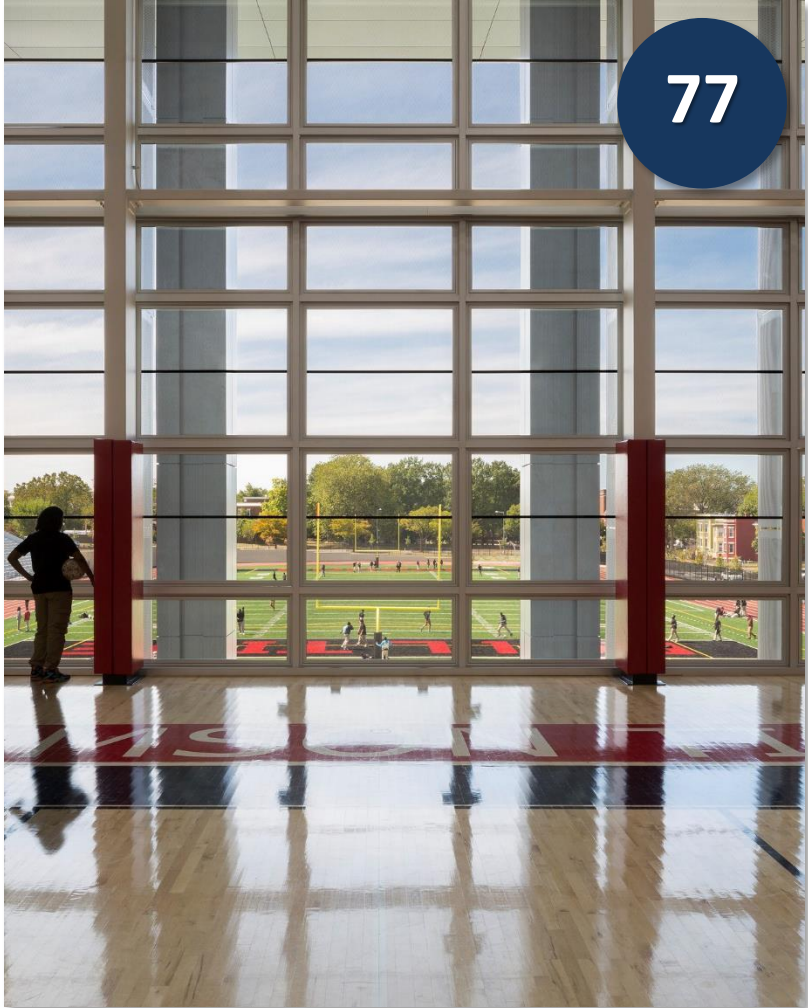
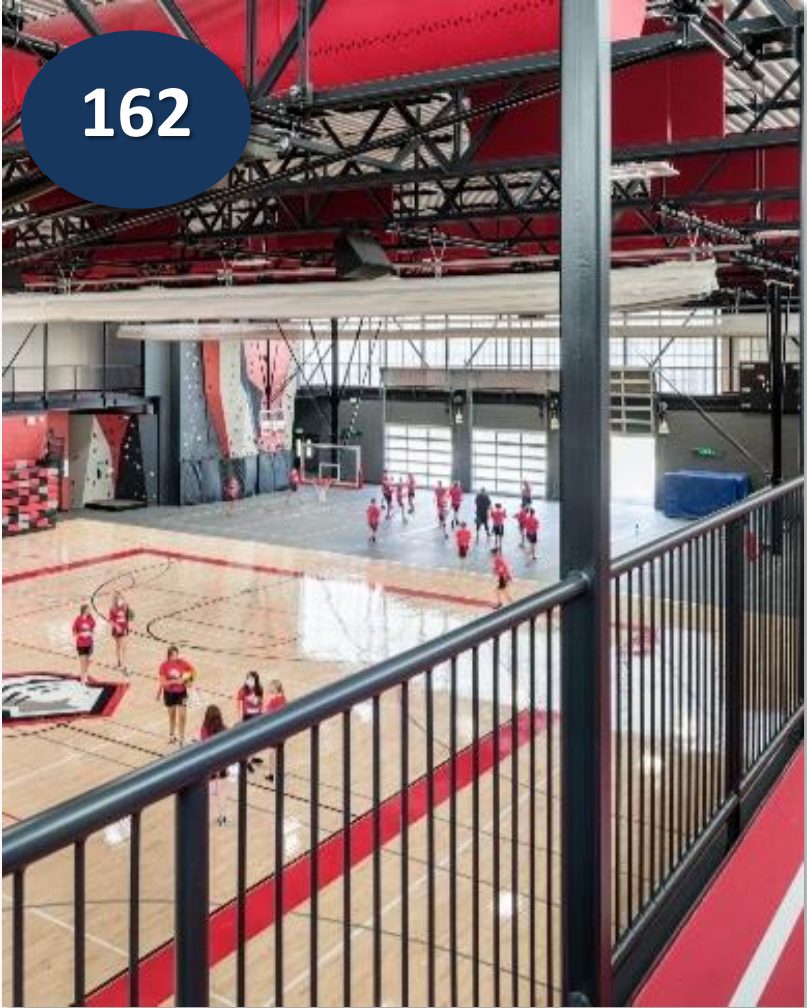


Specialty Spaces

SPECIALTY ENVIRONMENTS

Palmer High School Renovations

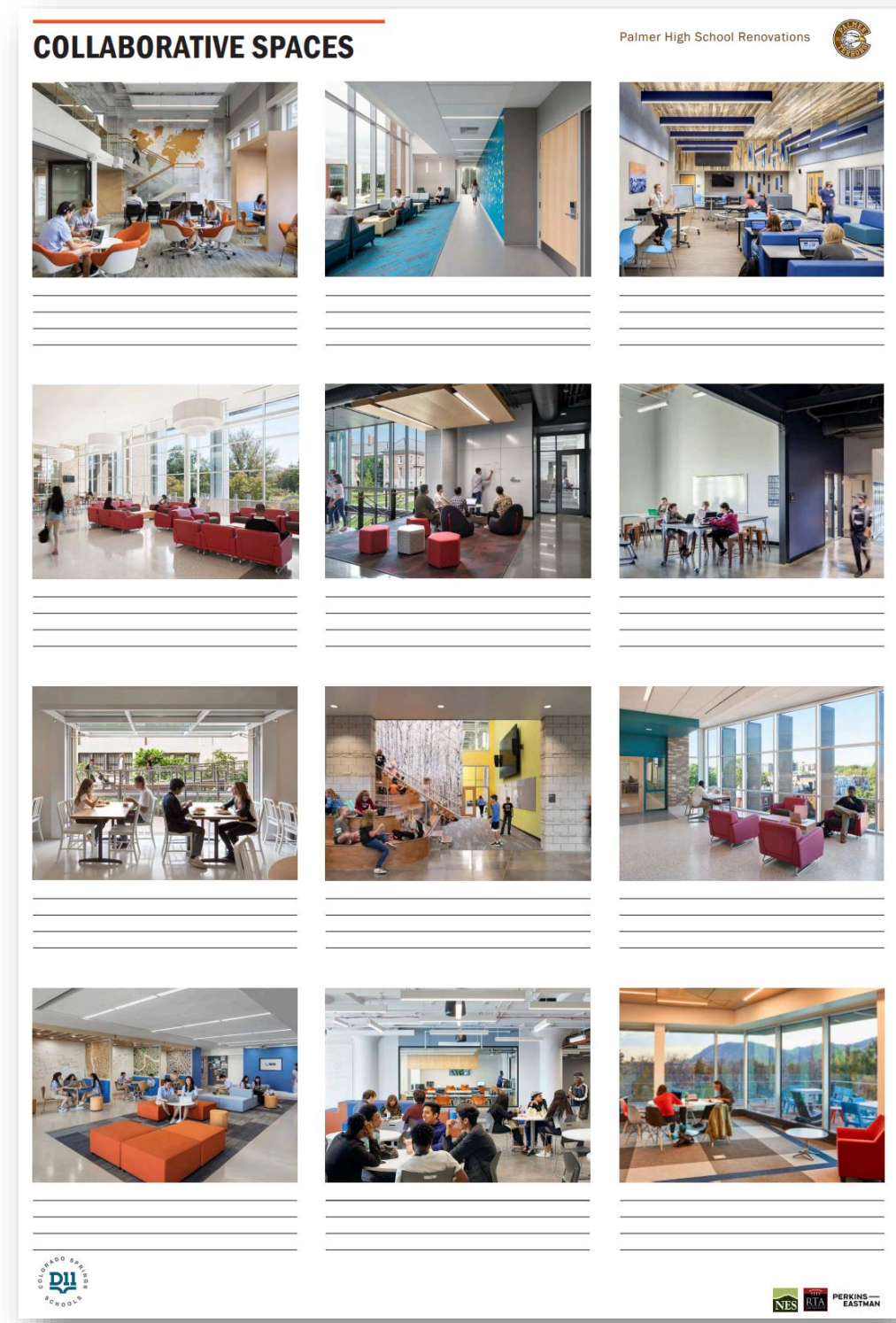
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Collaborative Spaces

COLLABORATIVE SPACES

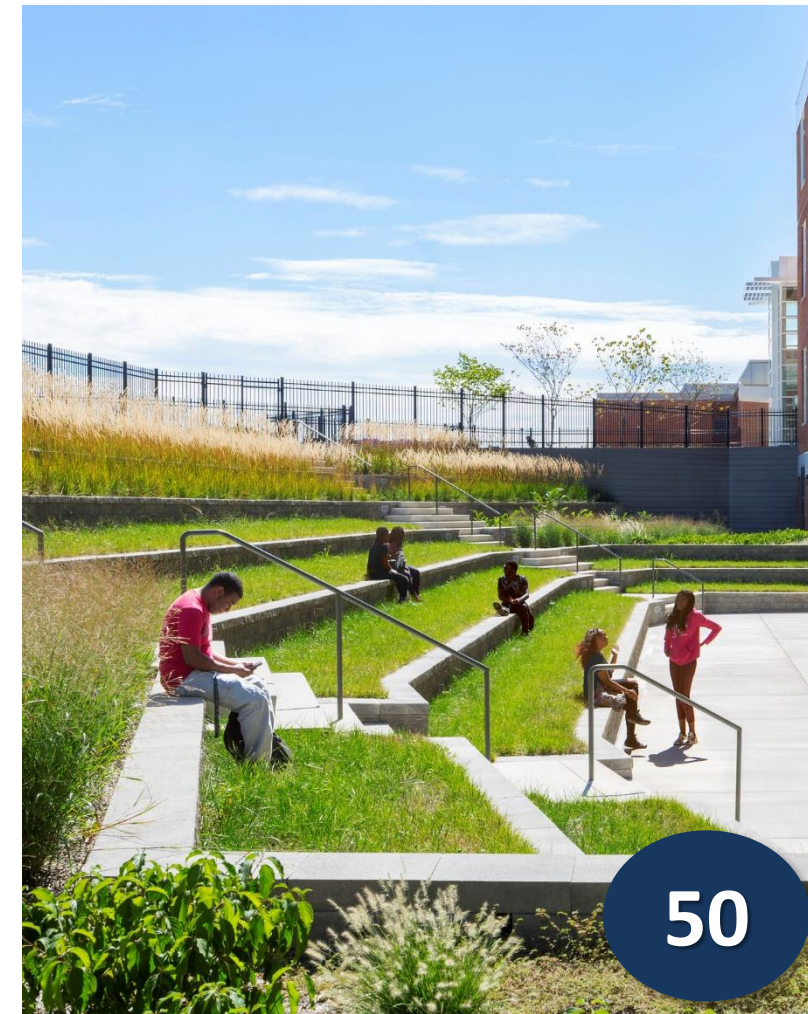
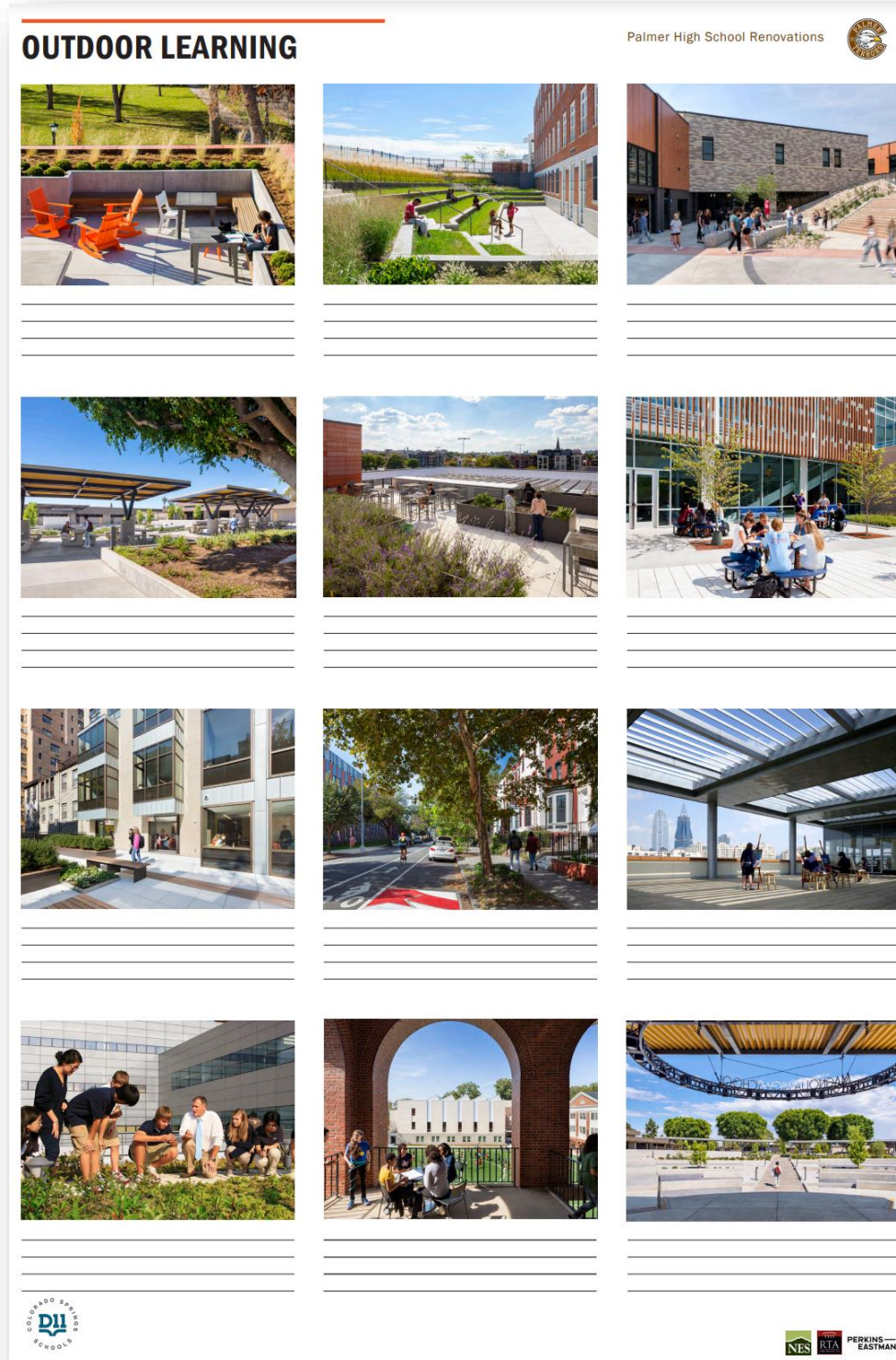
Palmer High School Renovations



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Outdoor Learning



Staff Sessions



Staff Sessions



**PERKINS —
EASTMAN**

The best thing about being a Palmer Terror is...



being environment kids tradition cool old school downtown pride staff diversity history people diverse part community legacy students

I chose to teach at Palmer because...



My favorite part of campus is...



view history

Alumni downtown
campus classroom small gym location
space windows
spaces integrated large
uniqueness floor
being center nest peak
Right outdoor
museum pikes
views courtyard
Bell third trees
front

When the project is complete, my dream is for it to be...

safe functional
conditioned
environment updated
school space
inspiring light kids
history Air Accessible
place staff modern natural
learning
future
welcoming



If there's one thing I would change to improve teaching and learning in the campus environment of Palmer HS it would be to...



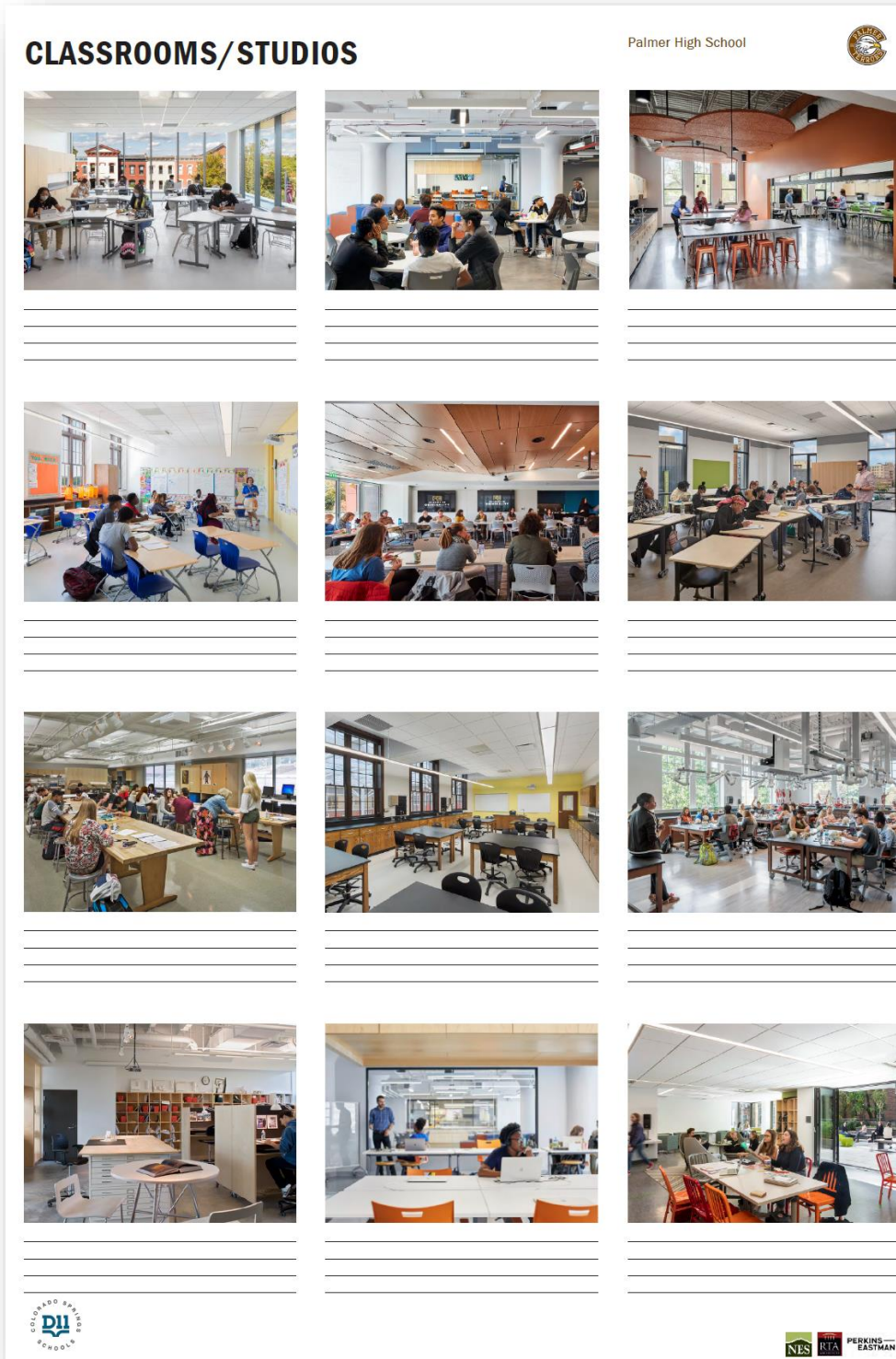
building create bathrooms
learning spaces classroom
classrooms improve
conditioning
students better
add windows air lighting
natural space comfortable
technology access

If I could improve adjacencies, it would be to do...

media access
arts center
parking
departments
future rooms near keep
math together next
students studies Department
counseling
science social performing
spaces

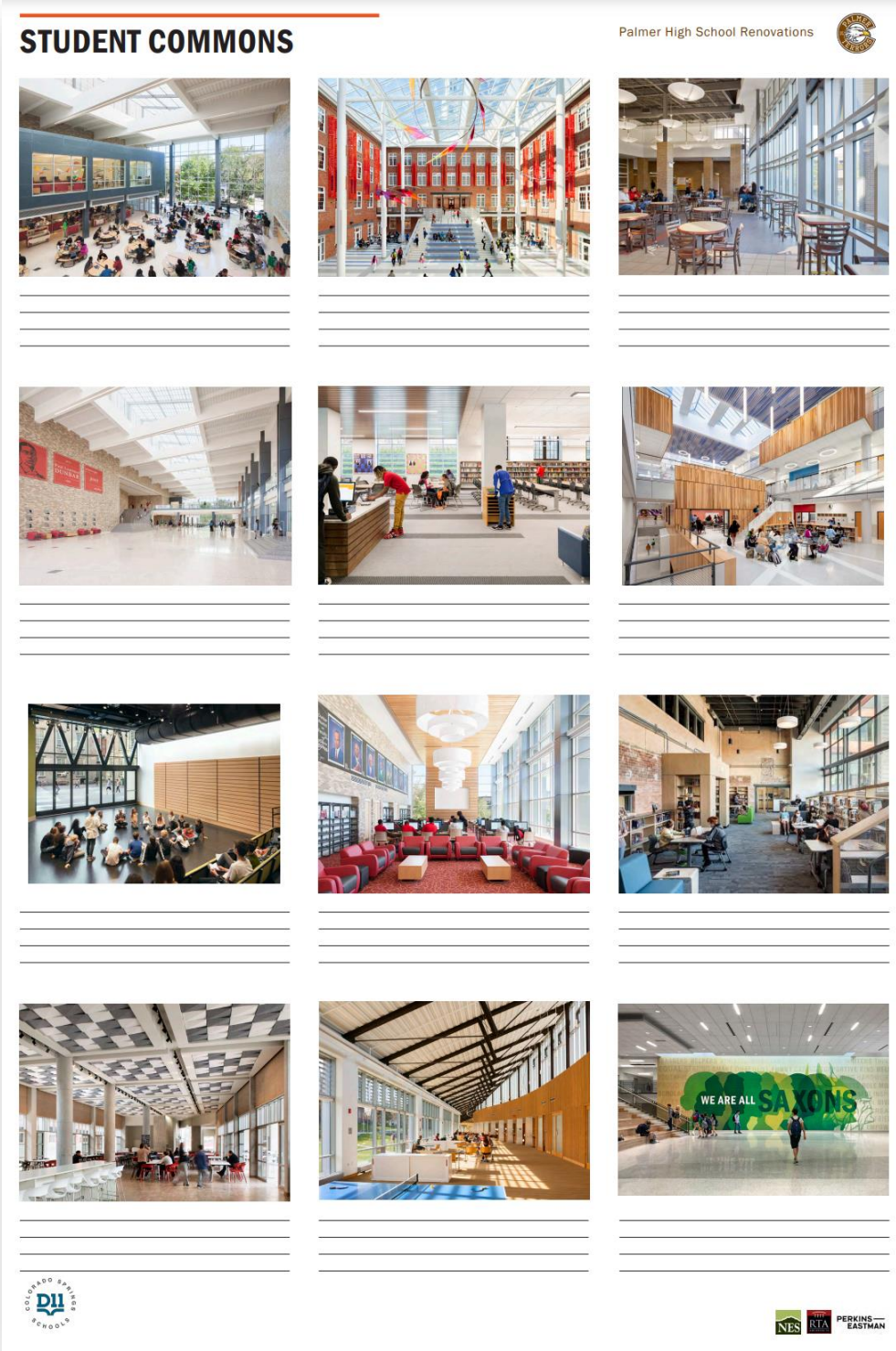


Studio/Classroom



Gallery Walk – Staff Responses

Student Commons

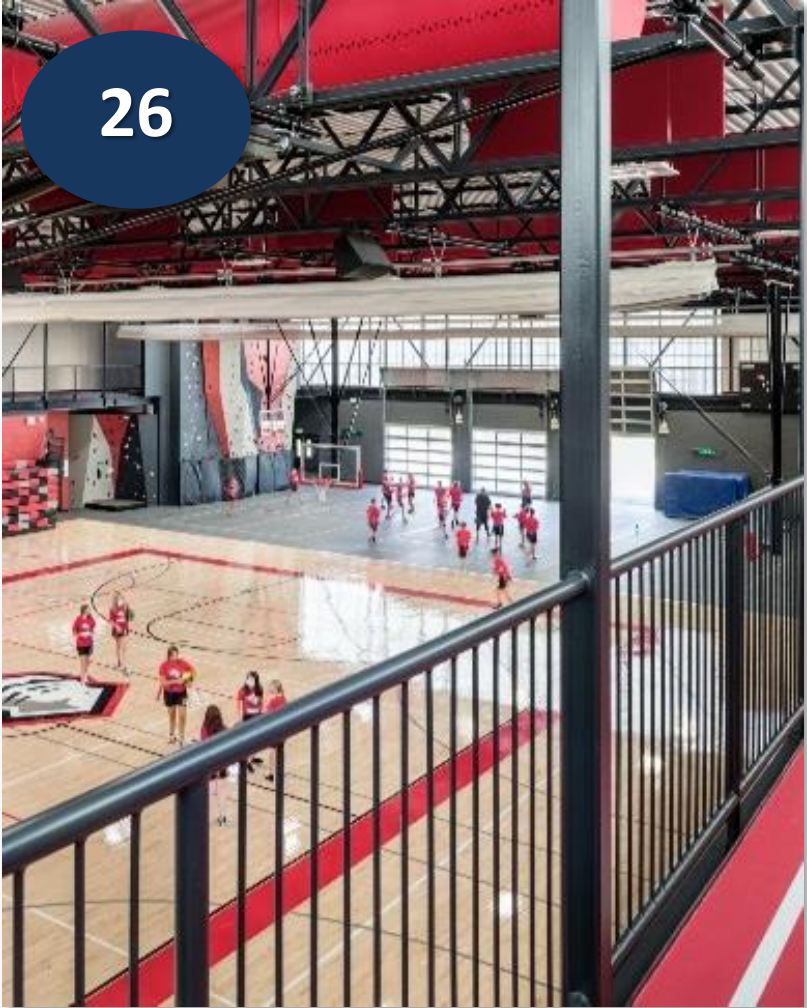


Specialty Spaces

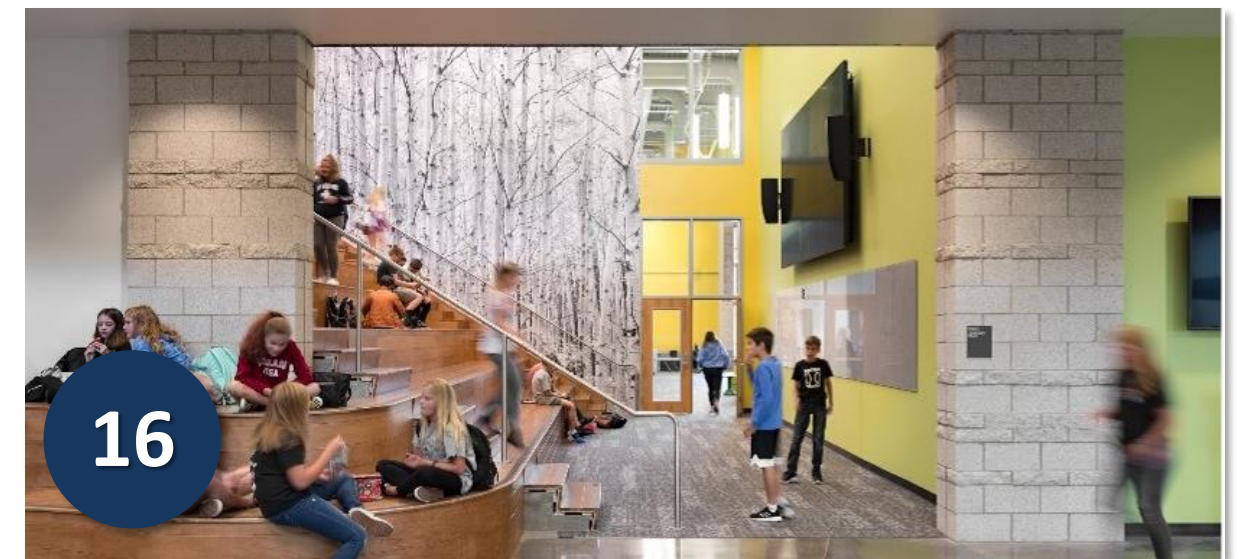
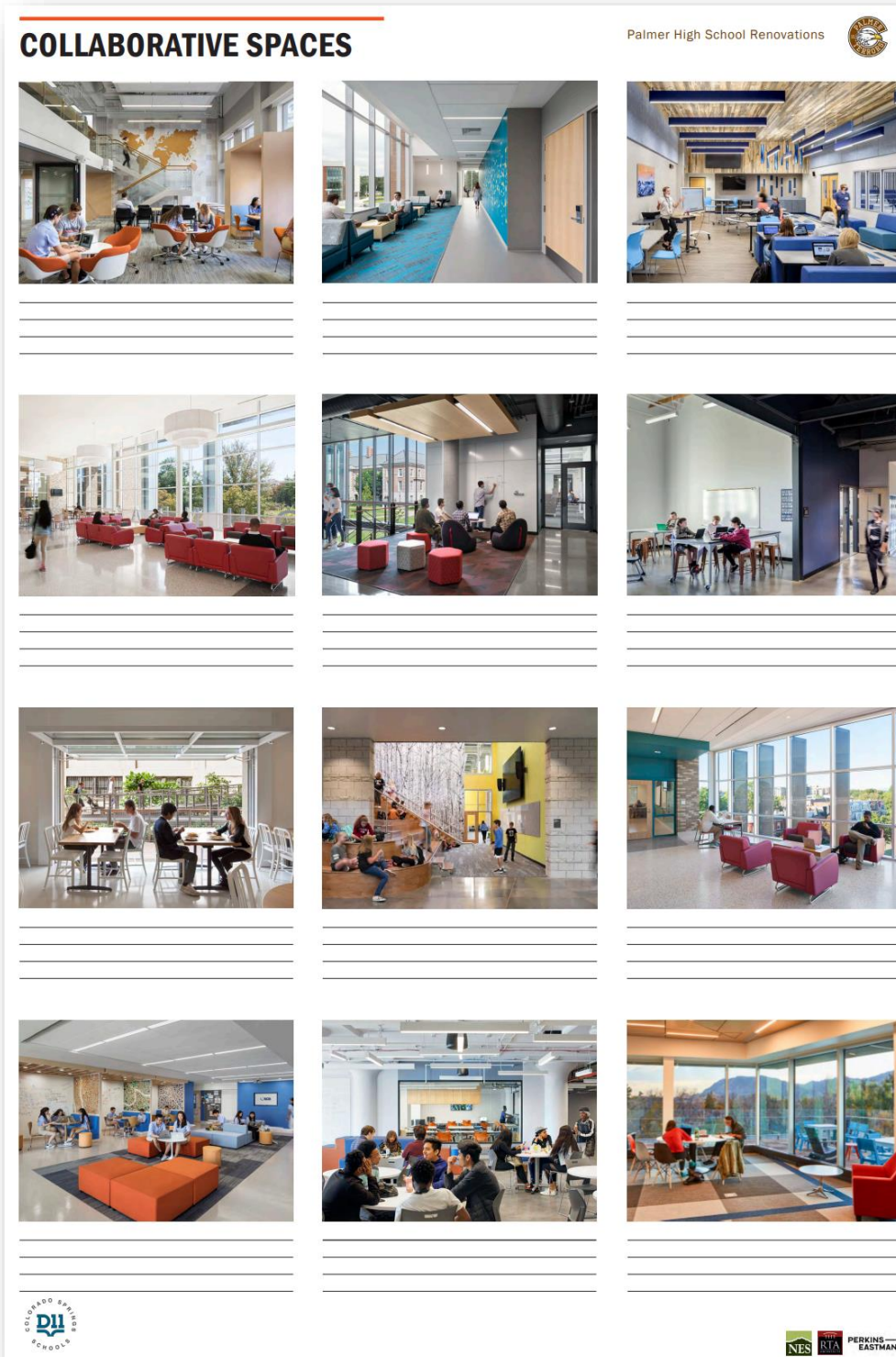
SPECIALTY ENVIRONMENTS

Palmer High School Renovations

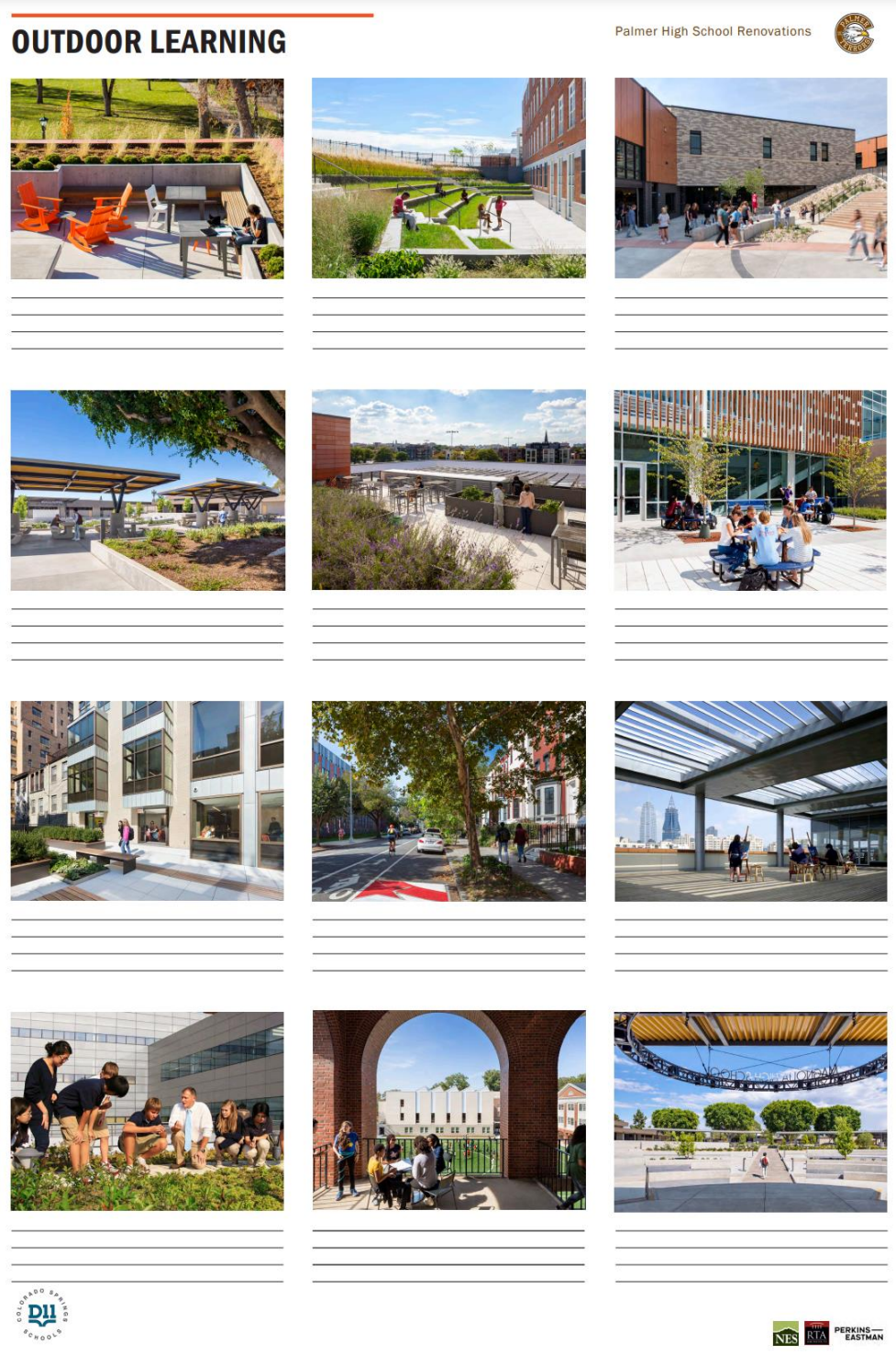
Logos: DII, NES, RTA, PERKINS — EASTMAN



Collaborative Spaces



Outdoor Learning



Community Meetings



Community Sessions



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What is the relationship of Palmer to Downtown?

Major themes included Palmer as an anchor of downtown, mutual success, historical and cultural heart, civic and community connections, placemaking, accessible spaces, and inclusivity.

"Palmer High School serves as a geographical icon and an anchor for downtown Colorado Springs."

The success of Palmer and downtown are intertwined: "When Palmer succeeds, downtown succeeds. When downtown succeeds, Palmer succeeds."

Palmer is the oldest high school in the community, and both Palmer and downtown share the role of being the heart of Colorado Springs.

Palmer's connection to the local art community adds cultural depth to downtown's creative scene.

"Students downtown create energy downtown."

"Downtown high school is about placemaking." Palmer creates a sense of place and identity for the community.

Opportunities abound for connecting students to local government and city services, fostering a sense of civic duty and engagement.

Palmer is seen as the flagship for PK-12 education in the region, with the potential to lead educational innovations.

The relationship between the school and the community includes a focus on safety.

What will people be saying about Palmer in 30 years?

Major themes for Palmer's future vision and leadership included world class facilities, cultivating future leaders, safety and inclusivity, a vibrant and resilient institution, diversity as strength, and equality in the arts and athletics.

Palmer is envisioned to remain open and vibrant, continually serving as a vital educational institution and a draw for both students and the community.

Establishing a world-class downtown field house in partnership with the YMCA, which would enhance its athletic program and create opportunities for State Championships.

There's a call for equality in resources and coaching between the performing/visual arts and athletics, ensuring that all students receive equal opportunities for mentorship and development.

There is a push for advocacy to reach out to underrepresented parents and community members, ensuring everyone's voice is heard.

Classrooms should foster a welcoming environment where the community feels invited and engaged in the educational process.

Palmer is focused on creating an environment that inspires future leaders, where students are encouraged to dream big and see possibilities rather than limitations.

What opportunities do students have with their proximity to downtown?

Students have opportunity to be more engaged civically—including city council, police, city services.

“Palmer’s campus must remain adaptable, able to mold to the needs of changing economies.”

The campus should be moldable and flexible to adapt to changing economies and future educational needs.

“Exposure to trades and skilled labor provides Palmer students with practical career pathways.”

“Create a campus that balances openness with security, much like our downtown businesses.”

“Create a campus that balances openness with security, much like our downtown businesses.”

Major themes included exposure to skilled trades and labor, future flexibility, downtown safety, and maximizing the downtown location.

What partnerships and potential partnerships are there with downtown?

Major themes included creative district partnerships, culinary and retail collaborations, arts and civic spaces, affordable housing for employees, higher education connections, community services and economic development, and after-hours community integration.

"Palmer's integration within the state-certified creative district provides a unique opportunity for students to collaborate with local art institutions."

"Ongoing partnerships with Colorado College and Pikes Peak State College create clear pathways to higher education."

Palmer's campus can serve the community beyond school hours, offering childcare services and deeper school district partnerships.

"Culinary and retail partnerships with downtown businesses create invaluable hands-on learning experiences."

City Auditorium offers an arts space and community amenity, providing a stage for Palmer's creative programming

"Downtown high school is about placemaking." Palmer creates a sense of place and identity for the community.

"Our proximity to civic institutions opens the door to real-world civic education and legal partnerships."

"Affordable housing for district employees strengthens our community's ties and ensures staff stability."

"By aligning with programs like the MILL, Palmer offers trade training that prepares students for careers beyond the classroom."

“Integrating Palmer’s rich history into the architectural design will help preserve its legacy for future generations.”

“Open, transparent partnerships between the school district and the community are essential to the success of this project.”

“Creating a sense of arrival from the east can connect Palmer more closely to the heart of downtown.”

“Ensuring the safety of students as they navigate the urban fabric of downtown Colorado Springs is a top priority.”

“Parking challenges adjacent to Palmer continue to hinder accessibility for students and staff.”

“We must prioritize pedestrian mobility, ensuring students can walk safely through the urban landscape.”

What opportunities are there for Palmer’s location within the urban fabric of Colorado Springs?

Major themes included student safety in the urban environment, parking challenges, creating a sense of arrival, prioritizing pedestrian mobility, accessibility, historic integration in design, and transparency in school district partnerships.

Key Themes

Major themes included the opportunity for Palmer to be a downtown centerpiece, historic and architectural consistency, placemaking and youth engagement, sustainability, collaborations with businesses, pedestrian and transportation improvements, student and community involvement, beautification and green spaces, and historic legacy and modern innovation.

D11 and Palmer High School can capitalize on downtown revitalization, becoming a key hub for the city's multi-modal transportation system and cultural vibrancy.

There's a desire to maintain consistency in architectural style, ensuring the renovation respects Palmer's history while revitalizing its design remains a beacon of dignity and architectural cohesion downtown.

Creating opportunities for students to engage with trades, skilled labor, and a wide variety of fields will help instill a sense of pride, place, and autonomy, similar to the benefits of open lunch periods.

Shared community spaces could be developed, accessible 24/7, fostering stronger ties between the school and the local neighborhood.

A collaborative relationship between the school, local businesses, and neighbors is seen as essential for student development.

There is significant potential for Palmer to become a demonstration site for sustainability efforts like water harvesting and solar panels

These partnerships can help guide students, with community members acting as liaisons, teaching respect and care for their surroundings.

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Key Themes

Major themes included safety and pedestrian concerns, infrastructure and technology upgrades, fire and emergency safety, construction logistics and timeline, partnerships with city planning departments, parking solutions, and urban canopy and aesthetics.

"This project is a unique opportunity to revitalize Palmer as both a learning environment and a downtown anchor."

"Fire safety and emergency communication must be central in this project. CSFD should be involved at every stage."

"We need to reimagine parking solutions and micro-mobility options to better support both students and the surrounding urban fabric."

"Fire safety and emergency communication must be central in this project. CSFD should be involved at every stage."

"Safety is paramount, from street crossings to vehicle conflicts—it's essential to create an environment where students and pedestrians feel protected."

"A better urban tree canopy isn't just about aesthetics—it also calms traffic, creates a safer environment, and fosters a sense of community."