

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education – Monday, April 27, 2026

POMPERAUG REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 15

The mission of Region 15, a collaborative community committed to excellence, is to educate every student to be productive, ethical, and engaged in a global society through proven and innovative learning experiences supported by its strong community whose decision-making is based on the best interest of all students.

Mission Statement, Adopted 9 December 2002; Updated 2009

Board of Education – Regular Meeting

Monday, April 27, 2026

7:30 P.M.

Pomperaug High School Media Center

PRESENT: Ms. Sharon Attick (absent)
Ms. Shannon Cavallo
Ms. Heather Dwyer
Mr. John Jenusaitis
Ms. Marion Manzo, Chairperson

Mr. Tom Marks
Mr. Jeff Olsen
Mrs. Heather Rodgers
Dr. Sally Romano
Mr. Steve Suriani

PRESENT: Mr. Joshua Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Joe Martino, Director of Finance
Ms. Carrie Chiapetta, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Manzo called the April 27, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:31 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

Miss Daltow and Miss Murphy shared updates on recent student achievements and school activities.

Student Representative

Superintendent Smith and Ms. Furman announced the PES Book Bowl winners: "The Bestie Book Bunch".

Student Recognition
PES Book Bowl Winners

Upon a motion by Mrs. Rodgers, seconded by Ms. Cavallo
IT WAS VOTED

Approval of Minutes
April 6, 2026

"to approve the April 6, 2026 regular meeting minutes" and passed with Ms. Cavallo, Ms. Dwyer, Mr. Jenusaitis, Ms. Manzo, Mr. Marks, Mr. Olsen, Mrs. Rodgers, Dr. Romano and Mr. Suriani voting, "aye" Ms. Attick was absent.

Ms. Manzo requested information from the Board regarding ideas they would like to offer to the Southbury Strategic Planning Committee. The Board engaged in a brainstorming discussion and Ms. Manzo will pass the information to the Town of Southbury. Ideas included closer collaboration with the town on housing development which may affect enrollment numbers, updating our facilities and the need for more athletic fields with lighting.

Southbury Strategic Plan
Discussion

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Ms. Cavallo reported the committee met on April 27th and topics of discussion included: food service lunch prices, the HVAC system at PHS and potential summer projects.

Finance and Facilities
Committee

Superintendent Smith provided an update on the process of developing the Ed Specs for the two new elementary schools. He reviewed the timeline of the application for the State Reimbursement Grant. (Attachment 1).

GES/PES Building Project

Mr. Marks commented on the two invitations the Board of Education received: Unified Field Day, on May 15th and Top Ten Breakfast on June 8th. Mr. Smith provided the Board with more details around this event.

Board Member Comments

Ms. Manzo thanked Superintendent Smith, Mr. Martino for attending the Heritage Village discussion regarding the Region 15 Budget and the GES/PES Building Projects.

Ms. Manzo also mentioned she was chosen by CABA/CAPPS to serve on the Superintendent Evaluation Committee.

Mrs. Rodgers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cavallo, “to approve the international field trip to Italy June 29, 2027 – July 8, 2027, per board policy #6153”

Approval of International Fi-
Trip Summer 2027

IN DISCUSSION

Board members asked questions about the Region’s liability and responsibilities with international trips. Mr. Smith shared the recent history of international trips. He explained that three trips are being offered because of the high demand in years past. The Italy and Australia trips are considered first priority, with the third trip being second priority if there’s enough demand.

IT WAS VOTED

and passed with Ms. Cavallo. Ms. Dwyer, Mr. Jenusaitis, Ms. Manzo, Mr. Marks, Mr. Olsen, Mrs. Rodgers, Dr. Romano and Mr. Suriani voting, “aye”. Ms. Attick was absent.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Rodgers, seconded by Ms. Cavallo
IT WAS VOTED

Approval of International Fi-
Trip Summer 2027

“to approve the international field trip to Australia and New Zealand July 8, - 19 2027, per board policy #6153” and passed with Ms. Cavallo. Ms. Dwyer, Mr. Jenusaitis, Ms. Manzo, Mr. Marks, Mr. Olsen, Mrs. Rodgers, Dr. Romano and Mr. Suriani voting, “aye”. Ms. Attick was absent.

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Upon a motion by Mrs. Rodgers, seconded by Ms. Cavallo
IT WAS VOTED

Approval of International Field
Trip Summer 2027

“to approve the international field trip to Austria, Czech Republic, Germany and Switzerland July 26,- August 4, 2027, per board policy #6153” and passed with Ms. Cavallo. Ms. Dwyer, Mr. Jenusaitis, Ms. Manzo, Mr. Marks, Mr. Olsen, Mrs. Rodgers, Dr. Romano and Mr. Suriani voting, “aye”. Ms. Attick was absent.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Rodgers, seconded by Ms. Cavallo,
IT WAS VOTED

Adjourn

“to adjourn the April 27, 2026, regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:32 p.m.” and passed with Ms. Cavallo, Ms. Dwyer, Mr. Jenusaitis, Ms. Manzo, Mr. Marks, Mr. Olsen, Mrs. Rodgers, Dr. Romano, and Mr. Suriani voting, “aye. Ms. Attick was absent.

Tom Marks
Secretary of the Board of Education

Jennifer Meglio, Board Clerk



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FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR
**POMPERAUG & GAINFIELD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

POMPERAUG REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 15

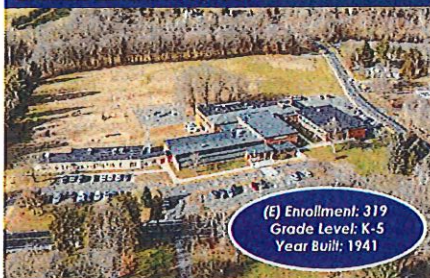
Board of Education
Meeting
4.27.2026

EXISTING CONDITIONS YOUR SCHOOL FACILITIES



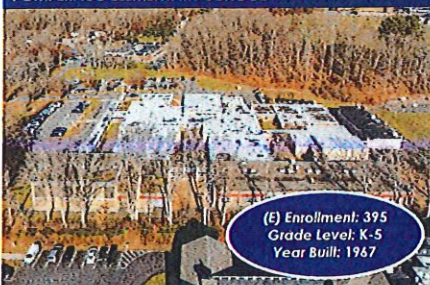
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GAINFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

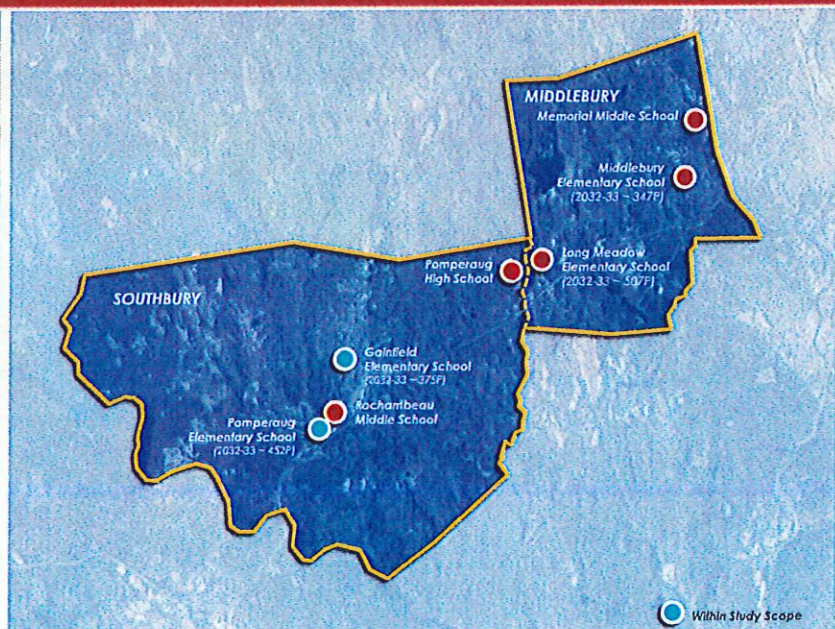


(E) Enrollment: 319
Grade Level: K-5
Year Built: 1941

POMPERAUG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



(E) Enrollment: 395
Grade Level: K-5
Year Built: 1967



EXISTING CONDITIONS SUMMARY

POMPERAUG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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Main Street South

Southbury
Senior Center

Existing Building ~ 66,745 SF

East Mod. ~ 4,500 SF

Site: 13.52 Acres

Rochambeau
Middle School

Site Considerations

- Topography
- Access & Sight Lines
- Ingress / Egress
- Campus setting
- Buildable Area
- Site Capacity
- Parking/Drop Off
- Utilities

E240'

E200'

Monarch Southbury
(Senior Living)



EXISTING CONDITIONS SUMMARY

POMPERAUG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 607 Main St S, Southbury



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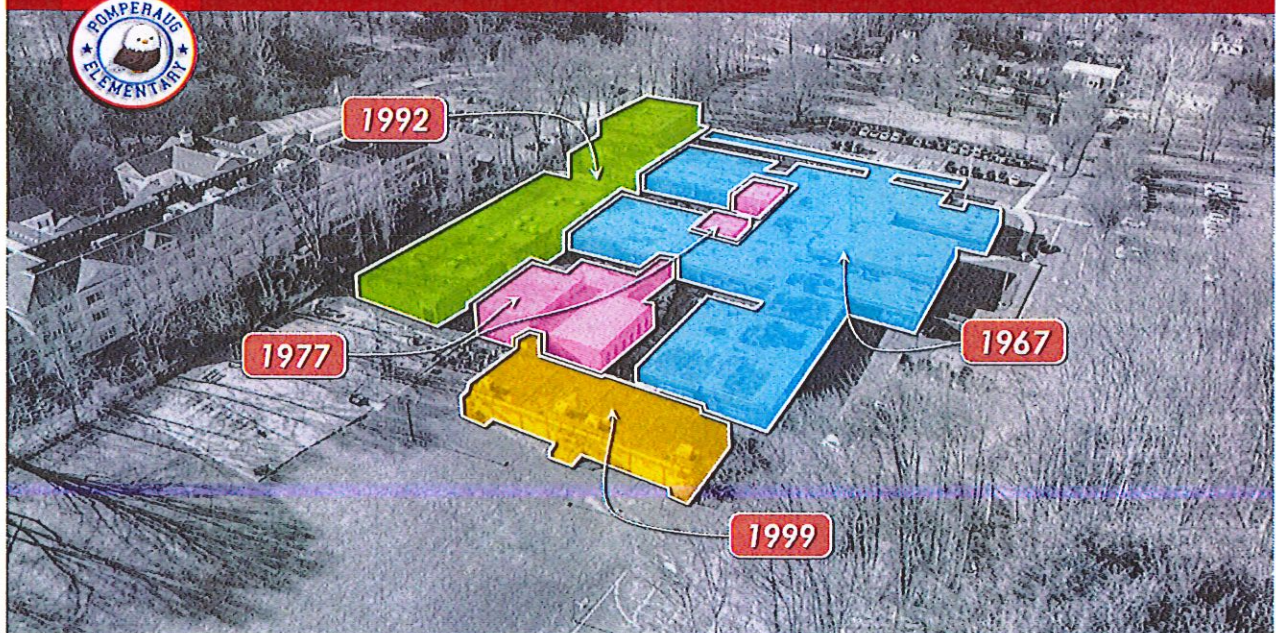


1992

1977

1967

1999



EXISTING CONDITIONS SUMMARY

GAINFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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Sewer

Existing Building ~ 55,371 SF
North Mod. ~ 1,200 SF. South Mod. ~ 3,140
Site: 8 Acres

Site Considerations

- Natural Diversity Area
- Flood Plain
- Topography
- Access & Sight Lines
- Buildable Area
- Site Capacity
- Utilities
- Traffic / Drop Off

E195'

E210'

Poverty Road

Old Field Road



EXISTING CONDITIONS SUMMARY

GAINFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 307 Old Field Rd, Southbury



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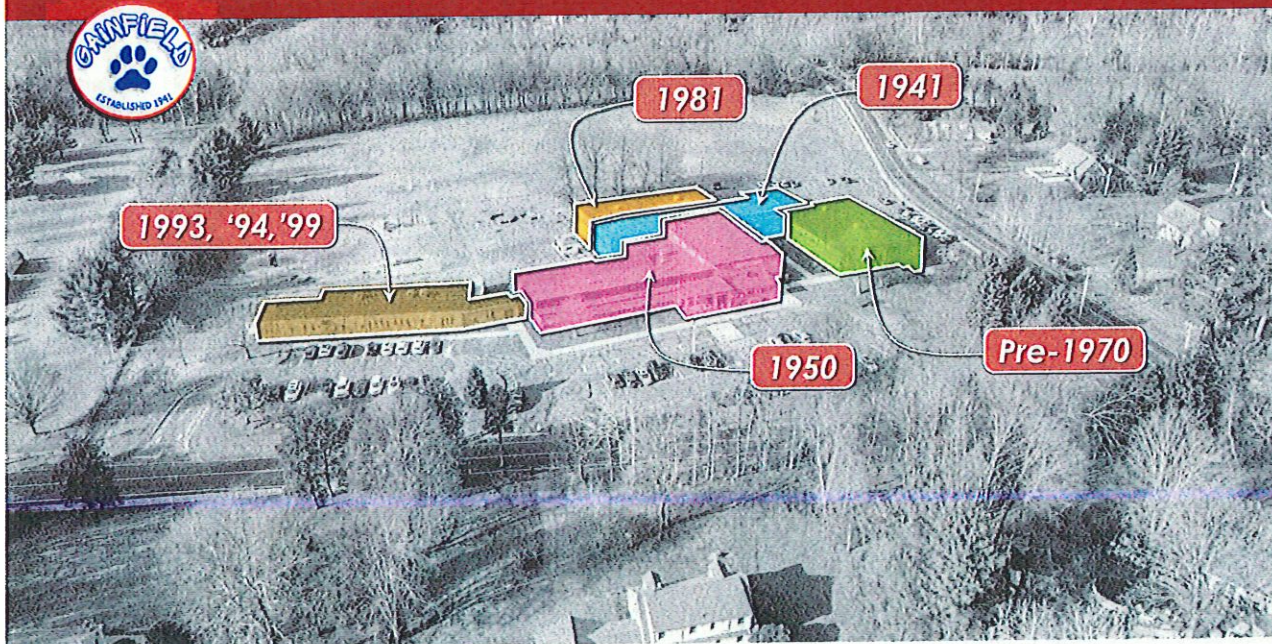
1981

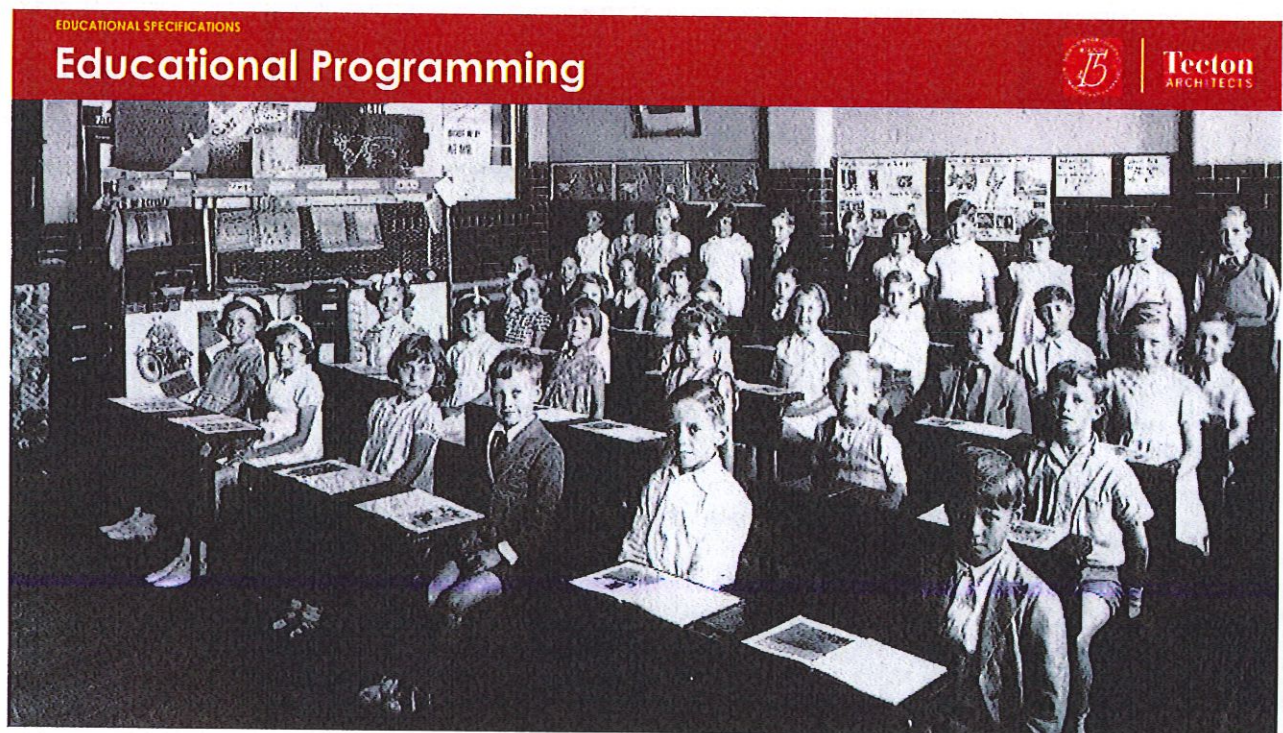
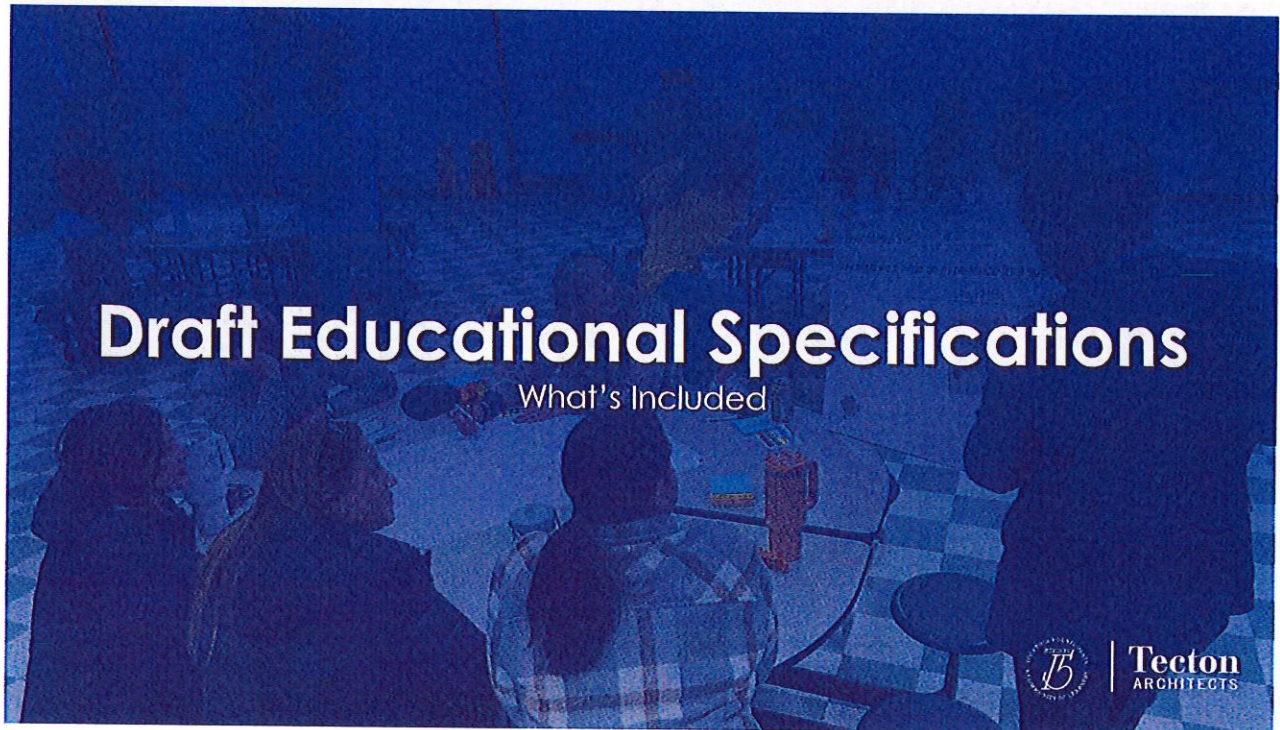
1941

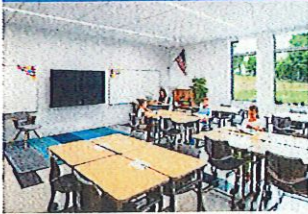
1993, '94, '99

1950

Pre-1970





Educational Programming – 21st Century LearningTecton
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Environment

Goal:

Updated classrooms to support interactive teaching methods and increased student engagement.

De-fronting the classroom
STEAM Small Learning Communities

Technology Infused,
Flexible & Adaptable

Goal:

Innovative technology & infrastructure to enable 21st Century & personalized learning, as well as digital resource integration.

Graphics & Wayfinding Small Group
Writable walls SPED & Support Student work on display
Flexible furniture Breakout areas

Collaborative
Learning Spaces

Goal:

Collaborative spaces to foster creativity, critical thinking and teamwork.

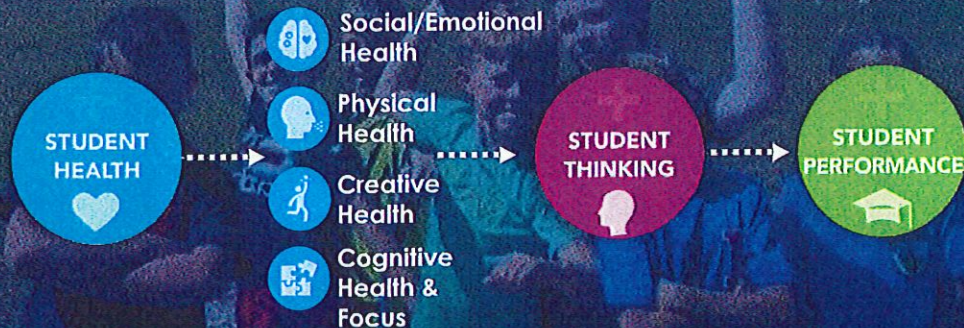
Updated Equipment
& Community Use

Goal:

New state-of-the-art resources for hands-on learning and skill development, as well as community-focused spaces.

Events & Meetings P.E. Outdoor learning spaces
Flexible performance spaces

Educational Programming – Whole Child Wellness

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Whole Child Wellness~
WELL is for people...

BUILDING
COMPONENTS

AND THEIR
EFFECTS
ON

HUMAN
HEALTH

WELL <https://www.wellcertified.com/certification/v2/>

①

Kick-off Meeting

②

Detailed Visioning

Focused group meetings with Art, CTE, Special Education, etc.

③

Collaborative Workshop

Discussions around give & take, flexible & adaptable spaces continue...

4

Refinement Workshop

A hard look at the spaces, functions, and if anything else is needed.

5

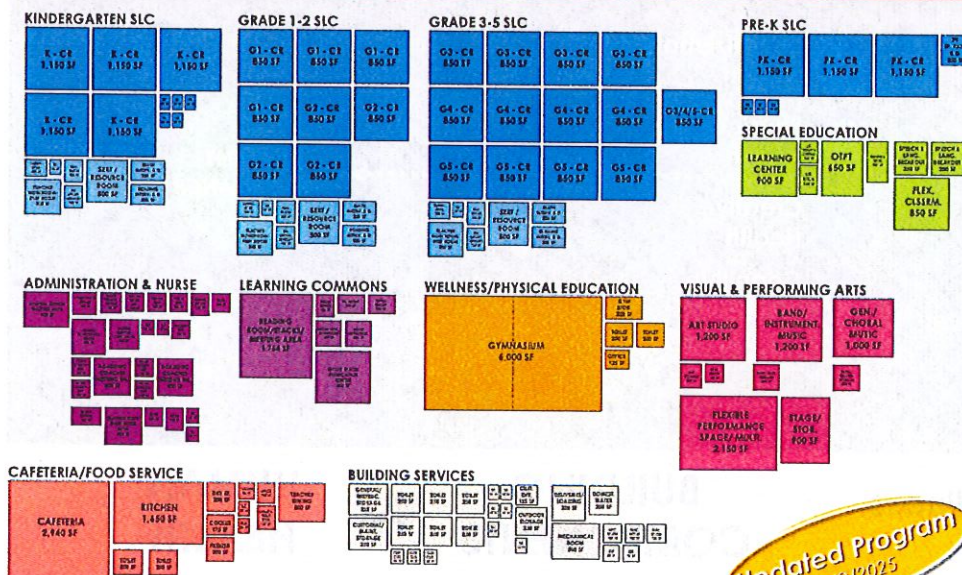
Conclusion & Specification

Describing the vision, space needs, and adjacencies comprehensively.

Gross Square Footage

Max. Allowable Area

Programming for 504 P, PK-5



Area: 89,146 GSF
OGA: 69,223 GSF
Delta: 19,923 GSF

Features:

- *Small learning communities with adjacent support space*
- *Visual and performing Arts (Band, Chorus, + Flexible presentation space & stage*
- *Gym + Multi-purpose Auxiliary Gym*
- *One Cafeteria served by full kitchen*

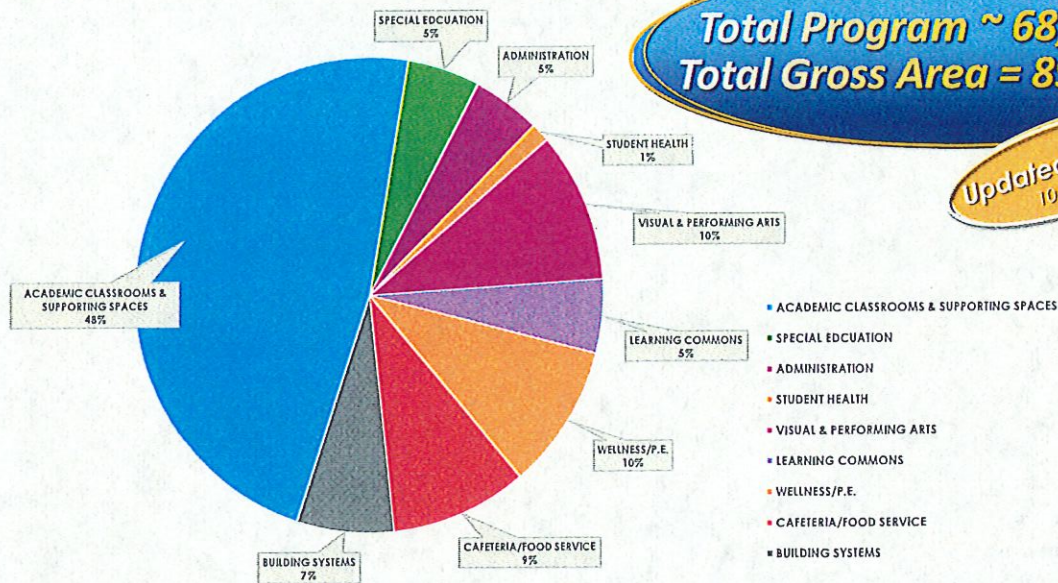


What's Included

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Total Program ~ 68,574 SF
Total Gross Area = 89,146 SF

Updated Program
 10/9/2023

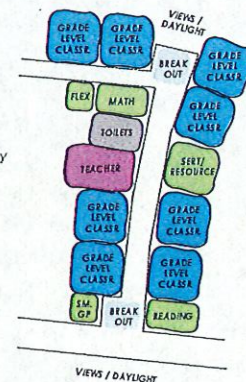


END RESULT – A Comprehensive Guidebook

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Section II	School Mission
Section III	Long Range Educational Plan
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Section VIII	Educational Supporting Spaces
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Section X	Building Systems
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Section XIII	Community Uses
Section XIV	Furniture, Fixtures & Specialized Equipment
Section XV	List of Educational Spaces



SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITY –
 "L" SCHEME
 GRADE LEVEL NEIGHBORHOOD

TIMELINE

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1. **4/27/2026 – BOE Meeting**
 - Basic Introduction/update to the proposed schedule for the development and refinement of the educational specifications (Update by Supt.)
2. **5/4/2026 – Circulate electronic copy of the DRAFT Educational Specifications to BOE for “pre-read”**
3. **5/11/2026 – BOE Meeting**
 - Present high-level summary of structure and content of the educational specifications (Purpose, Why it's important, How you use it, What it is, What it is not). Open session for questions, answers, and revisions
4. **5/18/2026 – Circulate electronic copy of the Final Educational Specifications to BOE for “pre-read”**
5. **5/26/2026 – BOE Meeting**
 - Educational Specifications - Address any further comments and revisions (the expectation is this is a procedural vote, not a lot of discussion) and vote x2 – PES & GES. Other related authorizations x2 – PES & GES
 - Authorization for Supt. to submit Grant
 - Authorization for Schematic Design
 - Authorization for Building Committee
6. **6/8/2026 – BOE Meeting**
 - Approval of meeting minutes documenting the required approvals from item 5

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FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR

POMPERAUG & GAINFIELD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

POMPERAUG REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 15

Board of Education
Meeting
4.27.2026