

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION #3**JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL MODERNIZATION**

Date: December 17, 2025

Location: Jefferson High School, Cafeteria

Design team: Bora, LEVER, PLACE, OSM, PPS

Participants: 25-30 community members

Presentation Material: [Boards \(30" x 42"\)](#)

As the modernization of the new Jefferson High School (JHS) progresses, community input continues to play an important role in shaping the project.

Feedback from participants at December's Community Information Session (CIS) covered a variety of topics including reactions to exterior renderings [LEVER]; site considerations, including the Crossblock [PLACE]; designs of entries and lobbies, and opportunities for cultural placemaking using environmental graphic design (EGD) [Bora]. Community input reflects a desire for spaces that foster Jeff pride, celebrate the school's history, and create a welcoming environment for all.

Key Findings and Overall Feedback:

Exterior Renderings [LEVER]:

- Community members were really excited seeing the updated design through the new renderings and physical model. They felt the images were helping them to envision how the school will be fitting into the neighborhood.
- People were very enthusiastic with the elements of Jefferson Pride the design team has incorporated into the project. Blue tile at the entry and blue metal screens at the gym were noted as "Feeling very Jeff."
- There was interest in how the more ornate design elements of the original 1909 were being incorporated into the new design. People were excited seeing the physical sample of the 'shaped brick' that is inspired by these elements.
- Community would like for the design team to continue exploring ways to add Jefferson identity to exterior, particularly along Killingsworth Street.

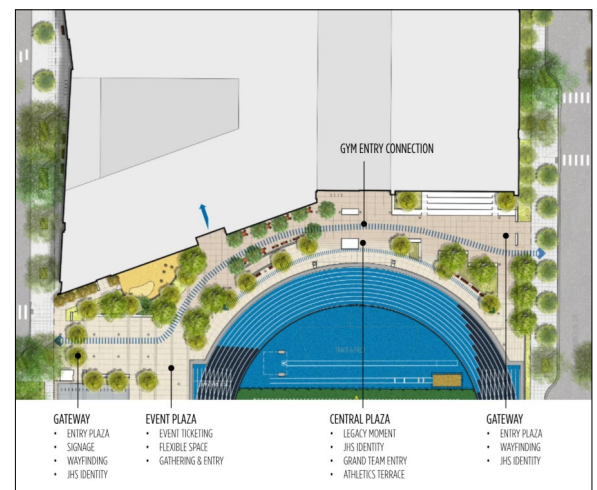
Crossblock - Program and Placemaking [PLACE]:

- Future Jeff families and community members were curious and excited about the project updates, with positive response for carrying through elements from the old building into the new Jeff, like the legacy steps south of the gym, as an echo of the old steps.
- Rain protection: Extend building rooflines along street frontages for neighbors and students as they navigate the superblock; in the same vein, rain protection/cover at the grandstands is desired.
- Hoping for neighborhood pedestrian "porosity" between Kerby Ave and Commercial particularly at the Crossblock.
- Improve visibility and safety along the school boundaries, while maintaining an inviting and non-oppressive character (for fence types); address climbing risks for fences.
- Reviewed Athletic fields with coaching staff member about specific athletics programs in the main field, suggested to avoid broadleaf trees near the track to minimize surface damage and slip hazard from moss and leaves.
- Opportunities to extend cultural placemaking to outdoor concrete

Throughout the phases of the modernization project, the team is taking spatial design implications under consideration and developing solutions which best address community input. The team will continue to share how feedback from the Jeff community is being incorporated into the project.



Corner of Killingsworth Street and Kerby Avenue [LEVER]



Crossblock - Program and Placemaking [PLACE]



Main Lobby with a view into the Commons [Bora]



Community members and participants in attendance at CIS #3

elements (names, mottos, etc.), as well as in the perforated panel fence at the Teen Parent Center play area.

Entries, Lobbies, and EGD [Bora]:

- The community used JHS stickers to affirm design elements that “Feel like Jeff,” which include large slogans on the walls; incorporating creative expression by students in the public spaces of the School; highlighting current and past athletic achievements of the Demos (e.g. displays of sports memorabilia).
- The Commons: community is approving of the overall design “Looks bright and airy!” They appreciate the stage and providing opportunities for student performance such as poetry slam events, dances. Excited to be able to use a large screen.
- They envision that the Commons will be a place for collaboration and brainstorming, as well as pep rallies and celebrating students.
- Generally, they want to see more and bolder colors in the design, and specifically they want to see the use “School of Champions” incorporated into the EGD.



Appendix

A. Community Information Session #3 Presentation Boards 3 – 13

B. Community Feedback 14 – 18

JHS TRACKING COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



CULTURAL PLACEMAKING

The items below were identified by the community and relate to maintaining the legacy of Jefferson High School. **The team is incorporating cultural placemaking into the modernization project, creating a tangible legacy of excellence and history at Jefferson.**

Opportunities on the site and building will be studied in more detail throughout the design phases to address these items, working with the Jeff community.

"Storytelling through the art and murals throughout the building, i.e. stories of diverse community histories, neighborhood history and legacy of Jeff, current student identities, influential cultural figures."

- a** Carry over historic artifacts from current school to new Jeff, such as artwork, stories, artifacts, building materials and elements. Choose and design these elements with extensive community involvement.
- b** Allow ways for student-initiated customization over time, so each class can leave their creative mark.
- c** Include graphic storytelling elements that depict the histories of BIPOC communities at Jeff, within the broader context of events in Portland, the region, and the country.
- d** Create spaces for gathering and community celebration with cultural art and visual storytelling.
- e** Provide adaptable ways for new generation of students to personalize space while celebrating creative expression and achievements of previous generations.
- f** Collaborate with community stakeholders to identify pieces that should be kept and displayed as physical artifacts. Document and archive murals and art pieces in the building to incorporate into future exhibits.
- g** Celebrate history of Jefferson, provide range of display spaces throughout the building.
- h** Integrating culturally specific and diverse art throughout the building.
- i** Retain memorabilia from athletics spaces, recognizing these key stories and memories in Jefferson history.
- j** Integrate art throughout the site. Consider the old statue platform and walls of the building as opportunities for art.

SPATIAL DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

Through **previous community engagement**, these spatial design implications have been identified as important to the Jeff community. These implications are being evaluated as part of the modernization project. Throughout the design phases, the team is taking these implications under consideration and developing solutions which best address the community's input. The team will continue to share how the feedback of Jeff community is being incorporated into the project.

Each implication is color coded by narrative themes.



"Community accessible spaces to support leadership education and related types of programming."

"Top of the line stem facilities and programs - i.e. maker space, science lab."

- 1** Create various gathering spaces for both loud and quiet activities, accommodating large groups and smaller meetings.
- 2** Allow flexible, student-initiated customization over time, so each class can leave their creative mark on Jeff.
- 3** Employ Trauma Informed Design Principles such as biophilic design strategies, natural light, materials and forms, multi-sensory with spaces for retreat, self-reliance and providing choice, consider lighting temperature and glare.
- 4** Create safe spaces for students to seek refuge or ask for help at the school, i.e. counselors, support groups - locate so its not connected with punishment/control authorities.
- 5** Quiet/low-stimulus spaces (sensory space) for students who are experiencing sensory overload.
- 6** Allow for access to community programs beyond school hours.
- 7** Provide clear wayfinding for both students and visitors in multiple languages.
- 8** Provide spaces for students to work collaboratively or get tutoring help.
- 9** Ensure event spaces are accessible for community use outside school hours.
- 10** Locate the main entrance in a clear and visible place, both easy and wayfinding considerations, in proximity to other services in the building, i.e. community resources, clinic, admin, etc.
- 11** Provide easily accessible stairs and convenient elevators to the natural flow of students through the school.

"Colorful and playful spatial elements to create a beautiful and welcoming school."

"Flexible spaces for non-class activities such as study and meetings are desired."

- 12** Provide accessible, safe and beautiful restrooms - considering diverse genders, cultural and religious norms and physical abilities. Provide all-user restrooms. Design bathrooms for a spectrum of users. Include single-user and family restrooms.
- 13** Provide commons with comfortable and welcoming space for gathering and student activities.
- 14** Provide spaces with view and connected to nature.
- 15** Provide state of the art classrooms with comfortable movable furnishings, spaces for pin up, and storage.
- 16** Provide spaces for PLAY.
- 17** Provide quiet and open outdoor places to connect to nature.
- 18** Spaces for gathering and community celebration, provide cultural art and visual storytelling.
- 19** Provide adaptable ways for each new generation of students to personalize space while preserving and celebrating creative expression and achievements of previous generations.
- 20** Provide color, playful elements to create a welcoming vibrancy across the school.
- 21** Provide distinguishable character for wayfinding across the school.
- 22** Provide space for new art and artifacts created by students, reflecting identities and stories.
- 23** Welcoming atmosphere for commons, with natural light, open foot court style, outside eating areas, self service stations for students who bring their lunch.

"Safe spaces to step away from classroom environment, that is not connected to administrative or punitive spaces, or in a location that is on great public display."
"Large community rooms for bigger events."

- 24** Provide flex spaces in the library with a calm environment, comfortable seating, study rooms and windows.
- 25** Provide hallways with seating areas and tables with outlets for students to do homework.
- 26** Provide ample natural light in working spaces.
- 27** Provide dance facilities that honor this special program at Jeff.
- 28** Prioritize physical health of school environment - air conditioning, proper heating, natural light, natural ventilation and views to the outside.
- 29** Dedicated spaces to do homework or mental health breaks aside from classrooms.
- 30** Reclaiming the unused field that is currently being used like a dog park.
- 31** Provide learning community garden with benches connecting to heritage from multiple cultures.
- 32** Create a safe site for students.
- 33** Site way finding - Consider flow of traffic for car drop off, buses, walking, and parking and clear signage indicating how to get around.
- 34** Provide usable outdoor buffer spaces with shade trees.
- 35** Provide places to study or have lunch in small peaceful nature gatherings.
- 36** Cover outdoor spaces and walkways so they can be used even when it is cold and raining.

BASE REQUIREMENTS

The spatial implications below are comments we heard from the community that align with the PPS Education Specifications requirements for high schools, PPS district standards and the Board approved space program for JHS and/or are required by current building codes. These items are considered **base requirements**. These items will not be separately tracked, but will be fully incorporated.

"Spaces and amenities should be available to communities for events, learning partnerships, etc."

Provide spaces to facilitate community support networks, i.e. mentorship opportunities, student groups, connection with other schools.

Provide private changing areas in locker rooms. Gender inclusive spaces are necessary to help students feel safe in vulnerable spaces.

Consider safety and sense of welcome for students and visitors.

Provide a communal pantry, i.e. food, clothes, hygiene products - considering impact to student overall well-being.

Site and entry to be wheelchair accessible.

Provide easily accessible stairs and convenient elevators to the natural flow of students through the school.

Provide comfortable places for refuge and decompression.

Provide flexible spaces for non-class activities, studying, clubs, etc.

Consider flexible shareable spaces for cultural and religious needs.

Provide space for community gatherings, inside and outside use.

Provide theater, band, choir spaces. Provide art studios.

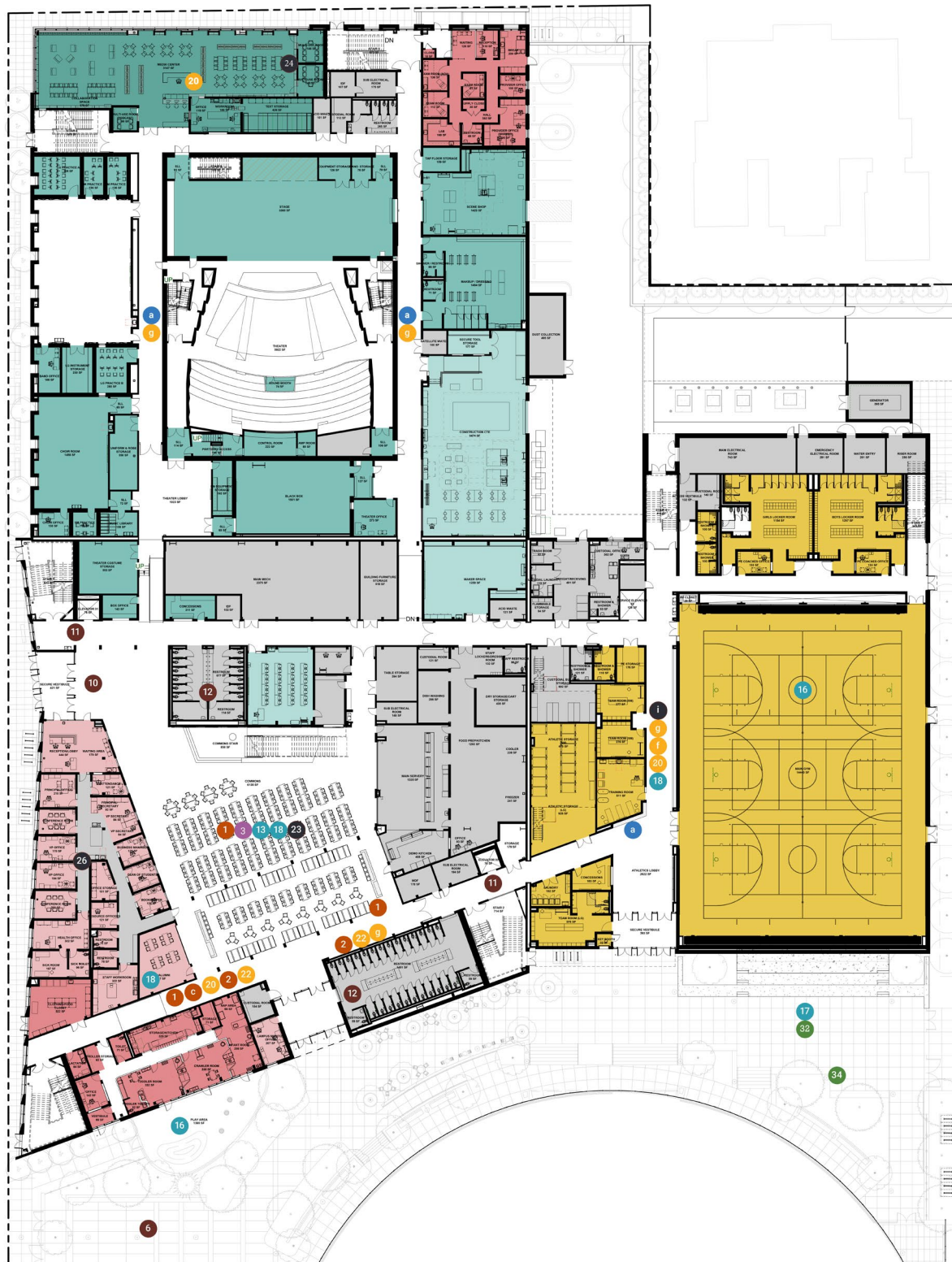
Provide top of the line STEM/ Science classroom.

Provide dedicated space for teacher planning, prep, and breaks.

Provide spaces for students to access mental health - suicide - substance abuse support.

Provide planted areas and covered outdoor seating space to gather, eat lunch, play and decompress.

JHS MODERNIZATION - FLOOR PLANS



Color Key

ADMIN, COUNSELING & CAREER	PERFORMING ARTS
COMMUNITY & PARTNERS	MEDIA CENTER
GENERAL CLASSROOMS & SCIENCE	ATHLETICS
SPED	BUILDING SUPPORT
FINE / GRAPHIC ARTS & CTE	

Level One



JHS MODERNIZATION - COMMONS

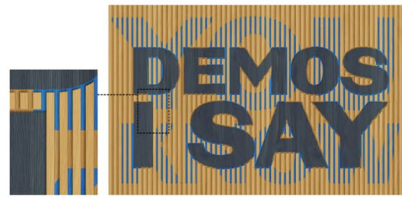


*How do you see this space being used to celebrate Jeff's unique culture?
Grab a sticky and share your thoughts.*



JHS MODERNIZATION - LOBBIES AND ENTRIES

"Where legacy meets the future."



POTENTIAL JHS BRANDING MOMENT

OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENT CREATIVE EXPRESSION AND DISPLAY



MAIN LOBBY



POTENTIAL JHS BRANDING MOMENT

*How do you see these spaces amplifying Jeff pride?
Grab a sticky and share your thoughts.*

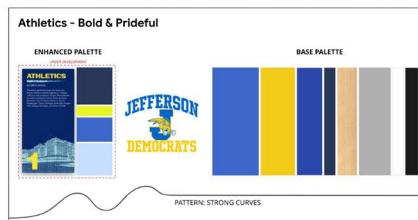
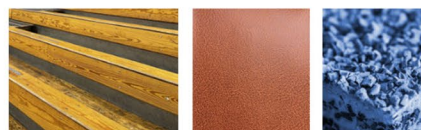


CONCESSIONS

ATHLETICS LOBBY

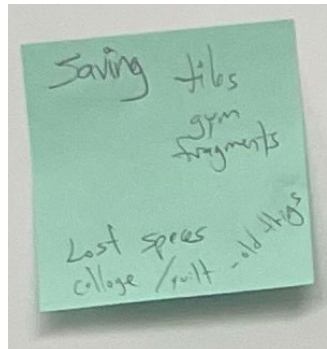
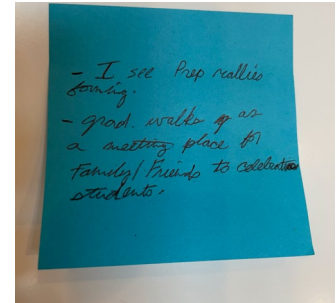
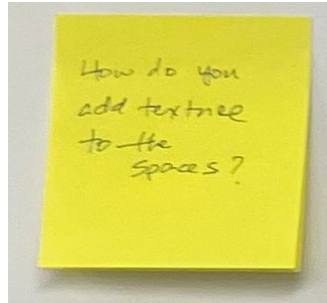


STUDENT PIN UP/
CURRENT EVENTS

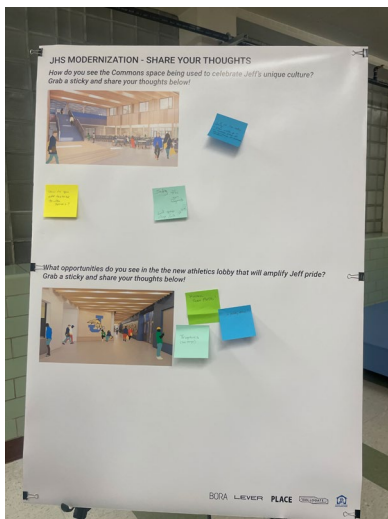
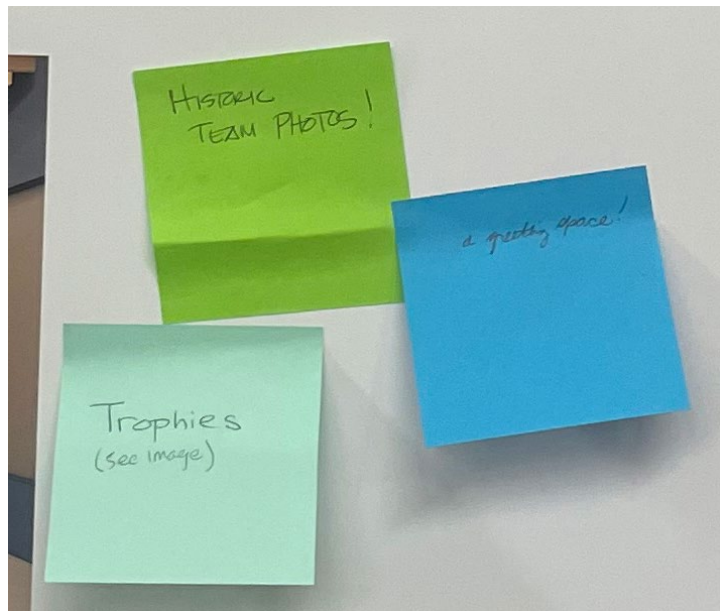


JHS MODERNIZATION - SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

*How do you see the Commons space being used to celebrate Jeff's unique culture?
Grab a sticky and share your thoughts below!*

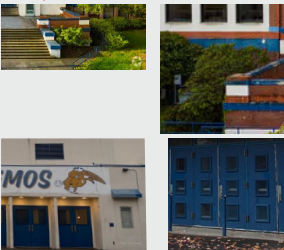


*What opportunities do you see in the the new athletics lobby that will amplify Jeff pride?
Grab a sticky and share your thoughts below!*



NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Strong Texture and Color References to Existing Jeff



APPROACH 1

Material change between Facades
Brick on Primary Facades

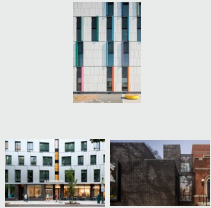
Some Texture and Color References To Existing Jeff



APPROACH 2

Texture change between Facades
Reference Patterns on 1909

No Material References to Existing Jeff



APPROACH 3

Color Change Between Facades
Neutral Colors



**Existing Jefferson
Color, Pattern, Material**



**New Jefferson
Color, Pattern, Material**

CDW #4

- Create a prominent main entry
- See interior activity and school colors from the exterior
- Material & Color: Culturally affirming, bold, welcoming
- Celebrating Jeff's diverse heritage

CDW #2

- Incorporate patterns similar to the existing building
- Use Brick: There was an overall appreciation for the detail and brickwork on the 1909
- Use contemporary references of the 1909 Building
- Balance safety and public access on the site

CDW #1

- Create a welcoming building that reflects the architectural heritage of Jefferson
- The New Building should look like a High School. Distinguish itself from PCC, but still look civic
- Cultural placemaking and landscape elements should reflect the Jefferson community

KILLINGSWORTH STREET / ARTS



Dance Studios



Corner of Killingsworth and Kerby



North Portland Library and Dance Studios



Media Center

KERBY ENTRY / ACADEMICS



Kerby Avenue



Kerby Avenue



Killingsworth Court



Main Entry

FIELDS / ATHLETICS



Track and Field + Gym



Track and Field + Gym



Crossblock



Crossblock

JHS MODERNIZATION - SITE PLANS

KILLINGSWORTH PRESENCE

- JHS IDENTITY MOMENT
- KERBY PEDESTRIAN GATEWAY
- LIGHTS + SEATING

MAIN ENTRANCE

- ENTRY COURT
- DEMOCRAT IDENTITY
- BIKE PARKING
- SEATING

CROSSBLOCK CONNECTION

- GATEWAY TO ATHLETICS
- SEMI-PUBLIC ACCESS THROUGH THE BLOCK
- ATHLETICS TICKET BOOTH
- INDOOR/OUTDOOR COMMONS SPILL-OUT
- TEEN PARENT CENTER SEPARATE ENTRY AND OUTDOOR PLAY AREA

KERBY PLAZA

- BIKE ROUTE CONNECTION
- NATIVE PLANTINGS
- EXISTING TREE PRESERVATION

TENNIS COURTS

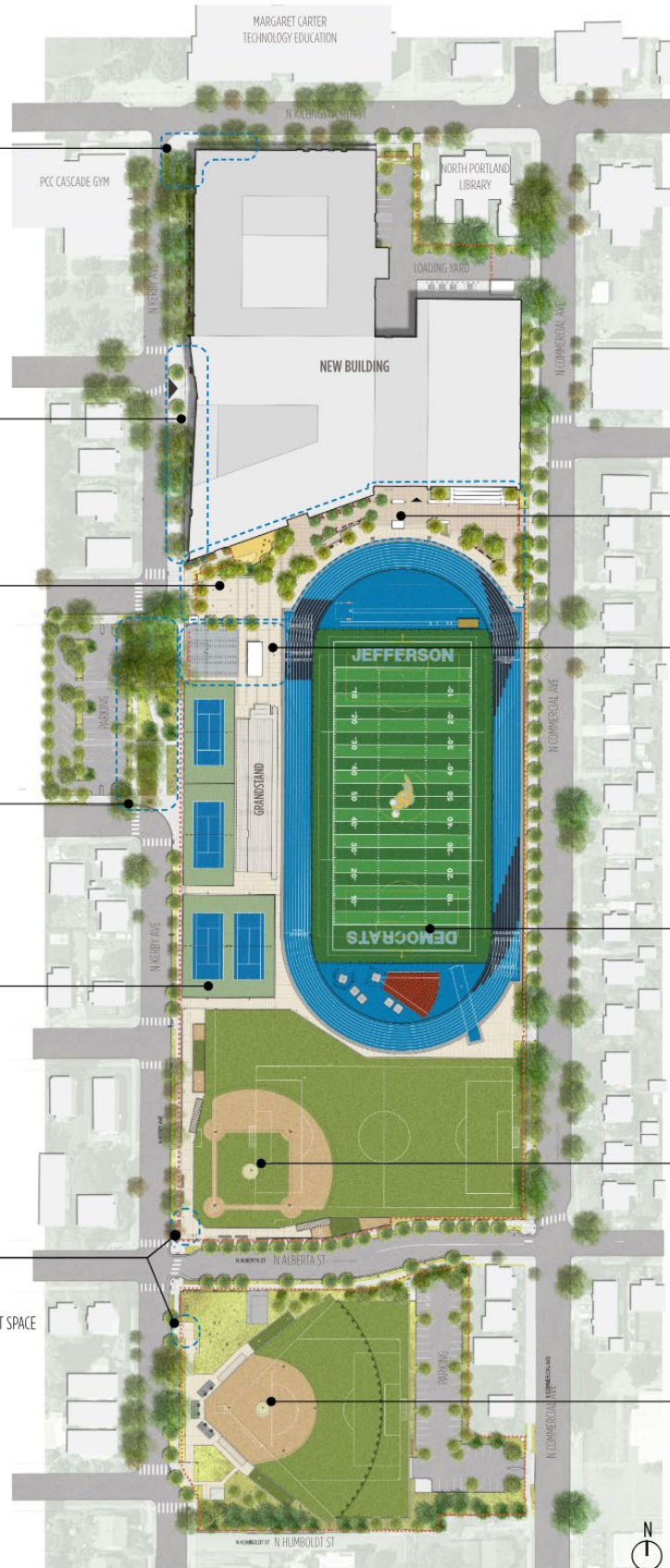
- 4 REQUIRED BY PPS ED. SPEC.
- COMPETITION SIZE

FIELD ENTRY

- FIELD ACCESS NEAR CORNERS
- CAMPUS GATEWAY MOMENT
- PEDESTRIAN GATHERING/ SEATING/PRE-EVENT SPACE

LEGEND

- PROGRAM ZONES
- SECURE PERIMETER
- ▲ PRIMARY BUILDING ENTRIES



ATHLETICS ENTRANCE

- BIKE PARKING
- COMMUNITY GATHERING/PRE-EVENT SPACE
- HERITAGE STEPS / ATHLETICS SPILL-OUT
- SEATING AND GATHERING
- GRAND FIELD ENTRY FROM ATHLETICS

FIELDS COURTYARD

- CONCESSIONS AREA
- ATHLETIC SUPPORT + TRAINING
- SPORTS EVENT GATHERING
- COVERED BIKE SHELTER WITH SECURE AREA

FOOTBALL FIELD COMPETITION

- SOCCER FIELD COMPETITION
- TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS COMPETITION

BASEBALL FIELD COMPETITION

- MULTI-USE PRACTICE FIELD

SOFTBALL FIELD COMPETITION

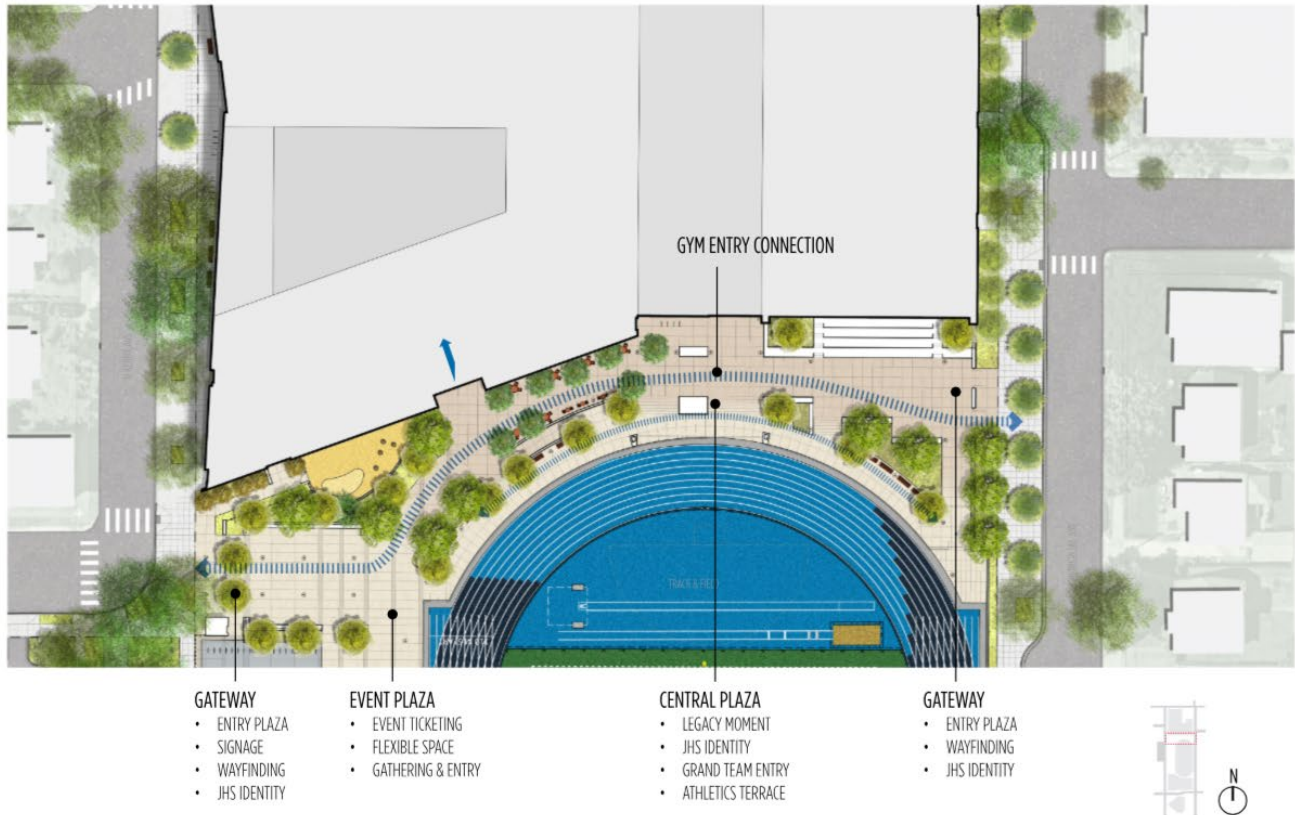
- MULTI-USE PRACTICE FIELD

BORA LEVER PLACE

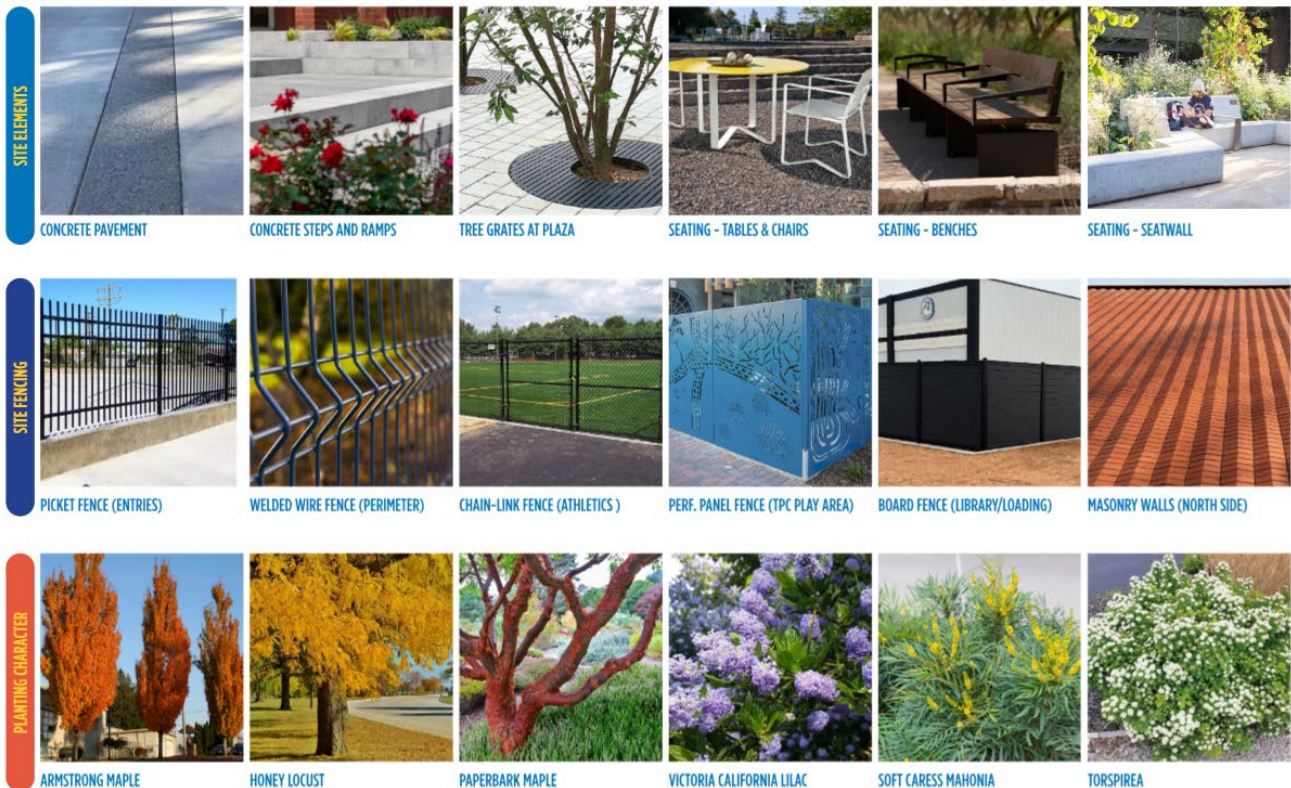
COLLOQUATE



CROSSBLOCK - PROGRAM & PLACEMAKING

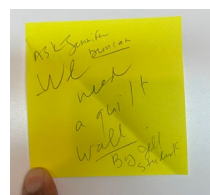
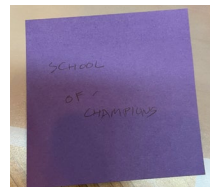
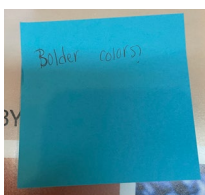
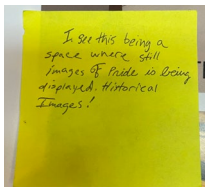
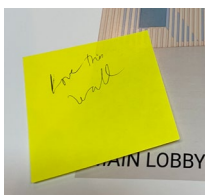
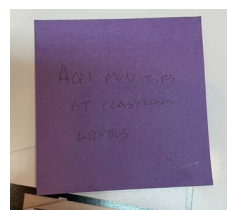
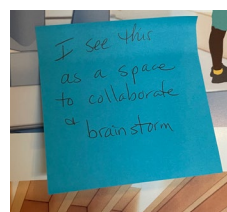
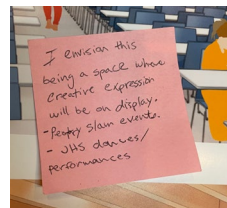
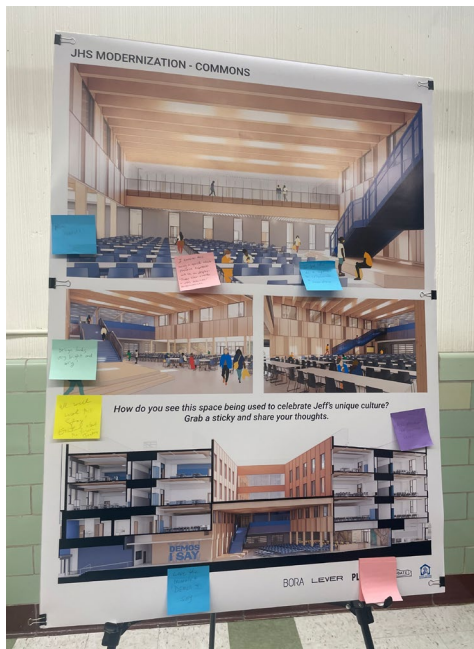
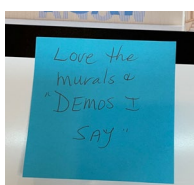
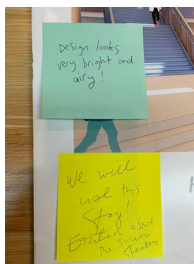
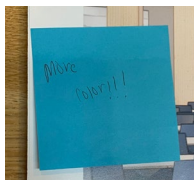
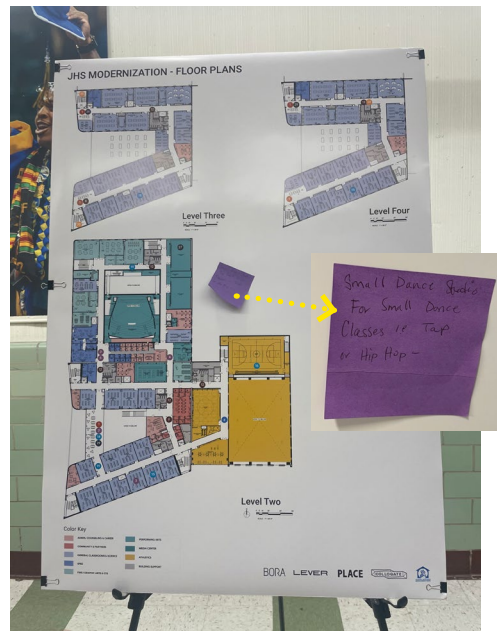
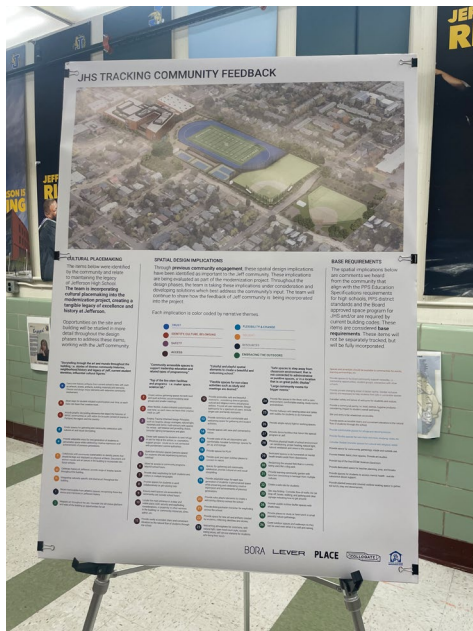


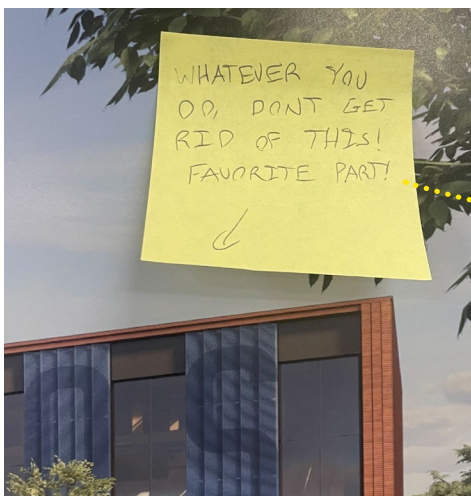
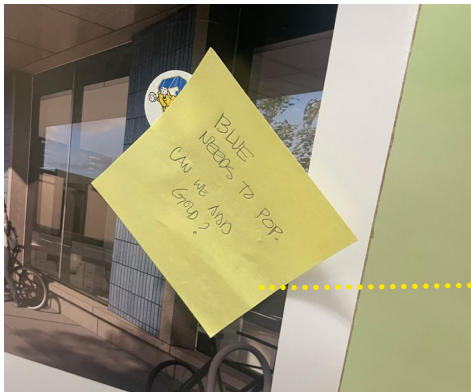
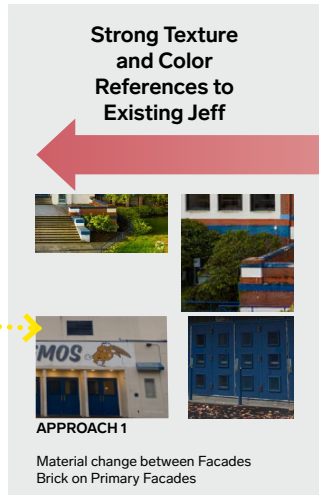
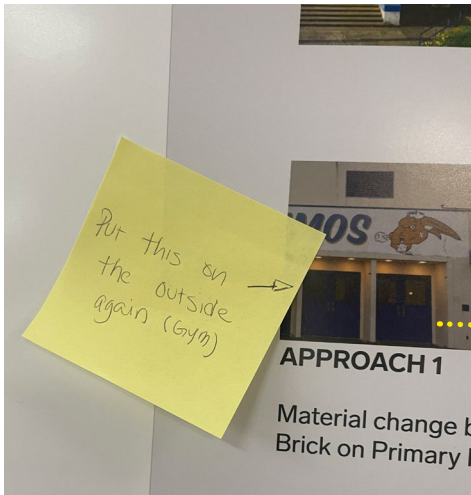
CROSSBLOCK MATERIALITY AND CHARACTER

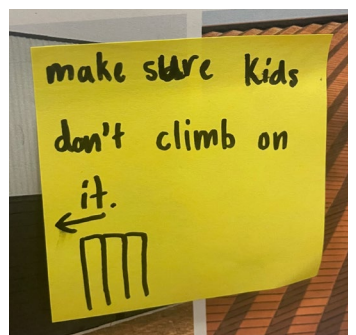
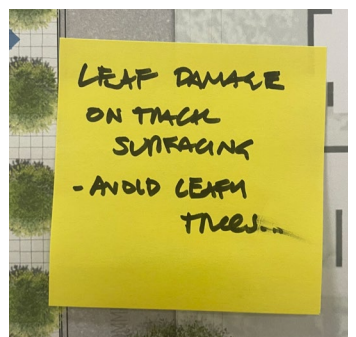
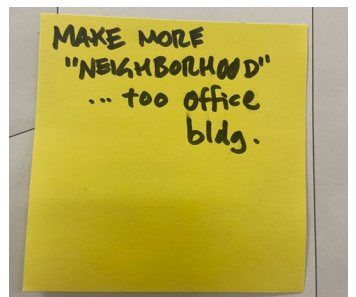
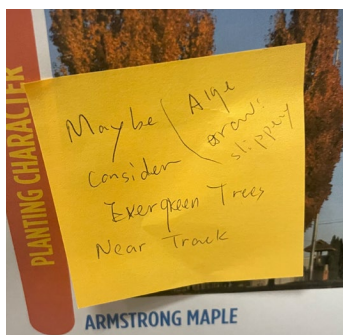
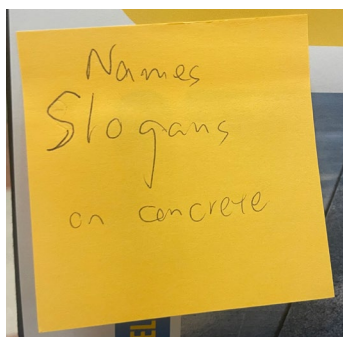
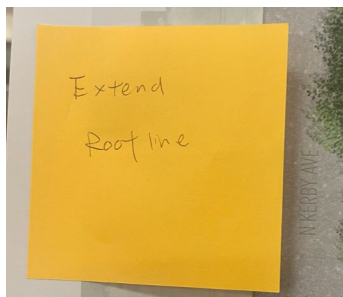
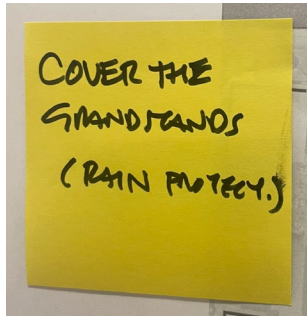
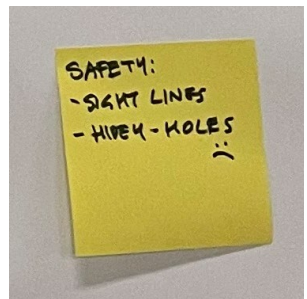
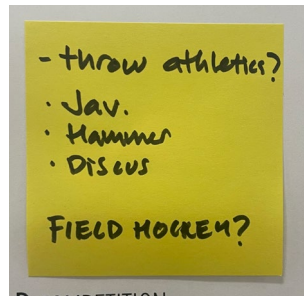
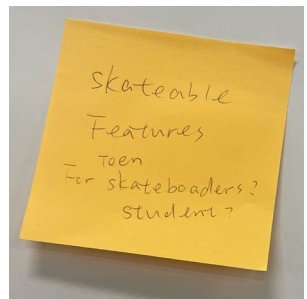


BORA LEVER PLACE









Sticky Notes Text - on presentation boards

Bora

- How do you add texture to the spaces?
- I see pep rallies forming. Grad walks as a meeting place for family/friends to celebrate students.
- Saving tiles, gym fragments, lost spaces, collage/quilt - old things
- Small dance studio for small dance classes, i.e. tap or hip hop
- More color!!!
- Design looks very bright and airy!
- We will use this stage! Excited about the screen
- Love the murals and "Demos I Say"
- I envision this being a space where creative expression will be on display. Poetry slam events. JHS dances/performances.
- I see this as a space to collaborate and brainstorm
- AQI monitors at classroom levels
- Love this wall
- I see this being a space where still images of pride is being displayed. Historical images!
- Bolder colors?
- School of Champions
- Ask Jennifer Dunlah - we need a quilt wall by Jeff students

LEVER

- Put this on the outside again (gym)
- More colors and designs!!
- Blue needs to pop. Can we add gold?
- Whatever you do, don't get ride of this! Favorite part!

PLACE

- Cover the grandstands (Rain protect.)
- Extend roofline
- Names, slogans on concrete
- Maybe consider Evergreen trees near track. Algae rain! slippery
- Skateable features for teen skateboarders? students?
- Throw athletics? Jav. Hammer. Discus. Field hockey?
- Safety: sight lines, hidey-holes :(
- Make more "neighborhood" ... too office building

