Essex Elementary School Project
Community Meeting No. 07
June 4, 2026 @ 6:00 PM



Community Outreach

7
Communications Working Group

2
Site Logistics Working Group

2
Sustainability Working Group

3
MEP Working Group

2
Site, Safety & Security Working Group

22
School Building Committee (SBC) Meetings



3
Educational Programming Workshops

2
Educational Plan Validation

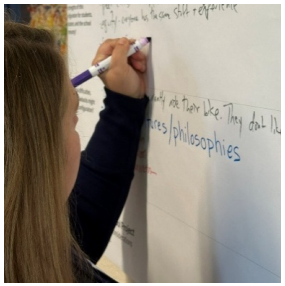


6
School Tours

2
School Board Meetings

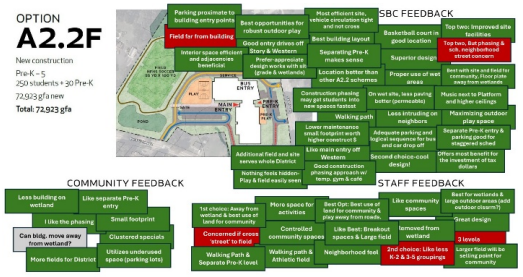
https://www.mersd.org/building-committee

1
Community Gallery Walk

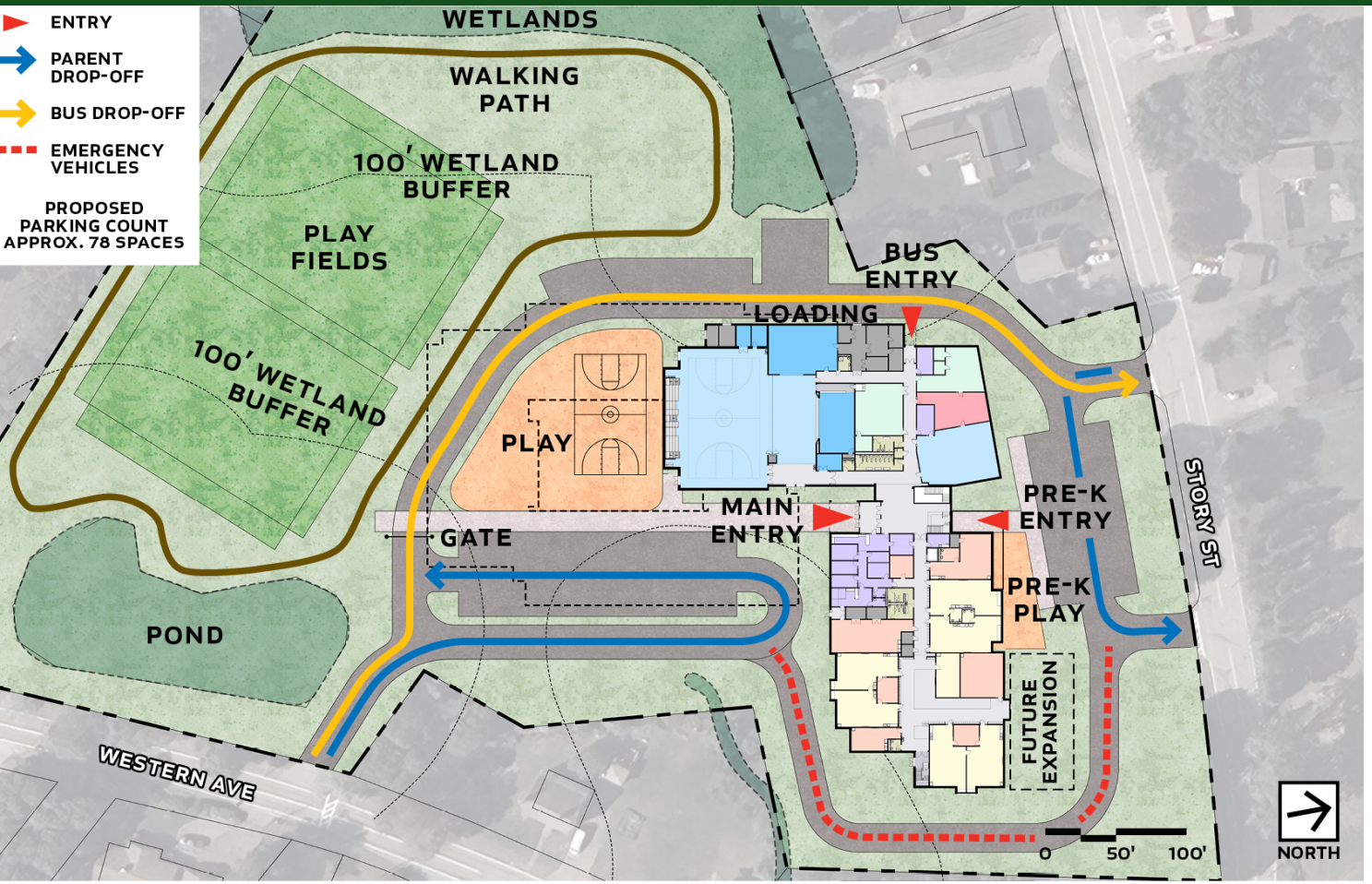


7
Community Meetings





Site Plan



Considerations:

- **Minimize impacts to wetlands areas**
- **Utilize slope to provide multiple points of building entry in close proximity**
- **Western Ave is primary entry for parent and bus circulation**
- **Story Street accesses dedicated Pre-K Entry**
- **Outdoor play areas and fields adjacent to Community Wing**
- **Student pedestrian circulation separated from vehicular access and away from road**

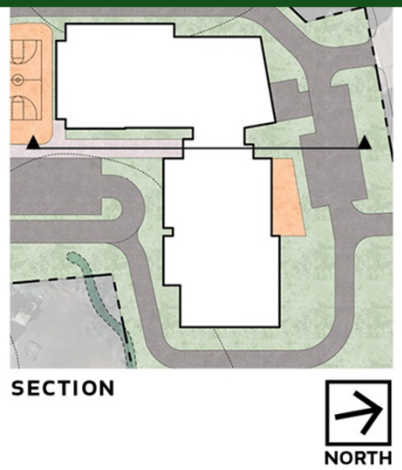
Site Context

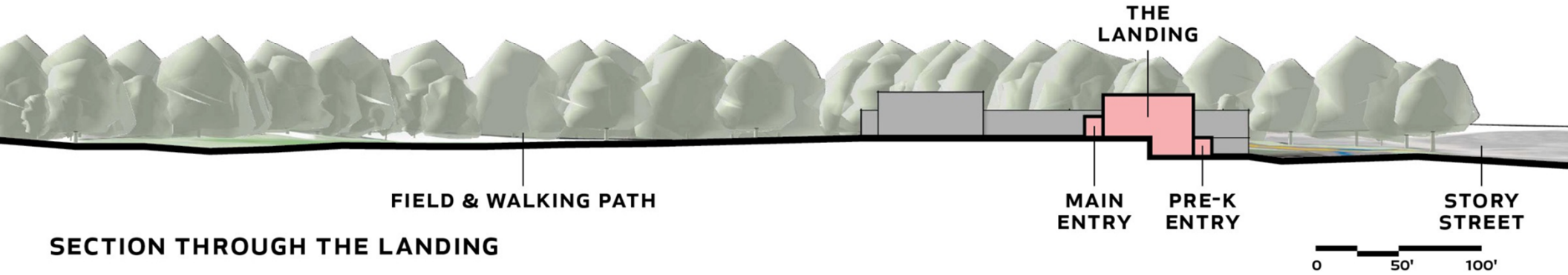


EXISTING MASSING



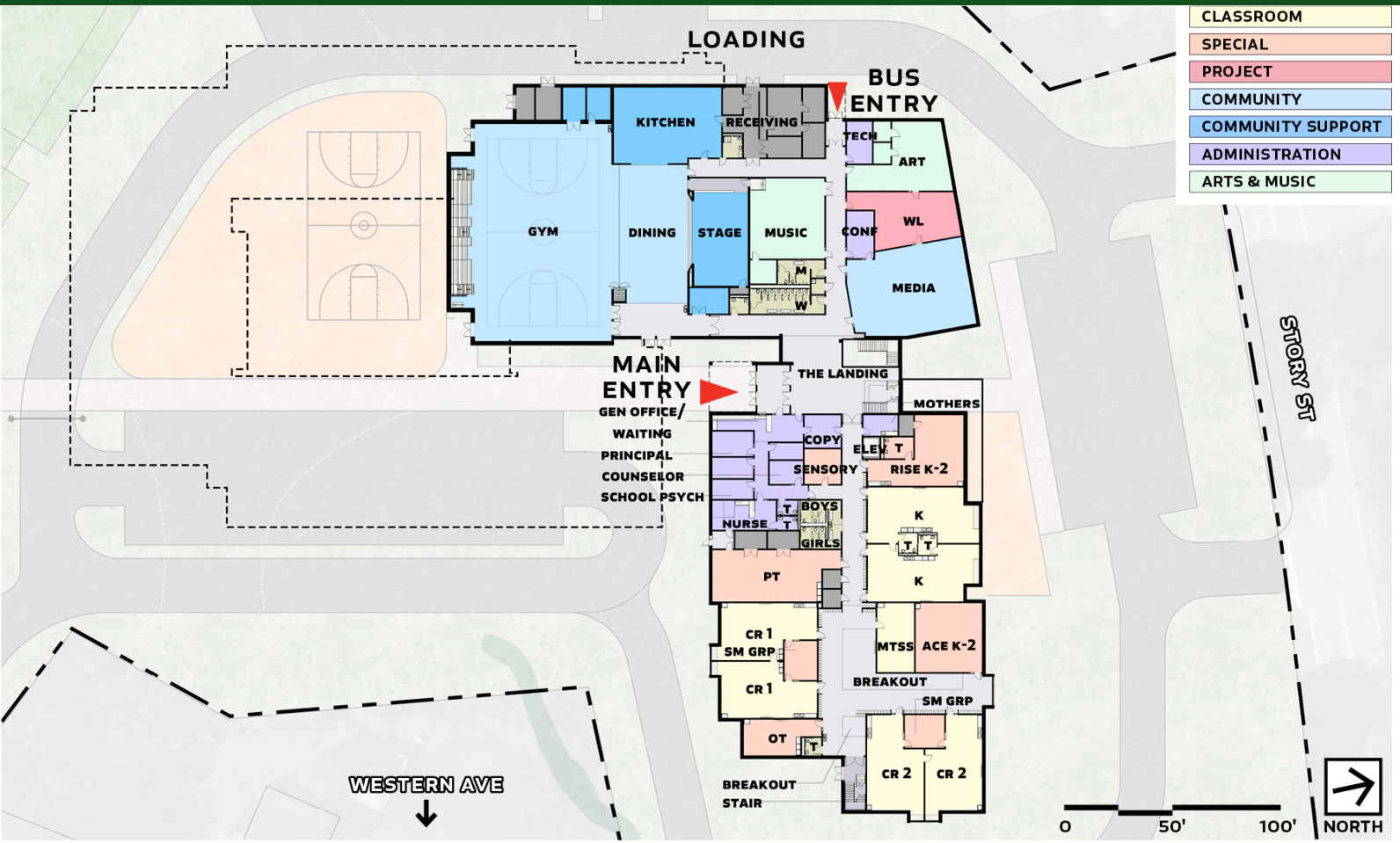
PROPOSED MASSING





SECTION THROUGH THE LANDING

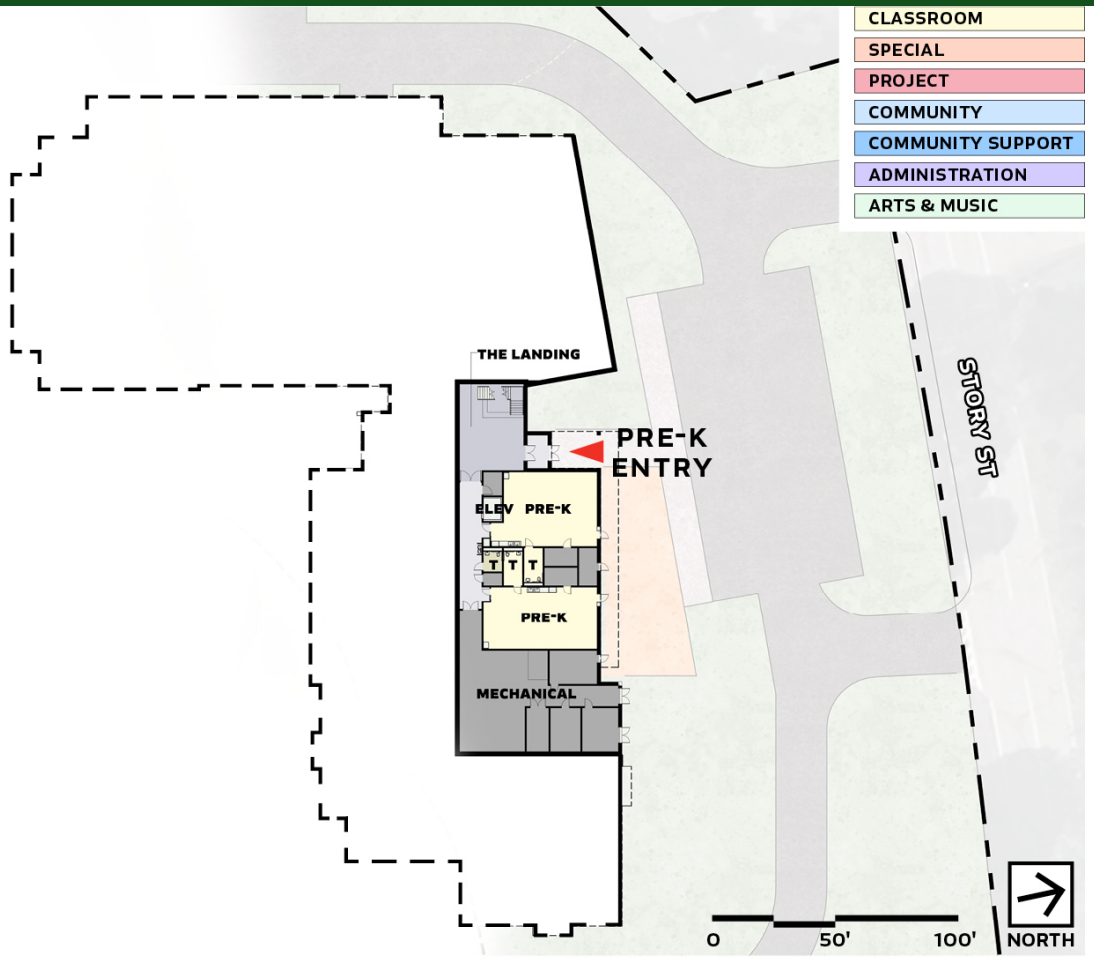
Main Level Plan



Considerations:

- **"The Landing" centralized vertical spine provides connectivity between all three levels**
- **Discrete Community and Academic Wings facilitate after-hour use**
- **Learning Commons (Media, World Language & Art) in close proximity to Music**
- **Learning Neighborhoods organized around an L-Shaped breakout with integrated MTSS and SPED**
- **Three-grade cluster aligns SPED students with their peers**

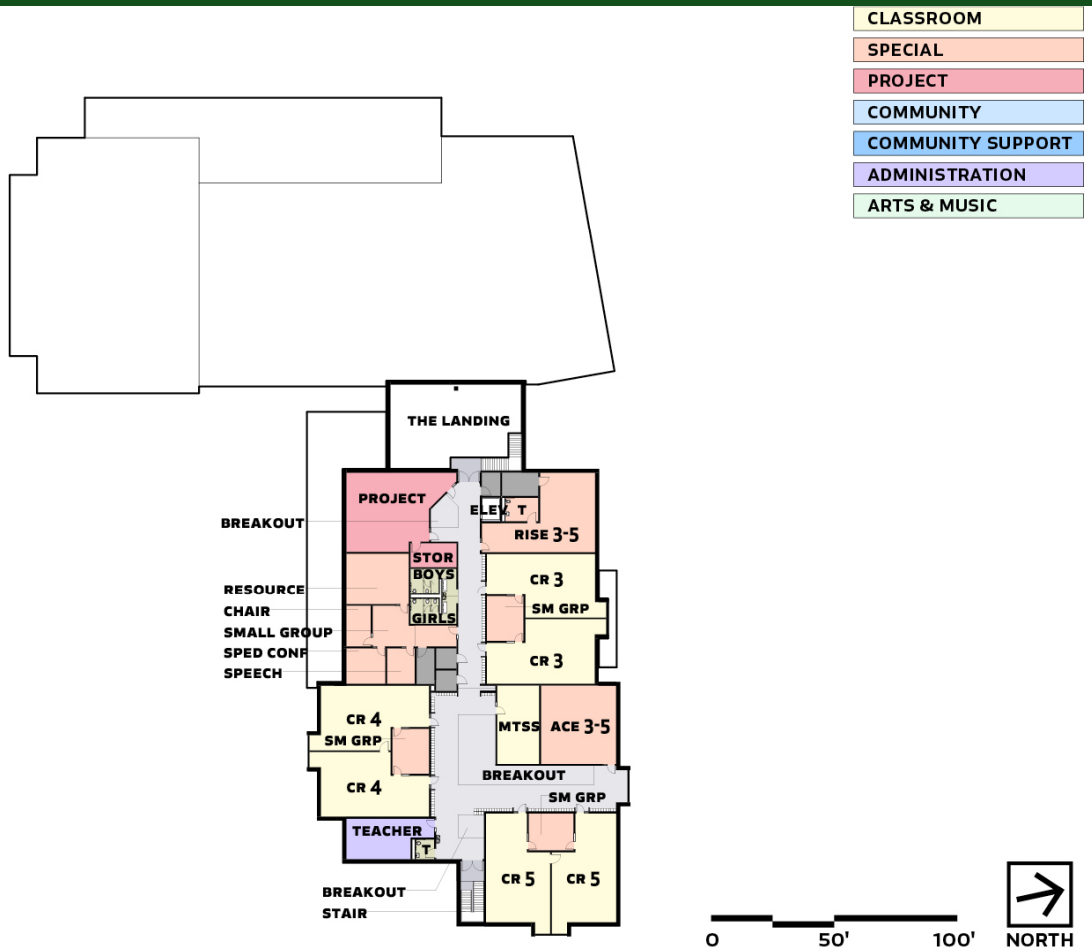
Lower Level Plan



Considerations:

- **"The Landing" centralized vertical spine provides connectivity between all three levels**
- **Story Street accesses dedicated Pre-K Entry**
- **Pre-K classrooms have direct access to outdoor play**
- **Footprint works with existing slope to minimize cut and fill**

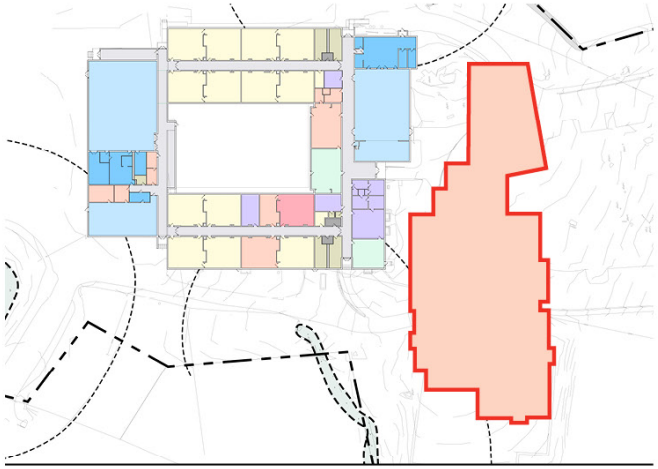
Upper Level Plan



Considerations:

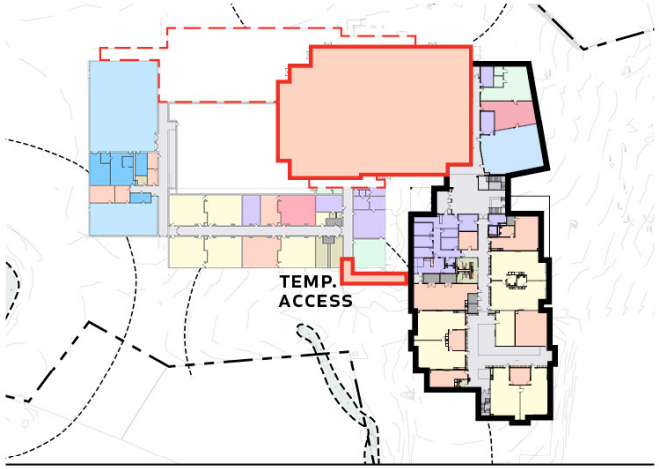
- **"The Landing" centralized vertical spine provides connectivity between all three levels**
- **Learning Neighborhoods organized around an L-Shaped breakout with integrated MTSS and SPED**
- **Three-grade cluster aligns SPED students with their peers**

Construction Phasing Plan



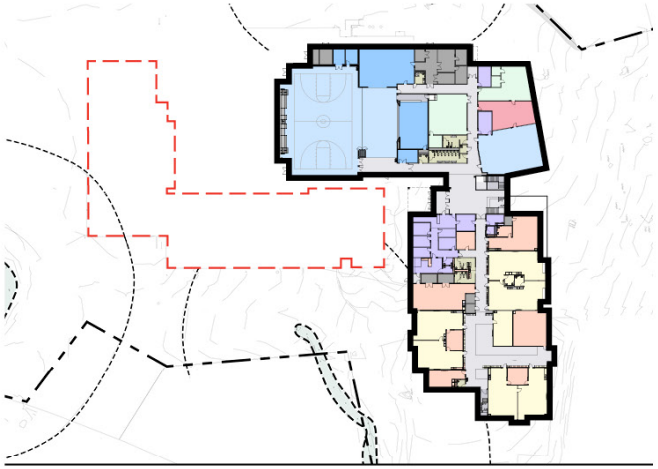
PHASE 1

– Construct new classroom wing



PHASE 2

– Occupy complete portion of new building
– Demolish main entry, cafetorium, and west classroom wing
– Construct new community wing
– Temp. kitchen & cafe in original media ctr.



PHASE 3

– Demolish remainder of original building
– Site work

Sustainable Design: Project Requirements and Recommendations

Sustainability Goals and Strategies

Green Schools Program (MSBA Project Advisory #81)

- Target of LEED Silver Certified (54 points targeted) under LEED v4/4.1
- Compliance with the Opt-In Specialized Code
- 5 Additional LEED points focused on Indoor Air Quality

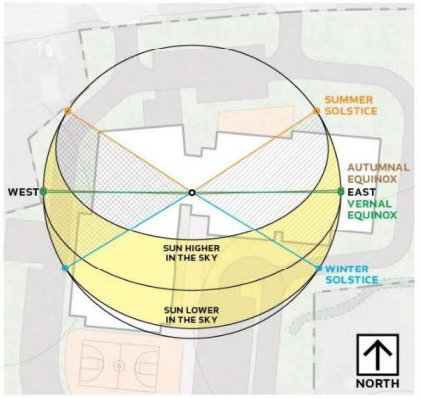
Sustainability Strategies:

- High-performance envelope, electrification and high-performance heating and cooling systems
- Low-flow fixtures exceeding base code requirements
- Focus on Indoor Air Quality through system/material selection

Climate Resiliency

- Team performed Climate Hazard Assessment using RMAT
- Risk categories: Extreme Heat and Extreme Precipitation
- Extreme Heat:
  - Team will evaluate strategies to reduce heat island effect using a combination of shade trees and high SRI roofing/paving materials
- Extreme Precipitation:
  - Team will use climate predictions for rainfall for stormwater design

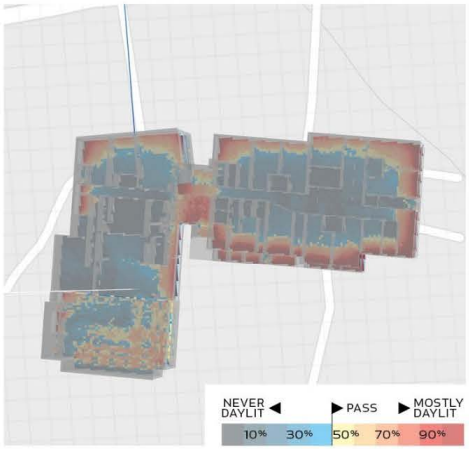
SOLAR OPPORTUNITIES



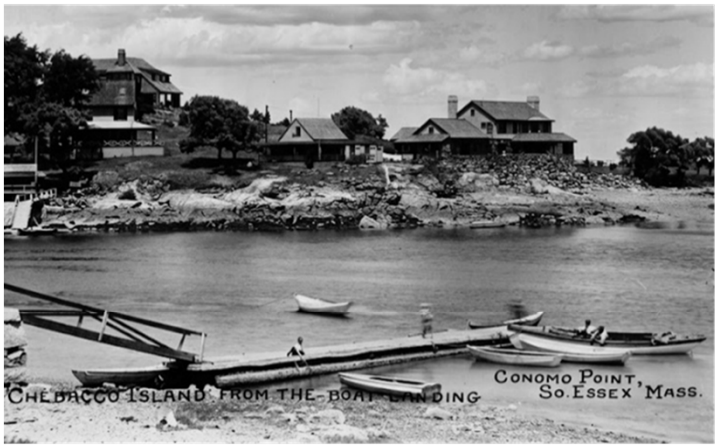
EAST-WEST AXIS



SOLAR EXPOSURE



Inspiration – Cultural Heritage of Essex













Inspiration Imagery and Color Theory



Drawing inspiration from the local marshlands, waterways and shipyards, the colors selected reflect the coastal connections that make Essex, MA a distinctive North Shore location.

Blue and green waterways, gold tones from the marshlands and red/oranges of local historic buildings paired with warm neutrals tying back to the weathered clapboards and ships.







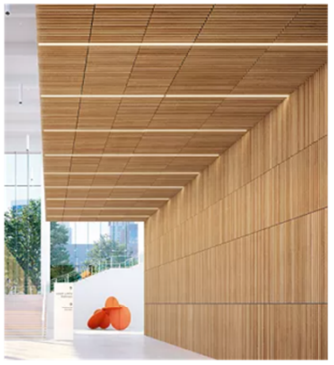




Inspiration Imagery and Color Theory






















Inspiration Imagery and Color Theory



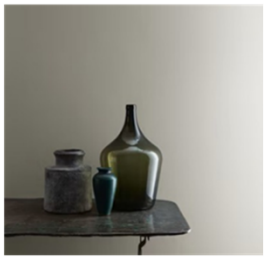



















Main Entry Examples













Schedule Update

MAY

5/12 – SBC Meeting
5/26 – SBC Meeting

JUNE

6/4 – Community Meeting #6
6/9 – SBC Meeting
6/23 – SBC Meeting

JULY

7/14 – SBC Meeting
7/28 – SBC Meeting

AUGUST

8/11 – SBC Meeting
8/25 – Community Meeting #7
8/25 - SBC Meeting

SEPTEMBER

9/8 – SBC Meeting
9/22 – SBC Meeting

OCTOBER

10/13 – SBC Meeting
10/27 – SBC Meeting
10/29 – Community Meeting #8

NOVEMBER

11/10 – SBC Meeting
11/24 – SBC Meeting

Working Groups Schedule Update

MEP/Sustainability

Meeting #4 – June 22nd 10-11
Meeting #5 – July 13th 10-11

Site, Safety, and Security

Meeting #2 – May 29th 9-10
Meeting #3 – July 15th 8-9

Design

Meeting #2 – May 28th 3-4
Meeting #3 – June 18th 4-5

Q&A

Project Website




Thank you!
1274