

# West Contra Costa Unified School District Educational Specifications

**Board of Education**  
January 18, 2017



West Contra Costa Unified School District  
Educational Specifications – Optimum School Size

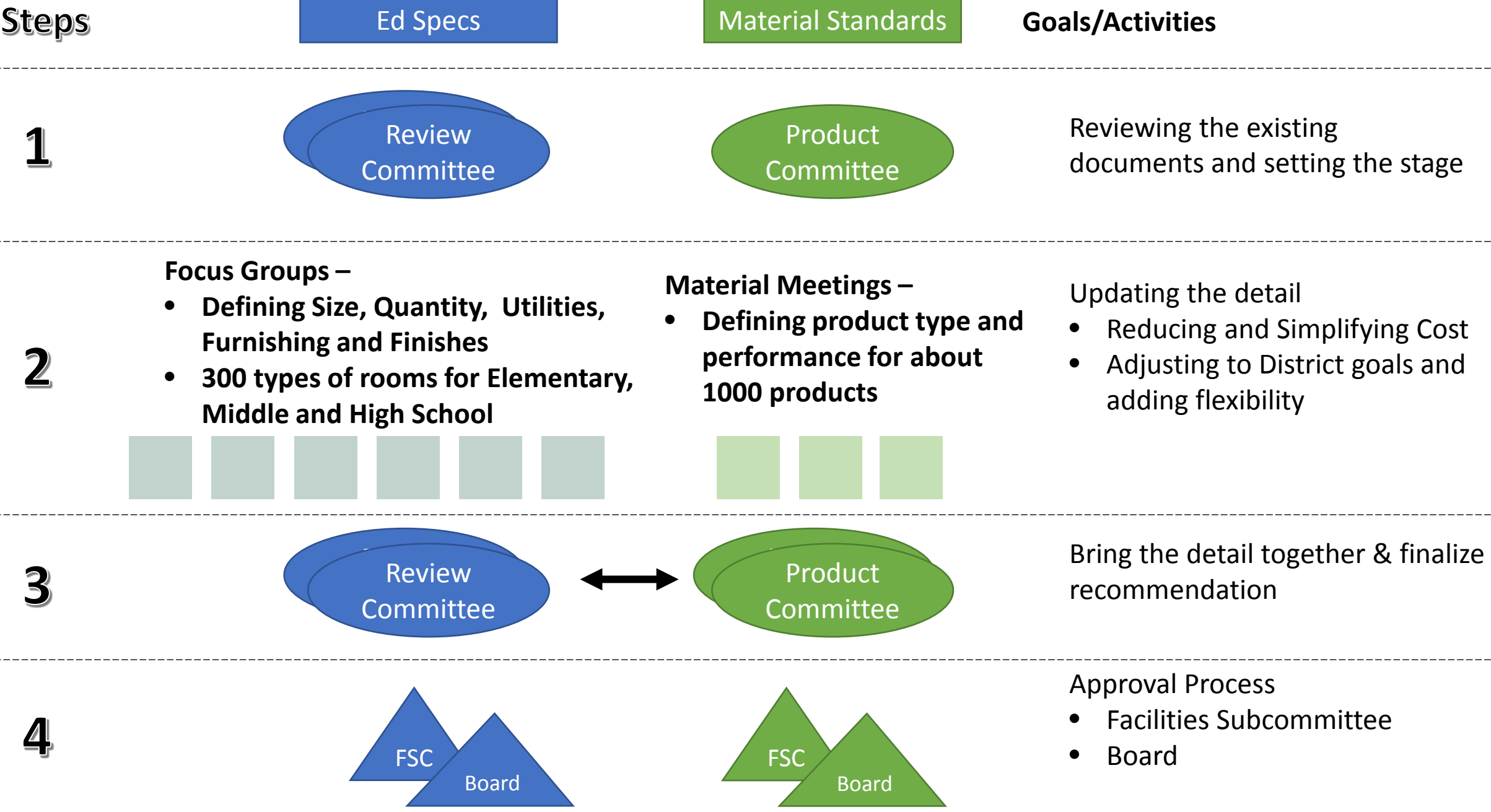


# What is an Educational Specification?

## School Facilities Planning – California Department of Education

- Linking Design of School Facilities to the Educational Program
- Form follows function
- The school facility does more than housing the program; it is part of the program
- They are the vehicle the architect uses to translate the curriculum and the instructional program into a beautiful, economical, functional educational environment

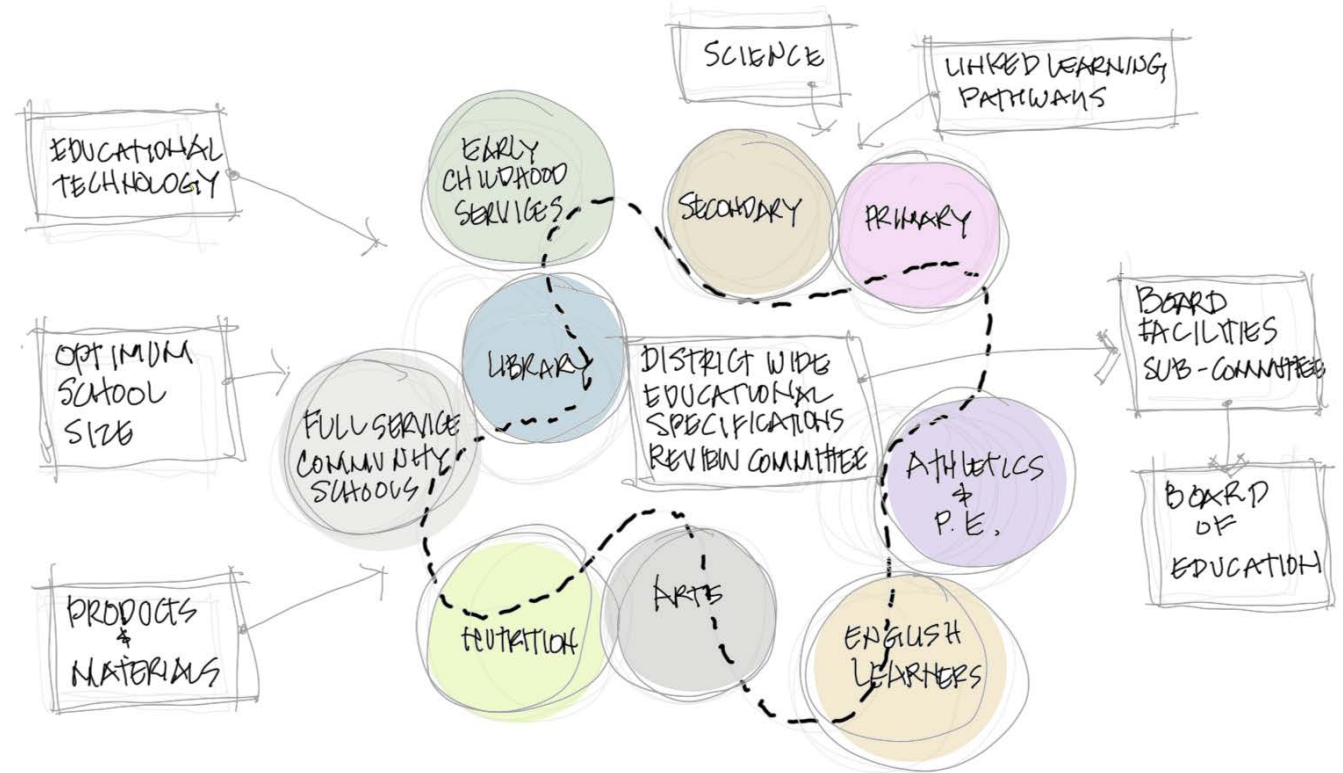




# The Review Committee and Focus Groups

## Meetings to Date

- Three Review Committee Meetings
- Twenty Focus Group Meetings
- Two Optimum School Size Committee Meetings
- Eleven Material and Product Meetings
- One Cabinet Meeting
- One Board Meeting
- One Joint Board-CBOC Meeting
- Two Facility Sub-Committee Meetings
- District Principal's Meeting
- Korematsu Parent / Teacher Meeting



# Focus Groups and Review Committees Included

- Teachers
- Students
- District Administration
- Site Administration
- Community/Parents

All inclusive, over 50 in the 20 Focus Group discussions and the Review Committee has 15 members



# The Industrial Age Classroom Design

video



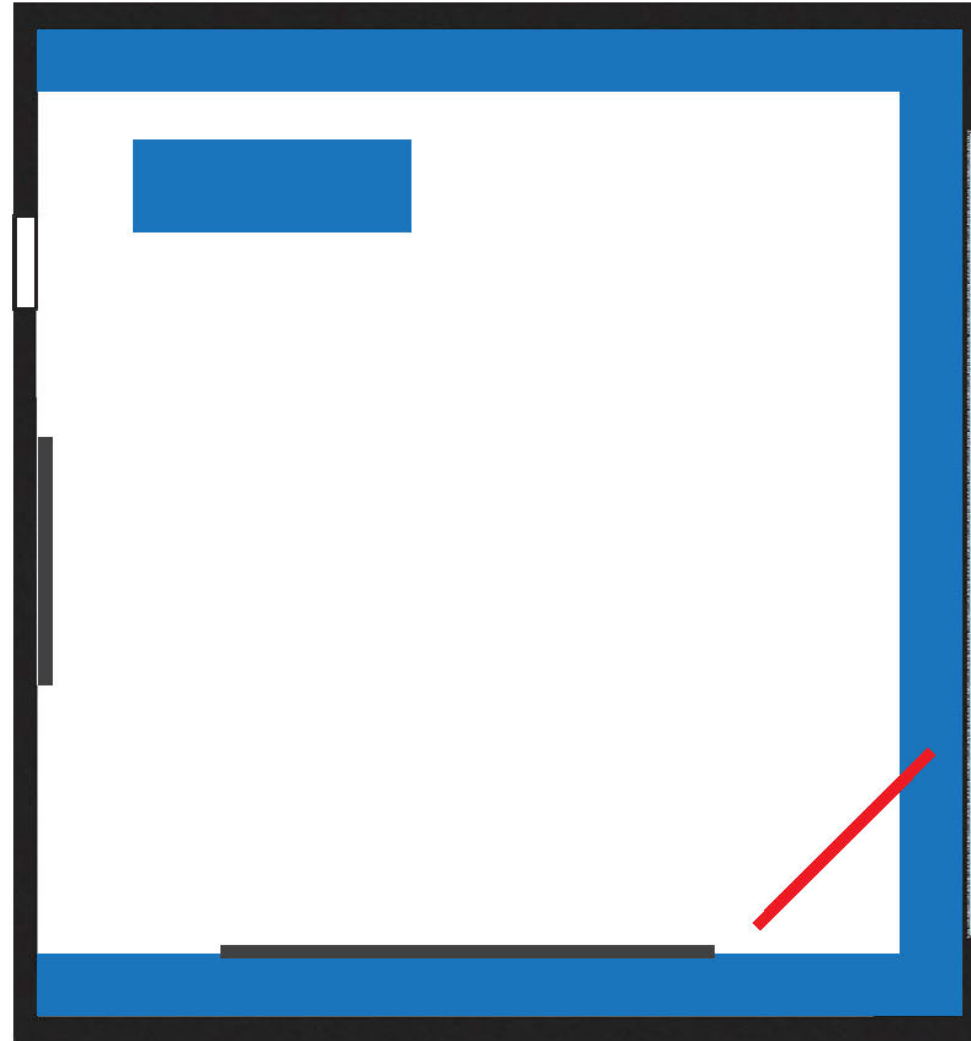
# Is there another way?

Does our current design support ....

- Whole Child
- Professional Learning Communities
- Community
- Needs of Low Income and Foster Youth
- Authentic Learning
- Student Centered Learning
- Common Core

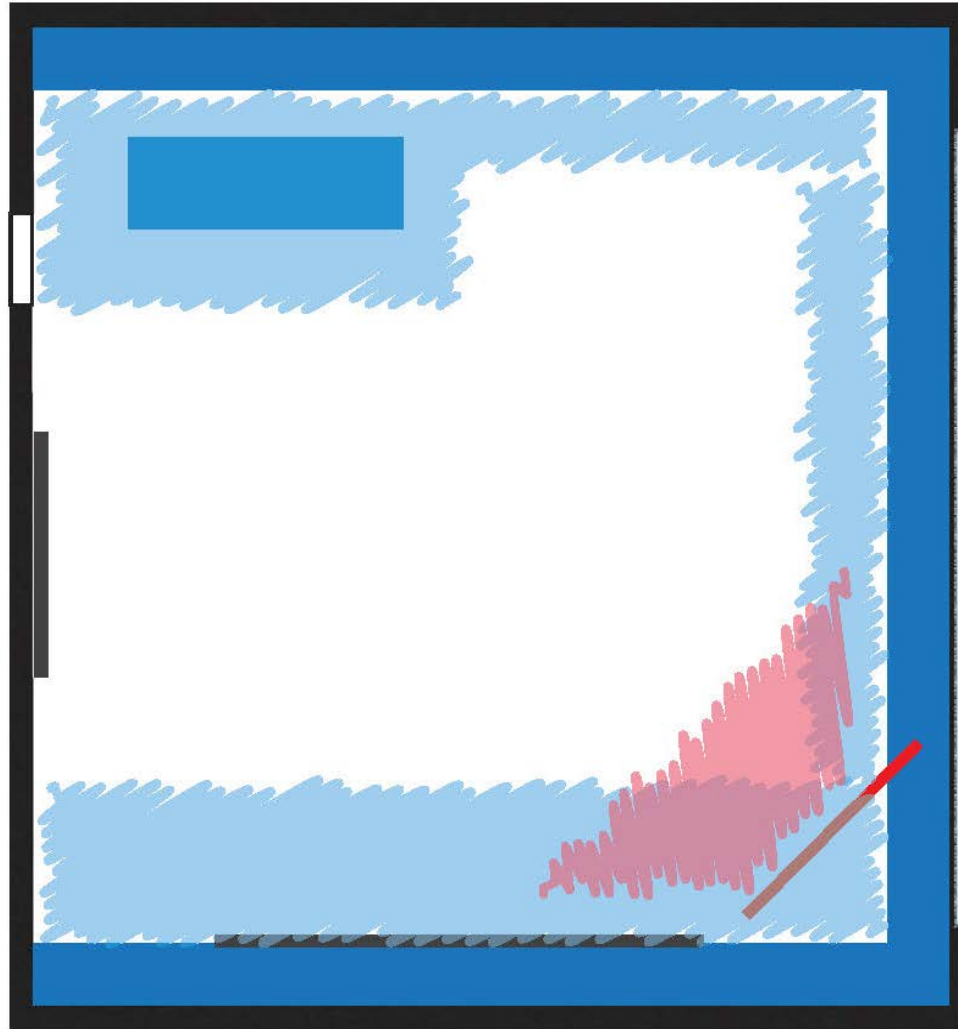


# WCCUSD Current Classroom Educational Specifications





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# The Traditional Model

## Elementary



- Desk/Table for every student
- Teacher Desk
- Elmo and projector cart with front table
- Class Library
- Small group area
- Technology center
- Calendar/site words/vocab wall
- Rug seating
- Science project on the back counter
- Project Building and Art supplies
- Math manipulatives
- Letter cards



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Educational Specifications – Optimum School Size



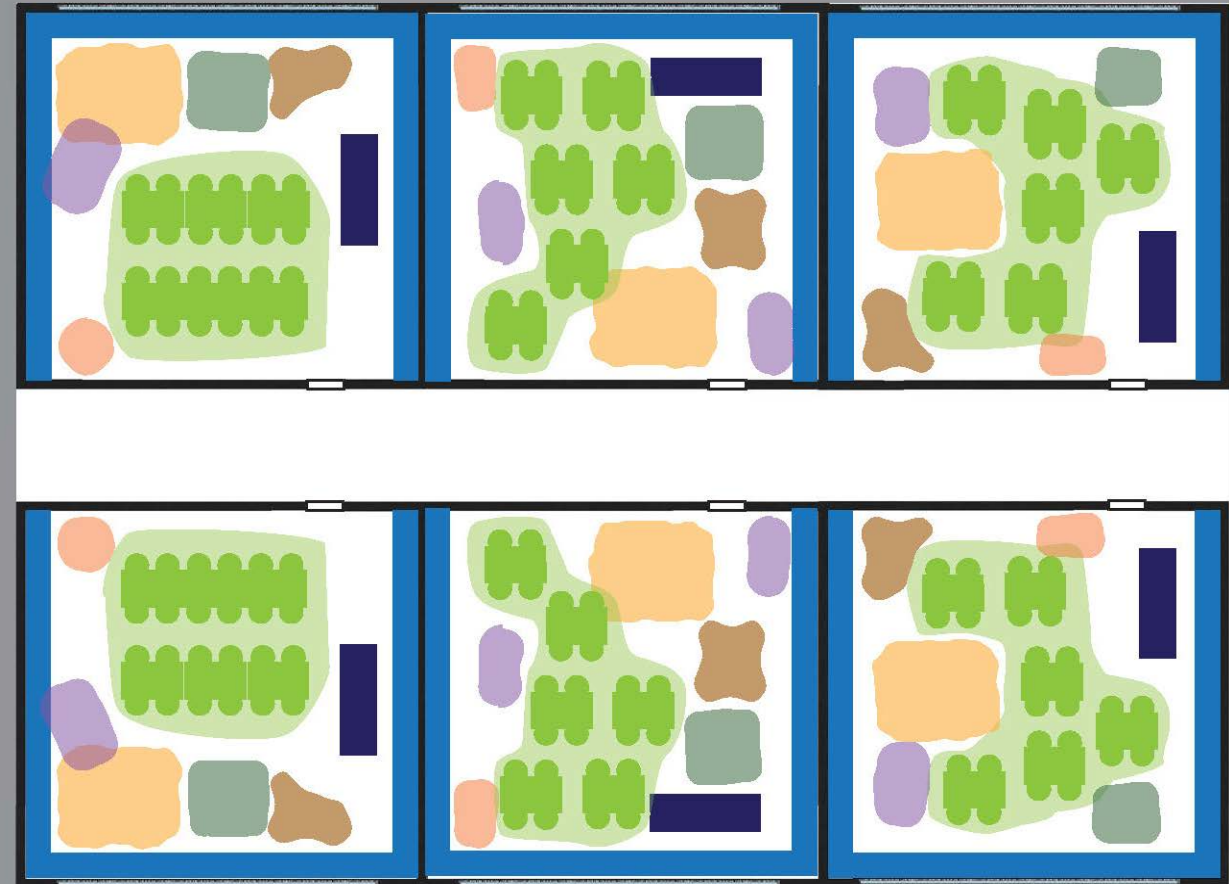
One box, One Teacher, One Class

ALL  
USES



# Traditional Classrooms

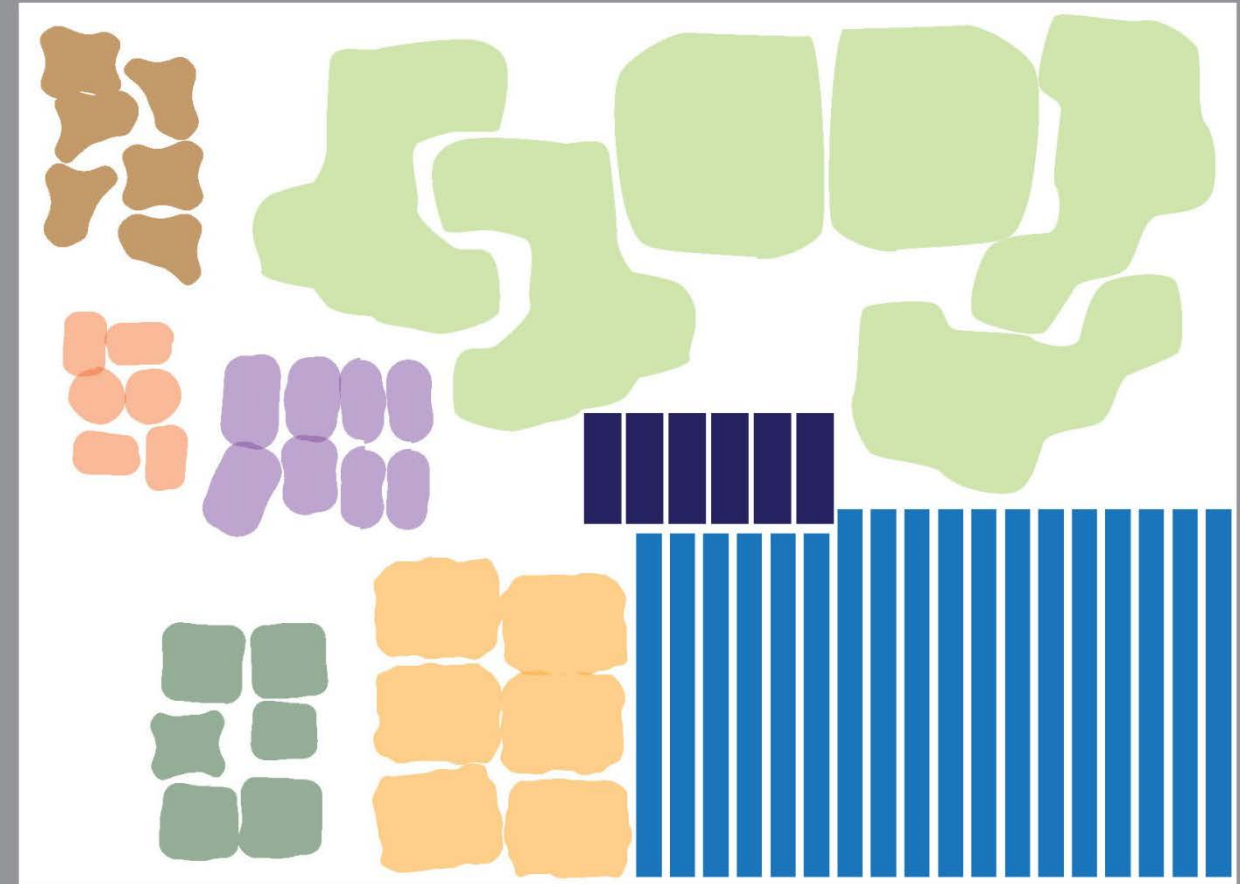
-  Main Table Seating
-  Rug Seating
-  Small Group Area / Project Area
-  Library Area
-  Technology Area / Individual Seating
-  Faculty Area
-  Movable Storage
-  Fixed Storage





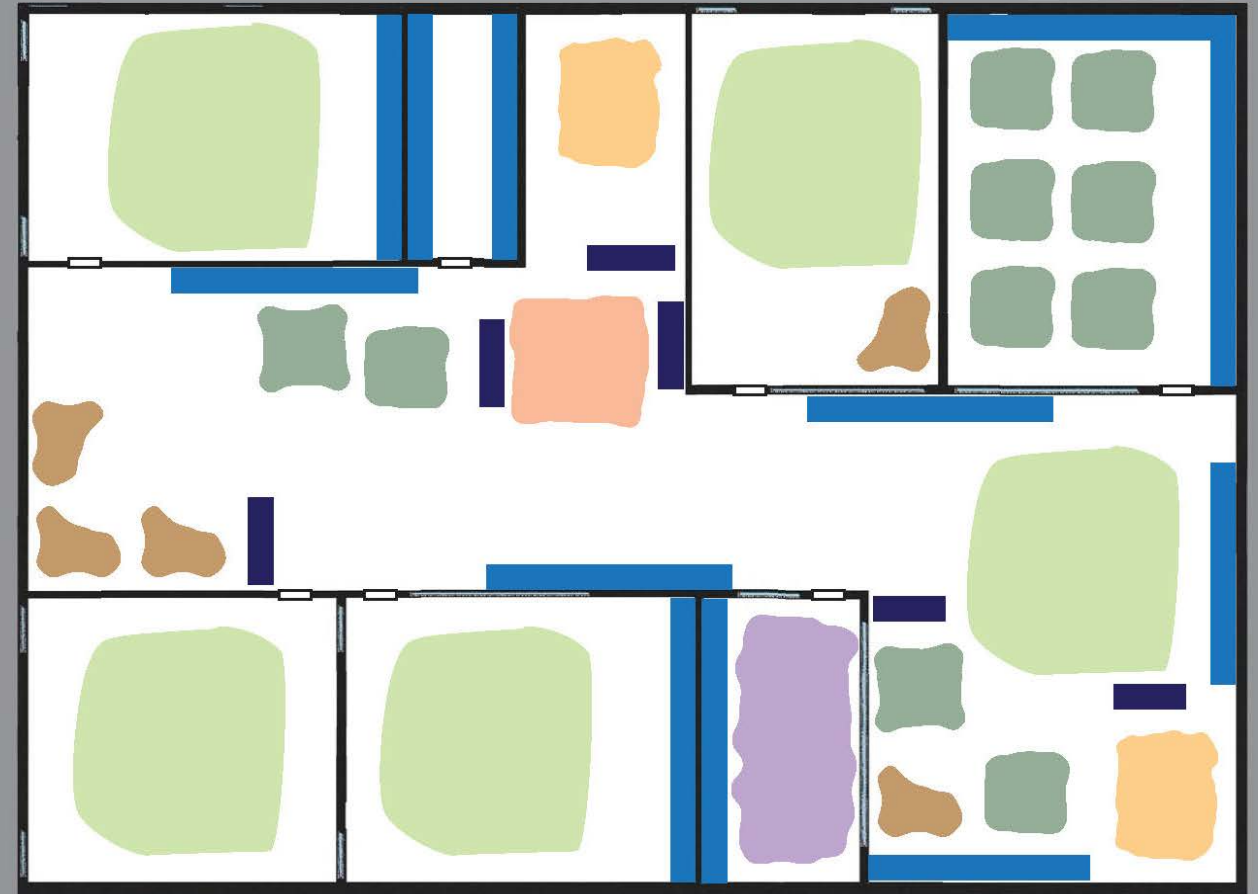
# Clustered Spaces

-  Main Table Seating
-  Rug Seating
-  Small Group Area / Project Area
-  Library Area
-  Technology Area / Individual Seating
-  Faculty Area
-  Movable Storage
-  Fixed Storage



# The New Flexible Design

-  Main Table Seating
-  Rug Seating
-  Small Group Area / Project Area
-  Library Area
-  Technology Area / Individual Seating
-  Faculty Area
-  Movable Storage
-  Fixed Storage



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# Past Design Comparison

- The Open Plan
  - POD design
  - Had no walls – Open Space
  - The “learning” space was defined by each teacher or a group of teachers
  - Many of the facilities had few exterior windows



Figure 12. From Tanner and Lackney, 2006, The floor plan of the “open plan” Disney School, designed by Perkins & Will, Architects



# The Studio approach is not a “POD” nor an “Open Concept Design”

# video





# Comparable Costs

- The Studio approach, if the “amenities” stay the same will cost no more than the traditional approach
- Applying the cost to Wilson Elementary School
  - The Design plans will need to be updated for several reasons
    - Code changes
    - New Energy Code
    - Reduction of 4 classrooms
    - Revised Material and Product Standards
- The Facilities Master Plan shows a \$40.3 Project Budget, which includes inflation to mid-point of construction. The approved implementation plan anticipated a re-design and resubmittal of the Wilson project. The implementation plan shows a start of project date of 1/9/17, with construction scheduled to start 2019.
- The architect of record for Wilson Elementary School will be requested to make any and all design changes within the Board approved budget



# Timeline

- Educational Specifications to the Facilities Subcommittee – March 21
- Educational Specifications for Board Approval after Facilities Subcommittee review



# Recommendation

- Approve the incorporation of both the traditional classroom design and the 21<sup>st</sup> century flexible design into the development of the new Educational Specifications
- Incorporate the 21<sup>st</sup> century design concept in the Wilson Elementary School replacement project

