

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



Steps

Ed Specs

Material Standards

Goals/Activities

1



Reviewing the existing documents and setting the stage

2

Focus Groups –
• Defining Size, Quantity, Utilities, Furnishing and Finishes
• 300 types of rooms for Elementary, Middle and High School



Material Meetings –
• Defining product type and performance for about 1000 products



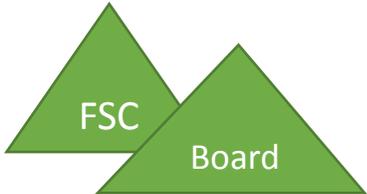
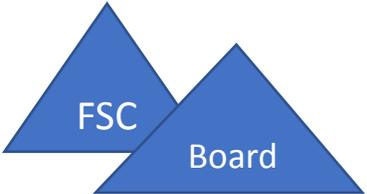
Updating the detail
• Reducing and Simplifying Cost
• Adjusting to District goals and adding flexibility

3



Bring the detail together & finalize recommendation

4

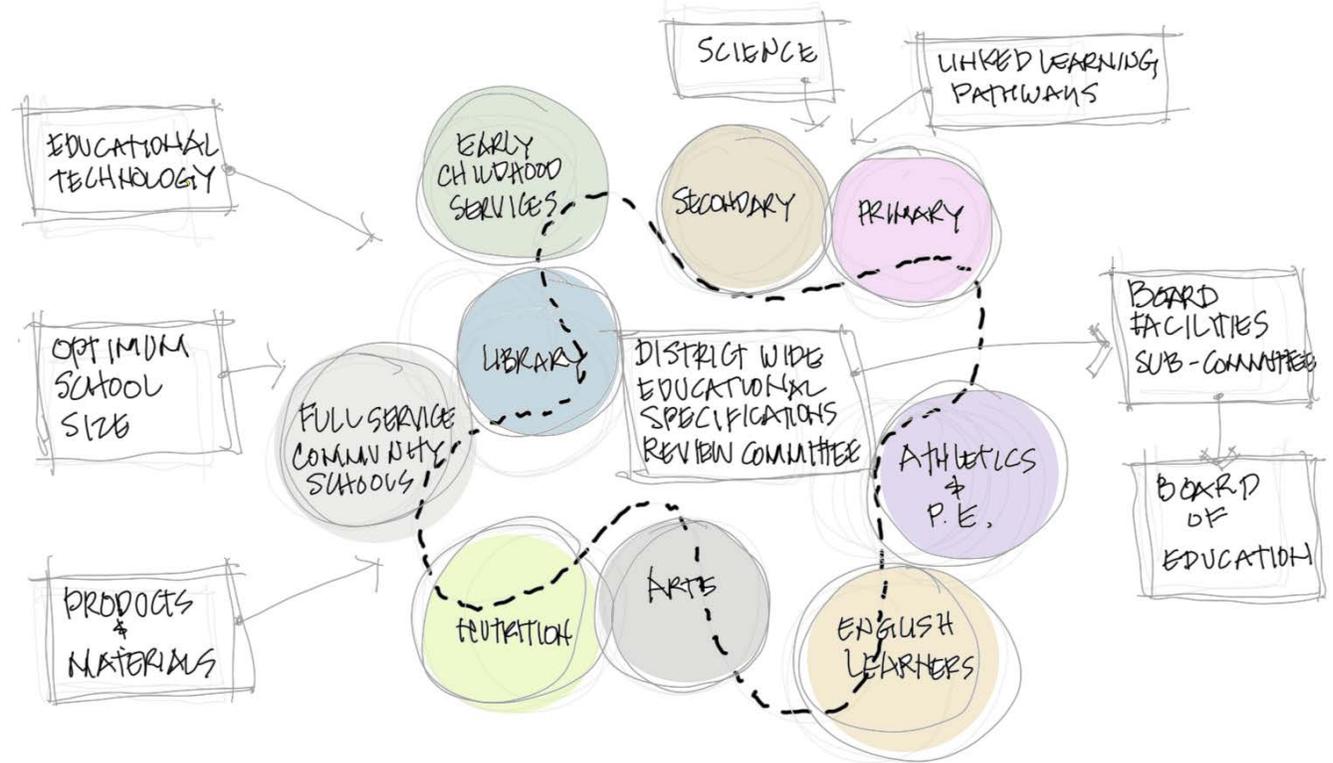


Approval Process
• Facilities Subcommittee
• Board

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



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



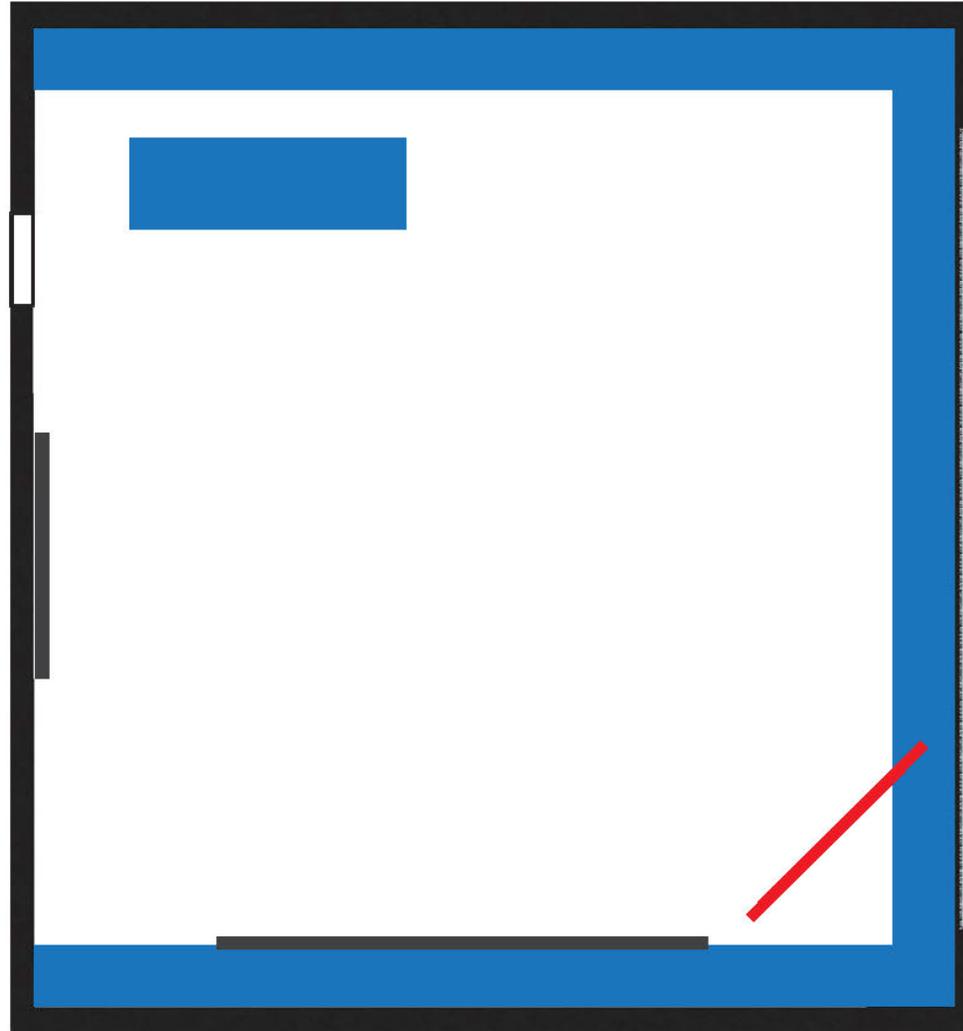
Is there another way?

Does our current design support

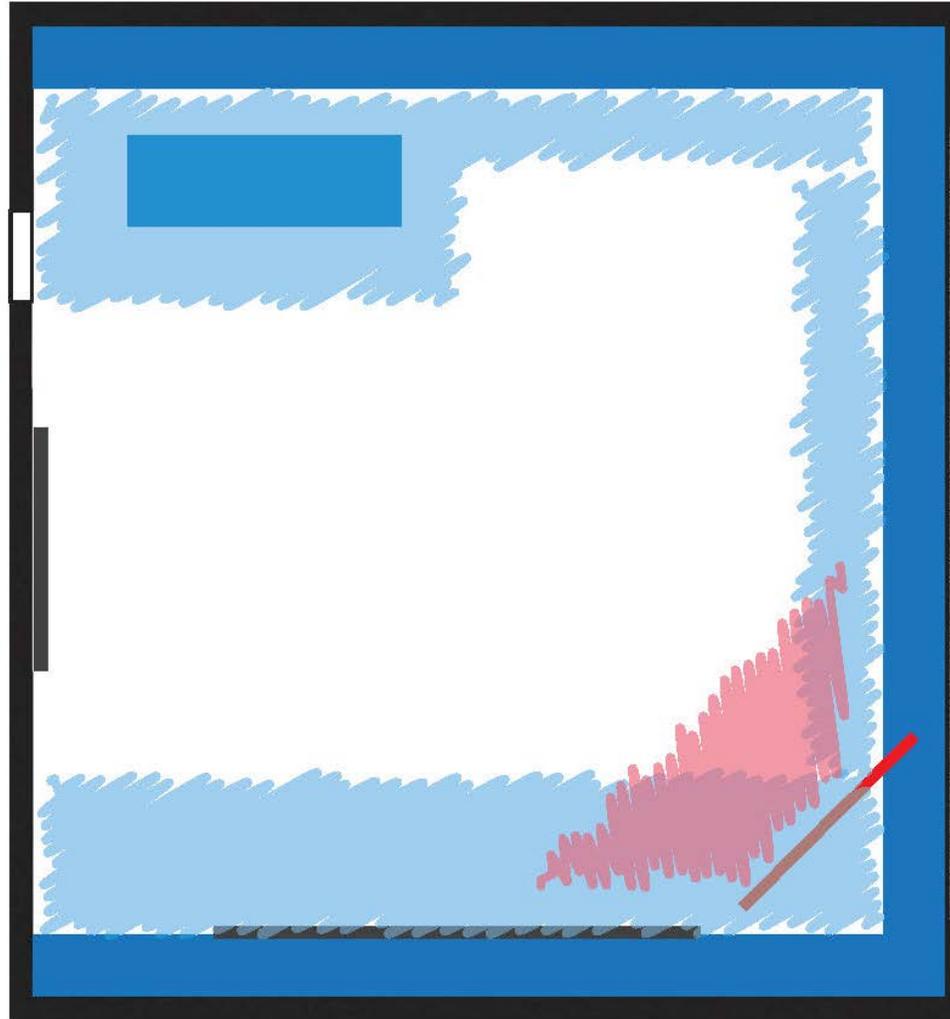
- Whole Child
- Professional Learning Communities
- Community
- Needs of Low Income and Foster Youth
- Authentic Learning
- Student Centered Learning
- Common Core



WCCUSD Current Classroom Educational Specifications



WCCUSD Current Classroom Educational Specifications



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



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



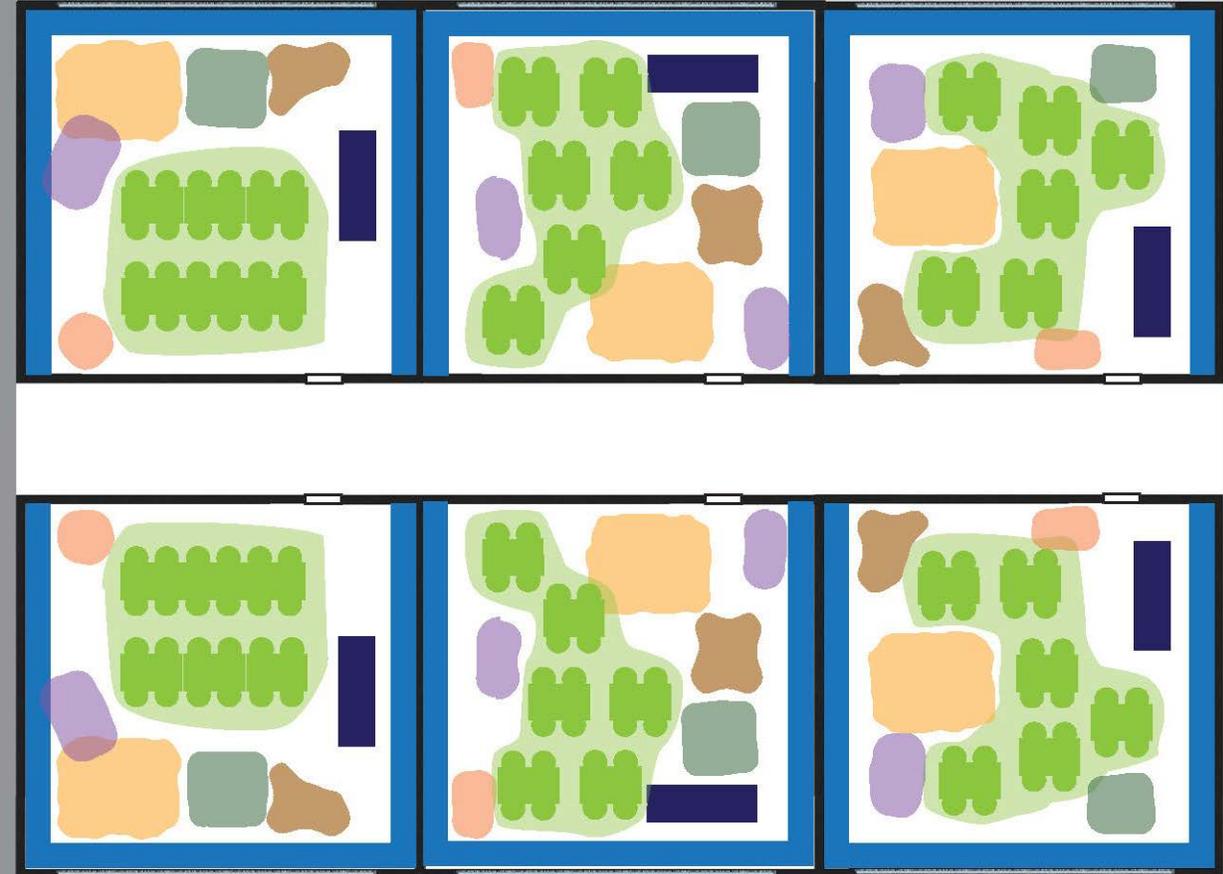
One box, One Teacher, One Class

ALL
USES

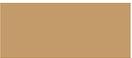


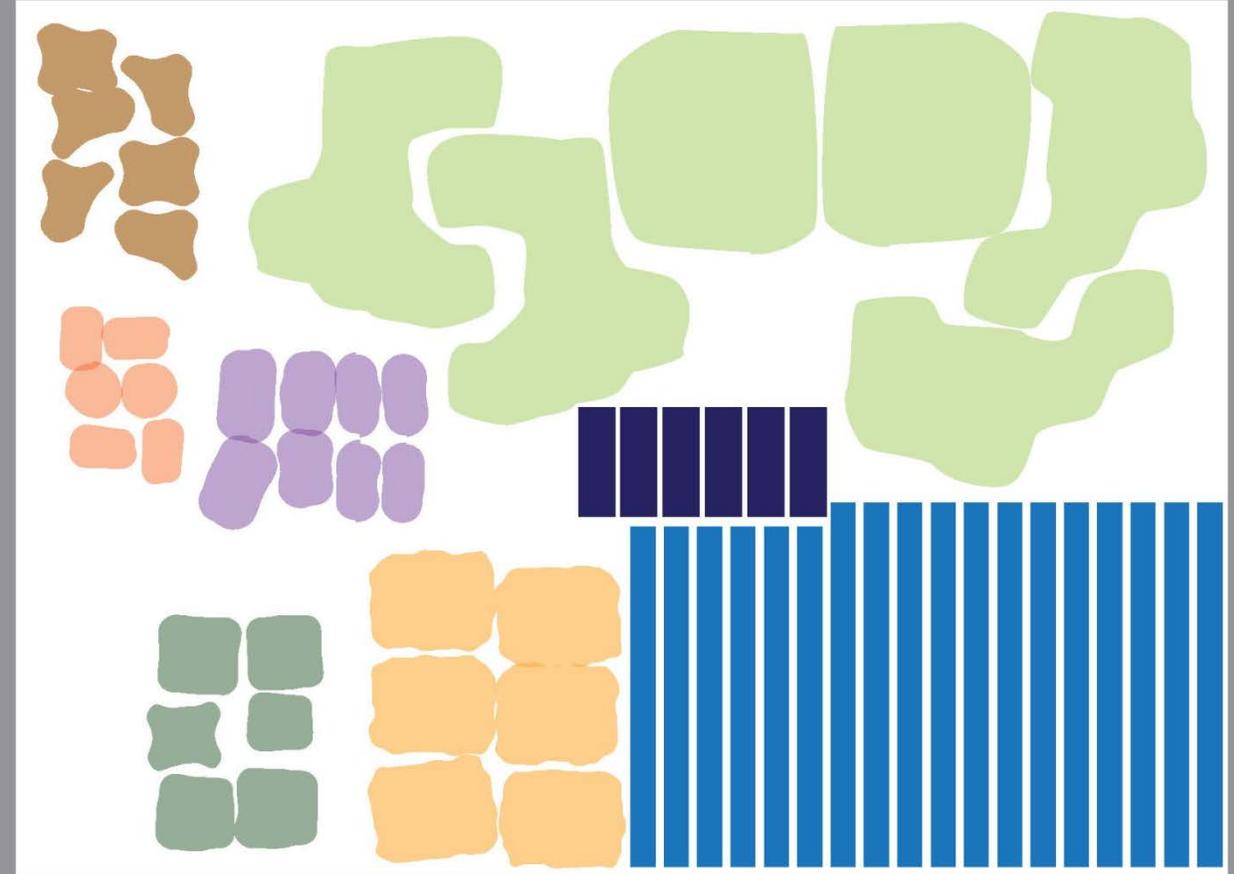
Traditional Classrooms

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

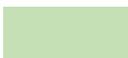


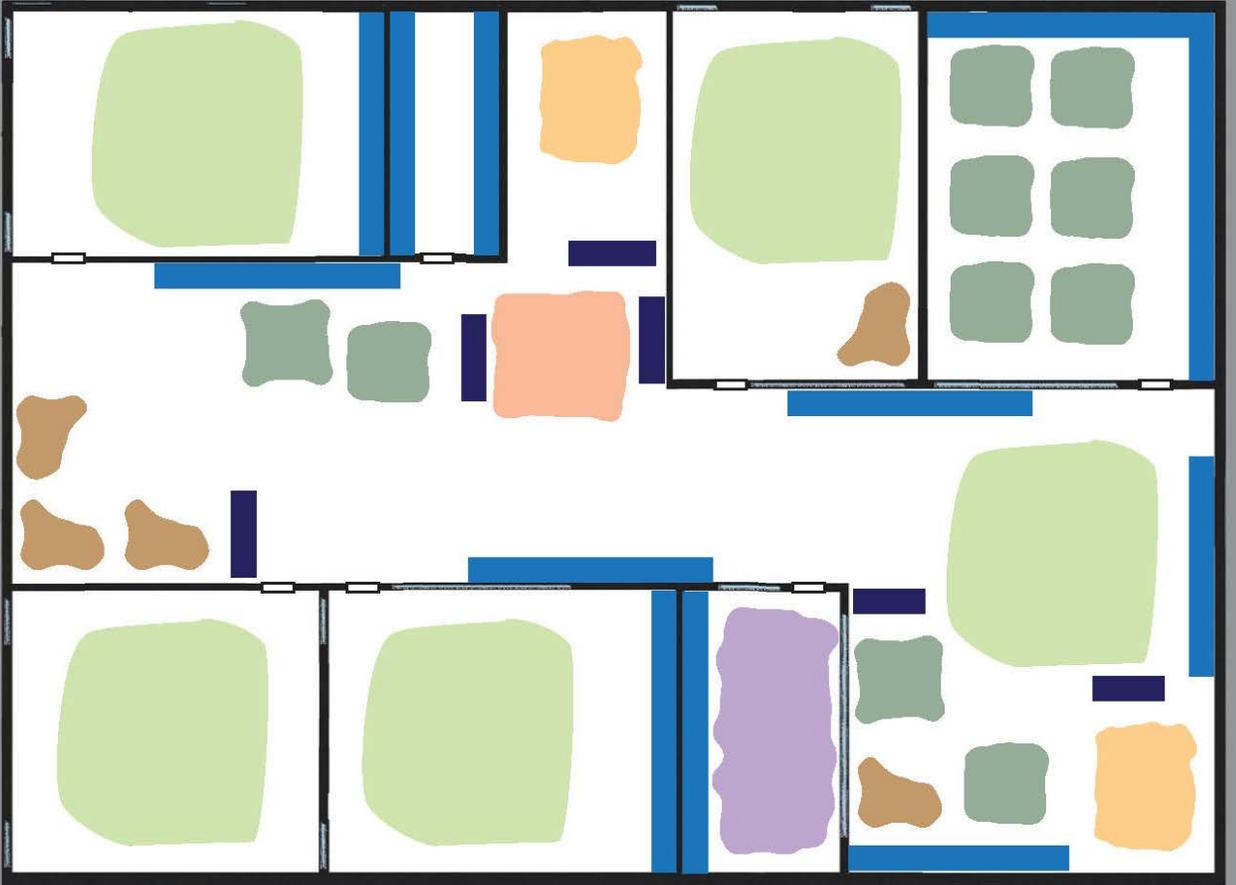
Clustered Spaces

-  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



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 21st century flexible design into the development of the new Educational Specifications
- Incorporate the 21st century design concept in the Wilson Elementary School replacement project

