

Working and Learning in a Modern Day School Building

January 8, 2025



Focus on the Moment

Engage - Challenge - Support

Goal for Tonight

Contrast a day in the life of a student and teacher - in the current and future Wilkins School

**A DAY IN
THE IN
LIFE**



Words to Listen For...

- ❖ Accessibility
 - ❖ Congestion
 - ❖ Juggling
 - ❖ Flexibility
 - ❖ More/Increased
 - ❖ Developmental
 - ❖ Dignity
 - ❖ Calm
 - ❖ Collaboration
- ❖ Environment

KEYWORDS



Student Experience - Morning

- Separate bus and car lines decrease drop off time
- Less congestion as there are multiple secure entrances
- All students drop coats, boots, gear in cubbies/learning space ready for the day.
- Classrooms, organized by grade level, are larger with strong natural light and multiple differentiated learning spaces.
- All students enter a building with controlled access - as the portable classrooms are eliminated.



Student Experience - Mid Day

- The gymnasium allows for a student centered, developmentally appropriate schedule to be developed. Lunch is not the driver of the academic day!
- Fifth graders attend the new school providing increased time for core instruction and much needed space is freed up at Amherst Middle School.
- Separate music and art classrooms provide a designated space - does not impact classroom instruction.
- Student travel through less congested hallways, they are calmer in the school.



Students In Need of Support Experience - Mid Day

- Students receive support in intentionally designed spaces which are distraction free.
- Program classrooms are designed to support student needs - including sensory space ensuring dignity for struggling students.
- All bathrooms are accessible to all students. Students with mobility needs are treated with dignity.
- Expanded outdoor learning spaces is accessible to all students.



Student Experience - Afternoon

- The removal of the portables allow for all grade levels to be grouped together.
- All students will gather in the MPR and Gym to make dismissal less hectic, calmer.
- The separate lanes for busses and cars allow walkers to proceed with increased safety.
- Facilities are available after school for recreation, clubs, etc.



Faculty/Staff Experience - Morning

- Faculty and Staff have ample parking and easy access through multiple secure entrances.
- Teachers arrive to work in spaces that support success - not inhibit -designed for teaching and learning
- Special education teachers and intervention spaces are situated central to the grade levels - increasing collaboration
- Music and Art teachers have designated space - with the ability to organize, set up, and plan instruction.



Faculty/Staff Experience-Throughout the Day

- Faculty and staff experience increased community utilizing designated staff room space.
- All fourth grade teachers feel part of the school and collaborate as grade level as all are group together.
- Communication increases as teachers have additional space for phone/zoom calls and parent/guardian meetings.
- Administrator's day has changed as time formally spent juggling spaces is spent enhancing student learning.

THE DAY



Faculty/Staff Experience- End of Day

- Grade levels have multiple spaces to plan full grade level events - the media center becomes a learning venue for multiple classes.
- Designated technology space provides opportunities for integrated learning.
- The change in the dismissal procedure allows for increased collaboration between classroom teachers, interventionists, and special education teachers.
- The new space attracts and retains high quality teachers



Next Events 5:30pm Wilkins Library

- Wednesday - January 22 - How the building promotes, enhances partnerships
- Wednesday - January 29 - How construction is implemented while school is in session

