

Facility Design Principles

For Spokane Public Schools

New Middle Schools

March 2019



Spokane Public Schools
excellence for everyone

Middle School Facility Design Principles

The following are Facility Design Principles to guide the design and construction of Spokane Public Schools new Middle Schools. They are intended to be applied to all replacement and/or new Middle Schools envisioned to be developed in the next six years.

These Principles emerged from a series of activities, community conversations, and input. Activities included:

- Thinking and Planning Conference
- SPS Middle School Educational Program Principles
- Student Voice Gathering
- Visitations to relevant existing school facilities
- Community Facilities Design Forum for Middle Schools
- Design Summit

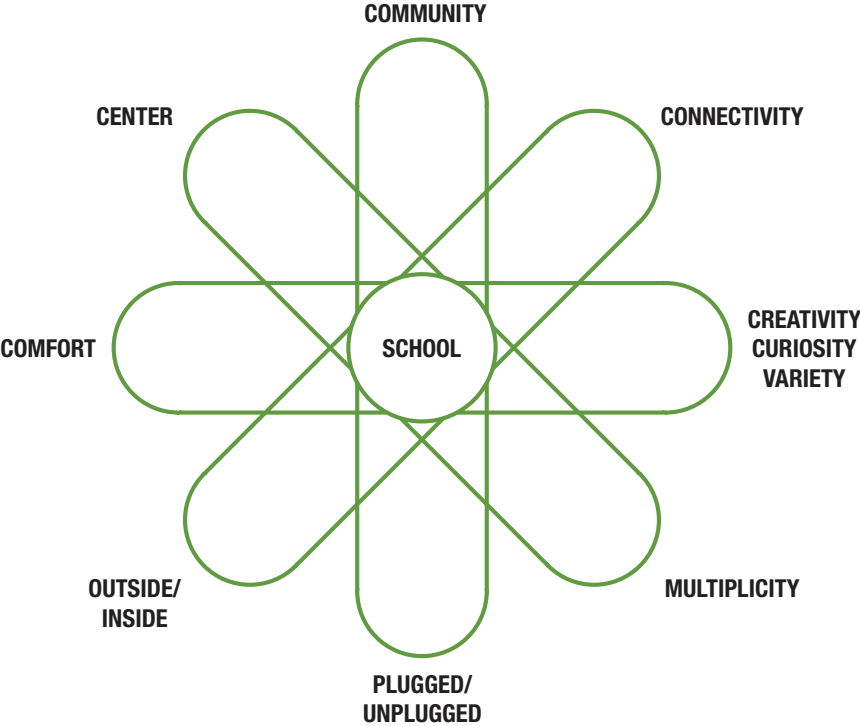
The following pages describe these Facility Design Principles.

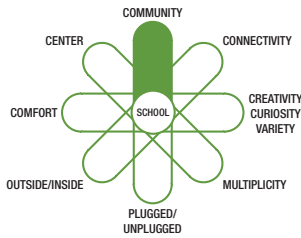
“ Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.

ALBERT EINSTEIN, THEORETICAL PHYSICIST

Wholeness

New Middle Schools Facility Design Principles are related and interrelated. Rather than stand alone, they should be applied throughout the entire facility. Creating an environment that accommodates, supports, and reinforces the future culture of learning.

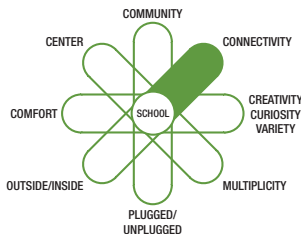




Community

The new middle school facilities should support a variety of community layers. They should support the greater needs of the entire Spokane community through programs, access, and support. They should support the specific needs of the neighborhood in which they reside. Reinforcing its unique characteristics and needs.

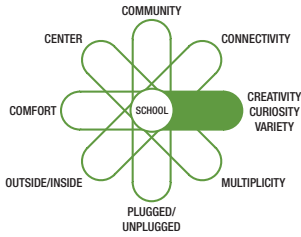
They should create a strong sense of community within. The facility should be organized and arranged to support a feeling of safety and belonging for all. The facility should support a strong sense of place and cohesion.



Connectivity

New middle schools should be internally connected through views, transparency, spatial arrangements, and excitement.

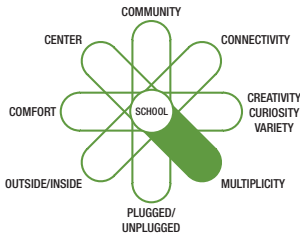
By supporting close proximity of all within the facility travel distances should be minimized, space size should support a variety of learning modalities, and all should encourage collaboration between students, between teachers, and between teachers and students.



Creativity | Curiosity | Variety

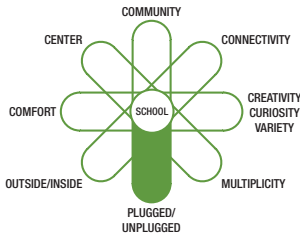
New middle school facilities should support a culture of creativity. All spaces should have a multitude of learning possibilities and inspire students and teachers to explore and create. They should avoid traditional names. Rather, they should represent their possibilities.

New middle school facilities should have a variety of spatial shapes, arrangements, and use. All surfaces, places, and spaces should be used for learning activities. They should encourage curiosity, be active, engaging, and promote exploration, problem solving, and project-based learning.



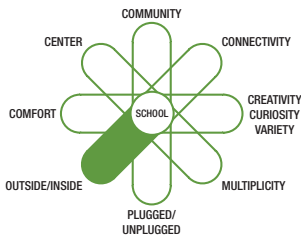
Multiplicity

New middle school facilities should support the unique needs of all students. Careful attention to these needs should be accommodated and diversity supported.



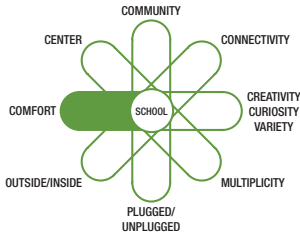
Plugged / Unplugged

New middle school facilities should be sensitive to how students learn and provide for diverse learning and teaching styles. They should be student-focused from formal to casual; large to small group; active to static; they should provide for the learning community as a whole; and/or the unique learning needs of the individual.



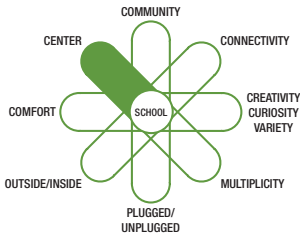
Outside / Inside

New middle school facilities should bring the outside in. They should be healthy, light-filled, acoustically appropriate, colorful, open, and spacious. Views should be encouraged. Access to fresh air should be abundant. They should be arranged to allow easy and safe access to the exterior to expand the learning environment and to support outdoor learning.



Comfort

New Middle School facilities should be home like. Drawing from the amenities and feeling often most familiar to students. Facilities should create a sense of home through scale, furniture, placemaking, multi-use, and special arrangements. They should also reflect the neighborhood in which they reside drawing references from other places, spaces, organization, and institutions nearby.



Center

New middle school facilities should have a center or group of centers interconnected. They should be those functions that are used by all. Open and accessible, the center(s) should represent the school's highest ideals, support all the school's needs, and connect the school at large.



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