

Master Plan Meeting #2

February 13, 2020



RTA TEAM



Brian Calhoun
Principal-in-Charge



Mike Riggs
Project Architect



Staff of 49

29 Registered Architects

Largest firm in southern Colorado

50% of our work is educational

13 BEST Projects

Multi-Skilled Educational Facilities Specialists

Master Planning

Educational Specifications

Furniture Design and Selection

Bond Election Assistance

Site Selection

Architectural Design

Facility Management Planning

Construction Administration

Programming

Interior Space Planning

Project Management

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Agenda / Introductions – 10 minutes**
- 2. Process Overview/Schedule – 5 minutes**
- 3. Brain Based Learning Principals – 20 minutes**
- 4. RSD Strategic Plan – 15 minutes**
- 5. Break – 5 Minutes**
- 6. Classroom Evolution / Douglass ES – 25 minutes**
- 7. How do we get to where we want to be – 30 minutes**
- 8. Q&A – 5 minutes**

Meeting Norms

- Attendance is expected at all scheduled meetings.
- The meetings will start on time with duration of **1-1/2 hours** (typical). Group members should be on time and expect to remain for the entire meeting if possible.
- The purpose of each meeting will be defined; members are requested to come prepared to discuss the topic.
- The students' interests come first.
- Committee members will operate and work towards consensus on all issues. All agree to support the solutions and decisions of the group.
- Committee members are requested to focus on solutions that address the needs of the School District as a whole.
- Committee meetings will stay on task.
- Discussion, evaluation, and decisions will be research and data based guided by district's mission statement.
- Minutes of each meeting will be distributed by email within one week of meeting date.
- All members are to speak up in an open forum- all points of view will be heard and valued.
- All participants will be treated with mutual respect.
- Members of the committees will operate on a first name basis.
- Snacks and Refreshments will be served at all meetings to give "energy boost."

Your Master Plan will provide a road map for long-term planning:

- ✓ Assess the condition of your buildings
- ✓ Show how the buildings are utilized
- ✓ Identify key areas for improvement
- ✓ Review district-wide options
- ✓ Collect broad stakeholder input
- ✓ Provide the basis for data-driven decisions
- ✓ Support the your communication process
- ✓ Provide options for the future
- ✓ Create a strategic facility plan to guide future decisions



Ridgway SD Master Plan Timeline

Phase 1 –MASTER PLAN

Step 1 – Collect District Information

Dec 2019 / Jan 2020

Step 2 – Master Plan Meetings

Jan – May 2020

Step 3 – Draft Recommendations

May 2020

Phase 2 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Funding Options / Timelines

Phase 3 – GRANT/BOND SUPPORT

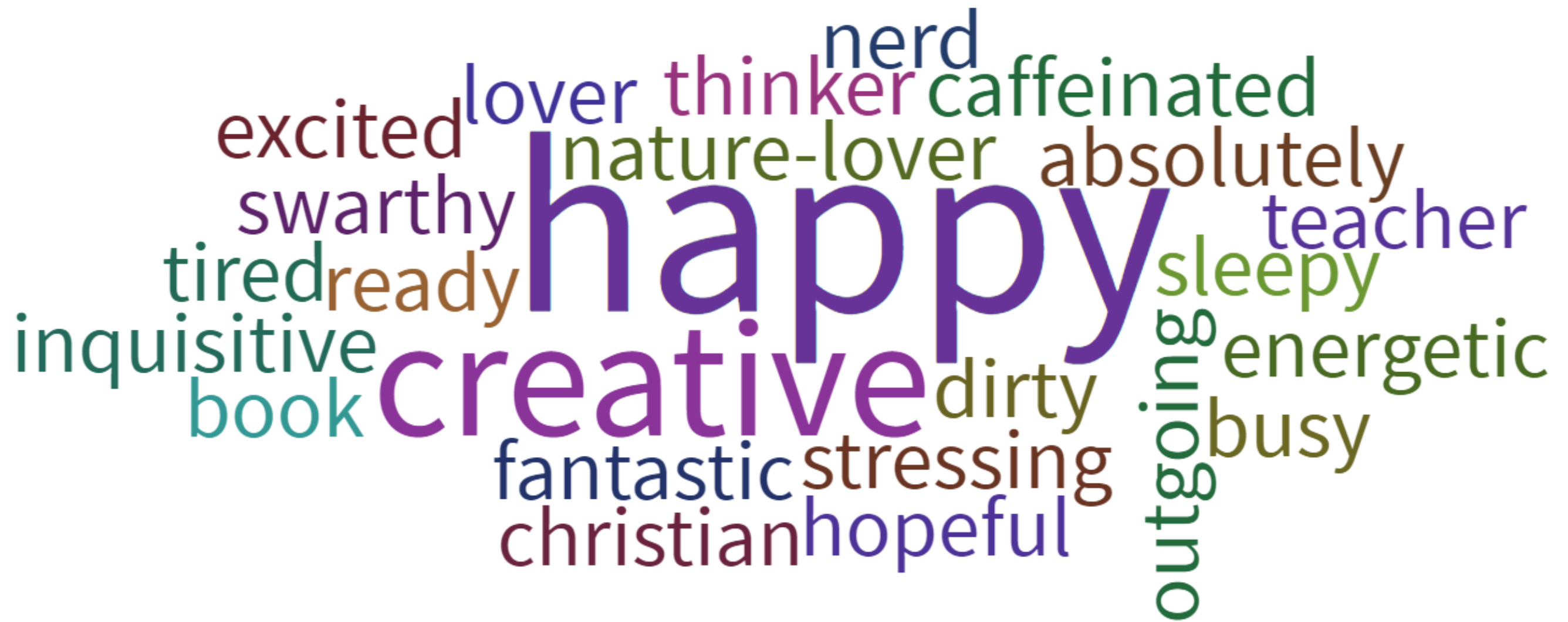
• PAT MEETINGS:

- January 30th #1 *
- February 13th #2
- March 5th #3
- April 16th #4 *
- May 7th #5 **

* Community Meeting

**Board of Education

What one word would you use to describe yourself?



12 Design Principles Based on Brain-based Learning Research

DesignShare Article By Jeffery A.

Lackney, Ph.D.

Based on a workshop facilitated by

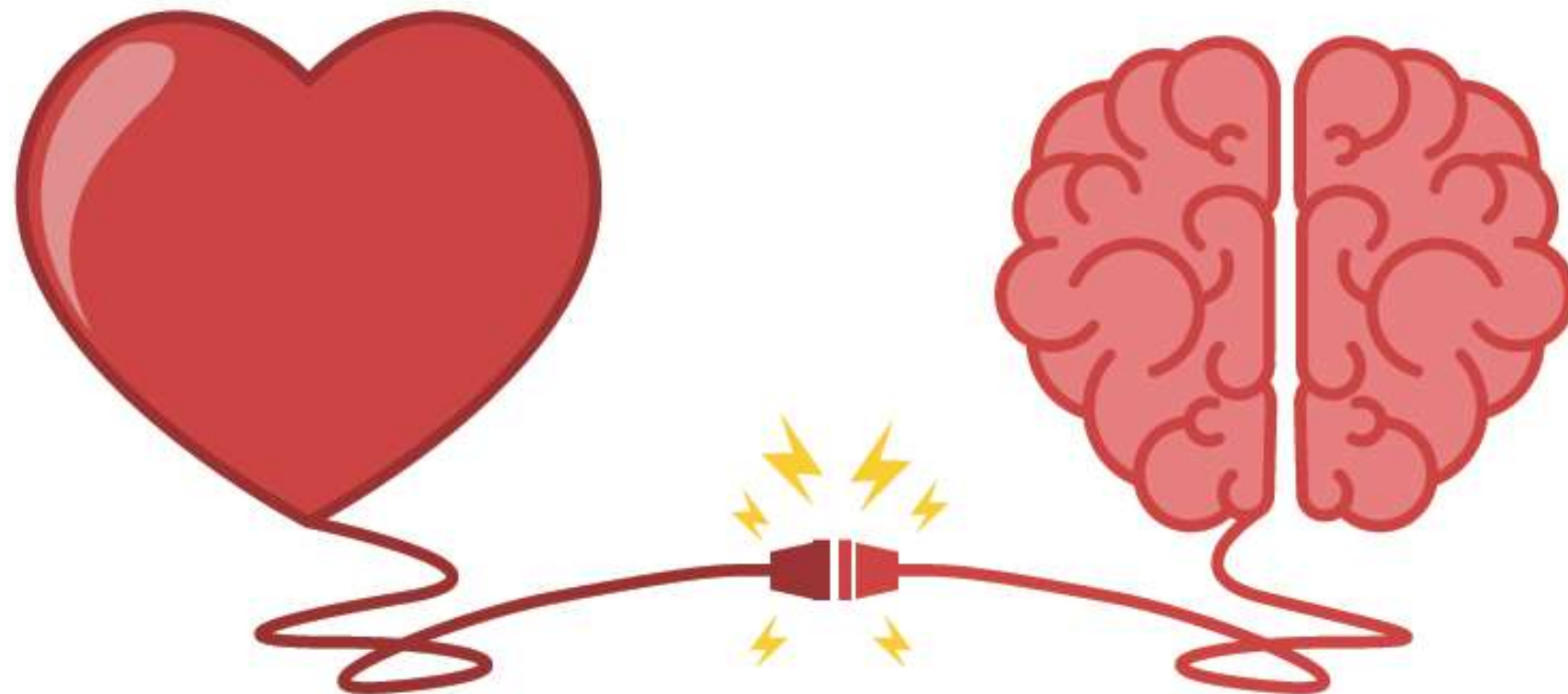
Randall Fielding, AIA



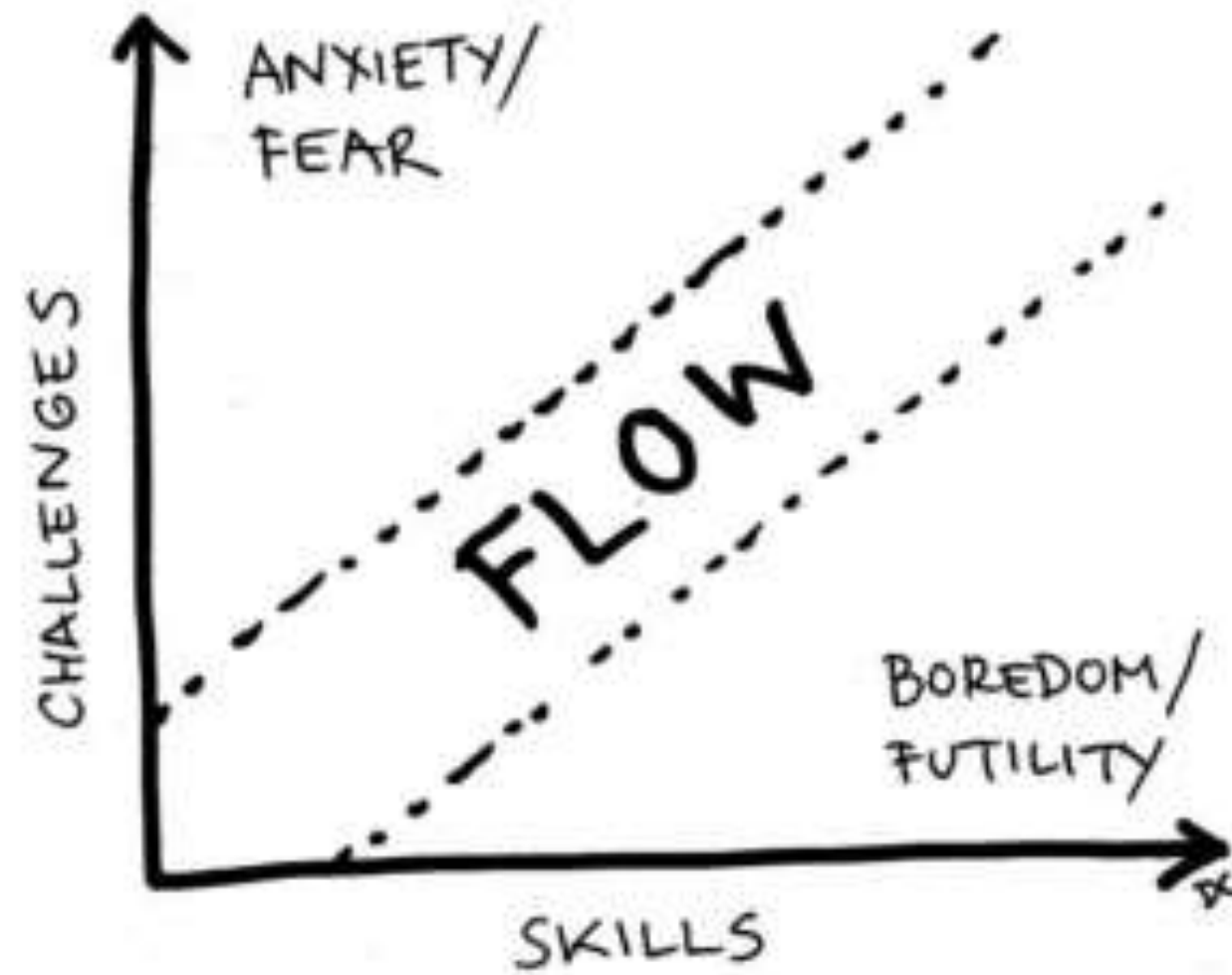
Some Key Take Aways...

The brain is a vastly complex and adaptive system with hundreds of billions of neurons and interneurons that can generate an astronomical number of neural nets, or groups of neurons acting in concert, from which our daily experience is constructed.

From brain research we know now that when we get emotional about a task we are involved in learning. Brain research has confirmed that emotions are linked to learning by assisting us in recall of memories that are stored in our central nervous system.



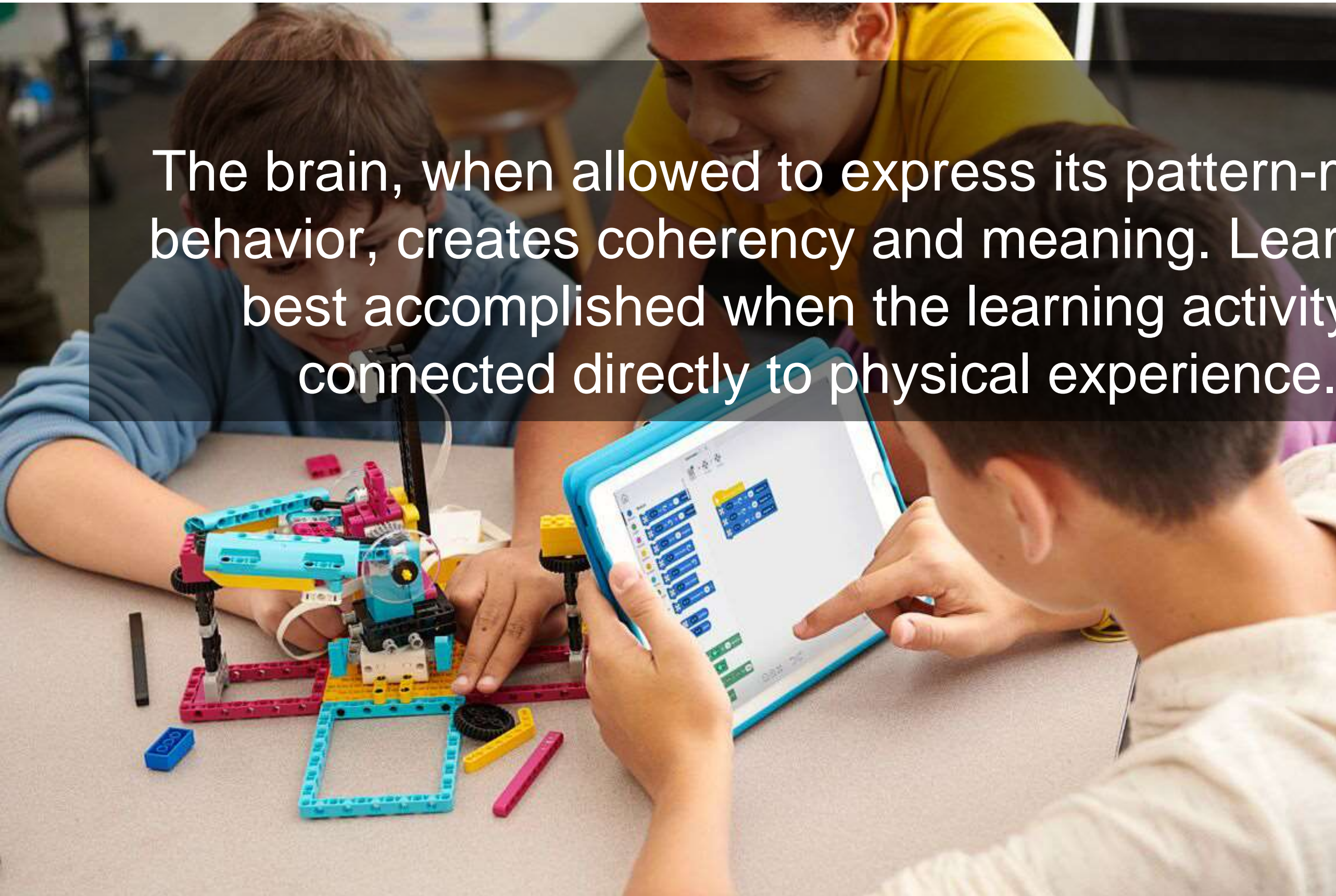
The brain learns best when confronted with a balance between stress and comfort: high challenge and low threat.





Pattern making is pleasing (emotional content) for the brain. The brain takes great pleasure in taking random and chaotic information and ordering it.

The brain, when allowed to express its pattern-making behavior, creates coherency and meaning. Learning is best accomplished when the learning activity is connected directly to physical experience.



12 Principles of Brian Compatible Learning

1. Uniqueness – every single brain is totally unique.
2. Impact of threat or high stress can alter and impair learning and even kill brain cells
3. Emotions are critical to learning – they drive our attention, health, learning, meaning and memory.
4. Information is stored and retrieved through multiple memory and neural pathways.
5. All learning is mind-body – movement, foods, attentional cycles, drugs and chemicals all have powerful modulating effects on learning.
6. The brain is a complex and adaptive system – effective change involves the entire complex system
7. Patterns and programs drive our understanding – intelligence is the ability to elicit and to construct useful patterns.
8. The brain is meaning-driven – meaning is more important to the brain than information.
9. Learning is often rich and non-conscious – we process both parts and wholes simultaneously and are affected a great deal by peripheral influences.
10. The brain develops better in concert with other brains – intelligence is valued in the context of the society in which we live.
11. The brain develops with various stages of readiness.
12. Enrichment – the brain can grow new connections at any age. Complex, challenging experiences with feedback are best. Cognitive skills develop better with music and motor skills.

12 Principles of Design

RICH STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT

color, texture, "teaching architecture", displays created by students (not teacher) so students have connection and ownership of the product.



IGNACIO HIGH SCHOOL
RTA, INC.

PLACES FOR GROUP LEARNING

breakout spaces, alcoves, table groupings to facilitate social learning and stimulate the social brain; turning breakout spaces into living rooms for conversation.



LINKING INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PLACES

movement, engaging the motor cortex linked to the cerebral cortex, for oxygenation.



PUBLIC PLACES

containing symbols of the school community's larger purpose to provide coherency and meaning that increases motivation (warning: go beyond slogans).

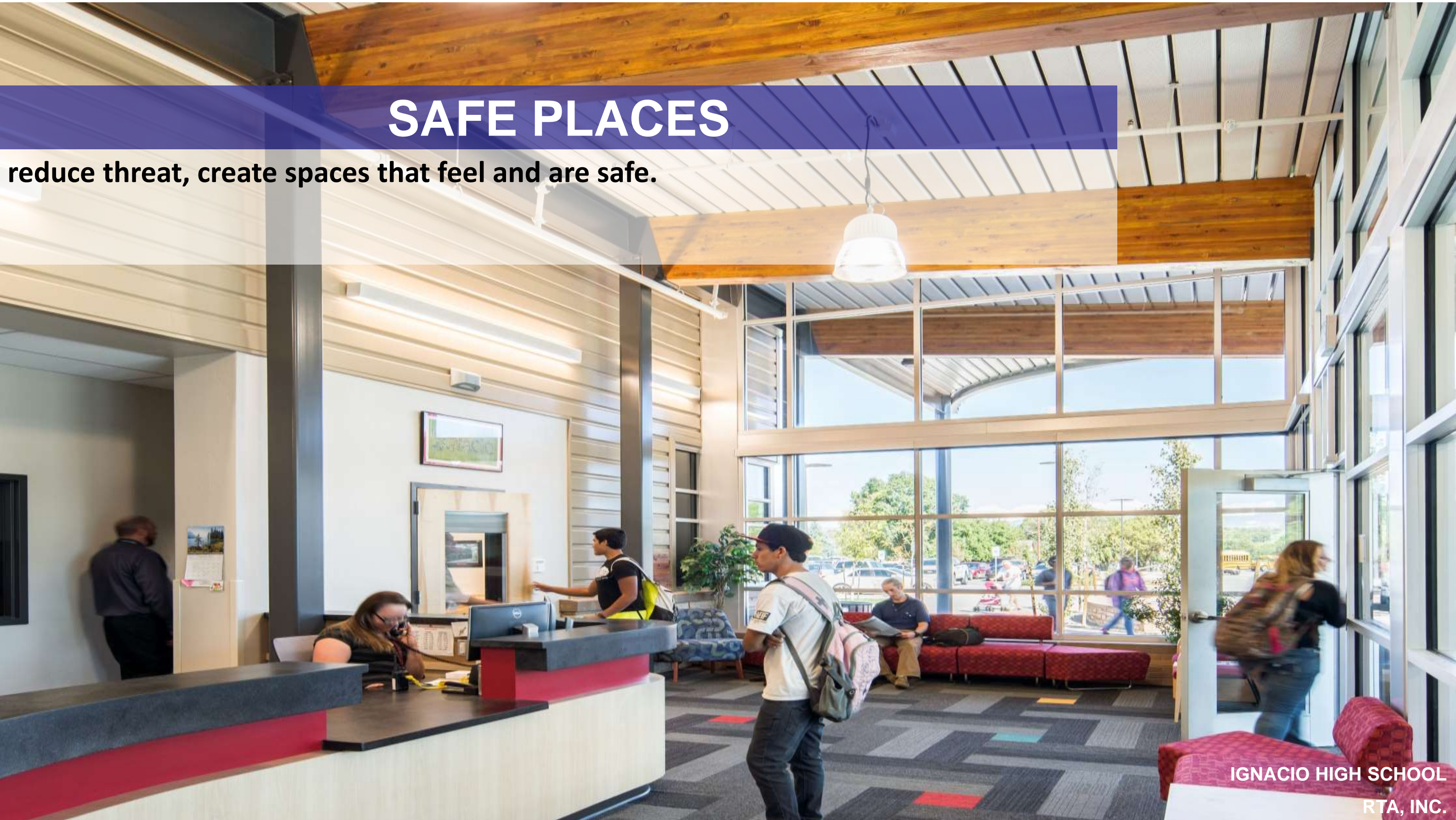


DISCOVERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VMDO.

SAFE PLACES

reduce threat, create spaces that feel and are safe.



IGNACIO HIGH SCHOOL
RTA, INC.

VARIETY OF PLACES

provide a variety of places of different shapes, color, light, size, nooks & crannies..



CHANGING DISPLAYS

changing the environment, interacting with the environment stimulates brain development. Provide display areas that allow for stage set type constructions to further push the envelope with regard to environmental change.

active minds.
active learning
active spaces.

HAVE ALL RESOURCES AVAILABLE

provide educational, physical and the variety of settings in close proximity to encourage rapid development of ideas generated in a learning episode. This is an argument for wet areas/ science, computer-rich workspaces all integrated and not segregated. Multiple functions and cross-fertilization of ideas are primary goal.



FLEXIBILITY

a common principle in the past continues to be relevant. Many dimensions of flexibility of place are reflected in other principles.



ASPEN COUNTY DAY SCHOOL

VS

ACTIVE/PASSIVE PLACES

students need places for reflection and retreat away from others for intrapersonal intelligence as well as places for active engagement for interpersonal intelligence.



PERSONALIZED SPACE

the concept of home-base needs to be emphasized more than the metal locker or the desk; this speaks to the principle of uniqueness; the need to allow learners to express their self-identity, personalize their special places, and places to express territorial behaviors.



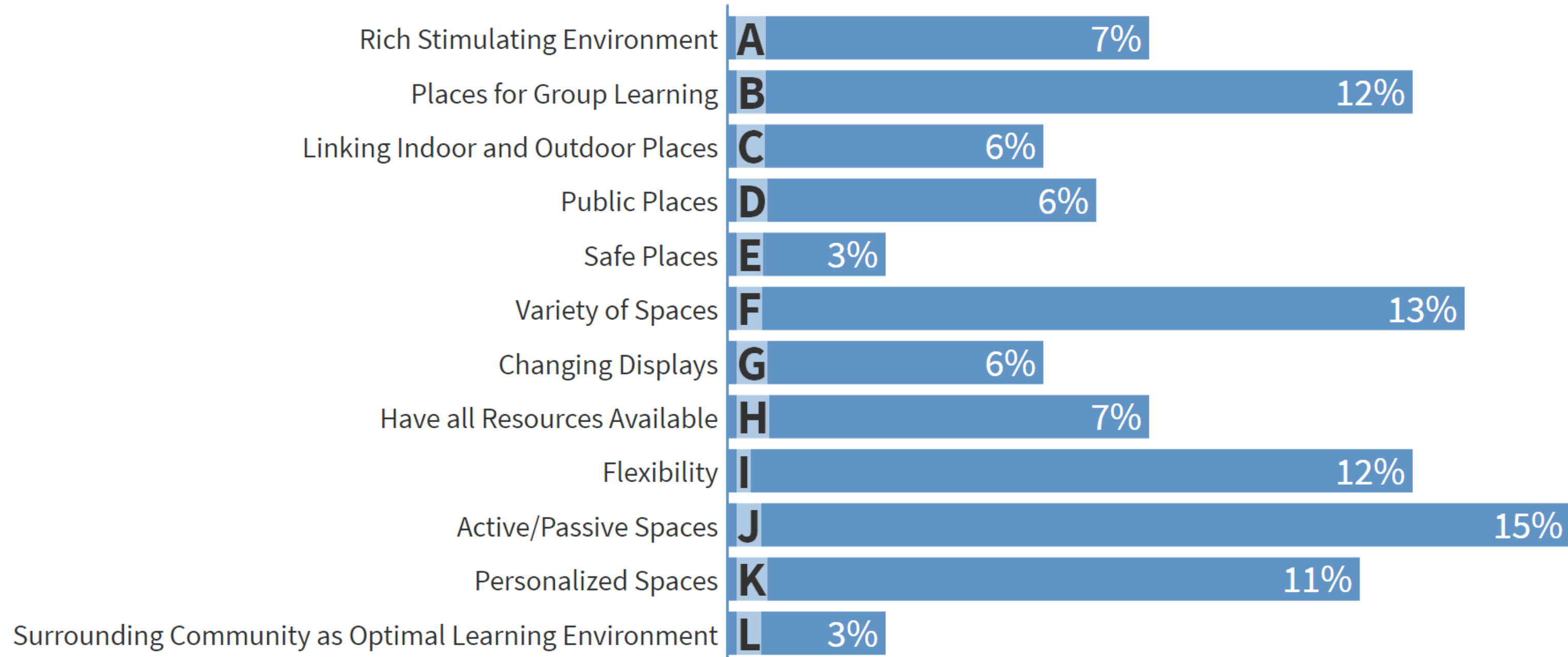
DOUGLASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
RTA, INC.



SURROUNDING COMMUNITY AS THE OPTIMAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

need to find ways to fully utilize all urban and natural environments as the primary learning setting, the school as the fortress of learning needs to be challenged and conceptualized more as a resource-rich learning center that supplements life-long learning. Technology, distance learning, community and business partnerships, home-based learning, all need to be explored as alternative organizational structures for educational institutions of the present and future.

What items from the 12 Principles of Design is RSD Missing?



Ridgway School District R-2 Mission Statement

The district shall provide a safe environment for all students and staff.

As a highly individualized public school, our mission is to prepare all students for success in a changing world by providing them with an enriched and comprehensive curriculum which teaches them critical and creative thinking skills, inspires their imaginations and talents, and empowers them to contribute as local and global citizens.

As a result of our efforts our students will.....

- Master the content standards of an enriched and comprehensive curriculum.
- Become confident, motivated, and empowered individuals who direct their own learning.
- Become informed and contributing citizens.
- Be inspired to achieve healthy lives.

As a student centered and successful public school system, the Board of Education adopts the following strategic goal

Our goal is to continually raise the academic performance of every student such that we achieve status ratings from the Colorado State Department for all programs in the excellent category for Overall Academic Achievement Performance. This distinction, along with monitored growth model reports, will support our commitment to the success of all students within the district. History, civics, music, art, foreign language, **science, math, technology, and experiential learning** are fundamental pieces of the Ridgway tradition and remain hallmarks of the educational program. In order to achieve this goal, and meet the needs of every student, all Ridgway students will be provided with opportunities which promote their academic knowledge and skill, creativity, and ability to reach challenging goals. Staff will dedicate themselves to making their students' learning relevant and continuously seek strategies to improve the achievement of every student.

Ridgway School District

Strategic Plan

Break

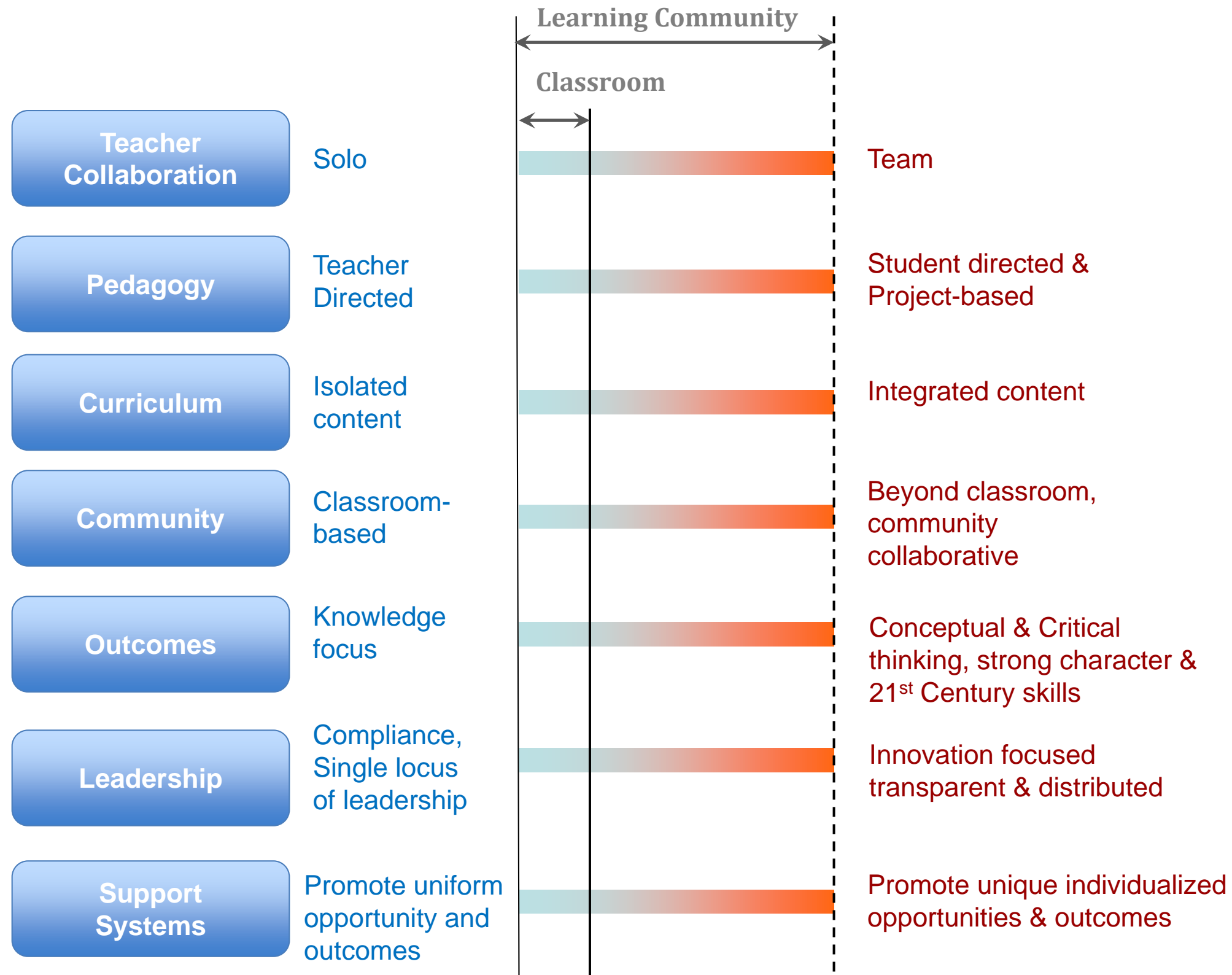
5 Min

Evolution of the classroom

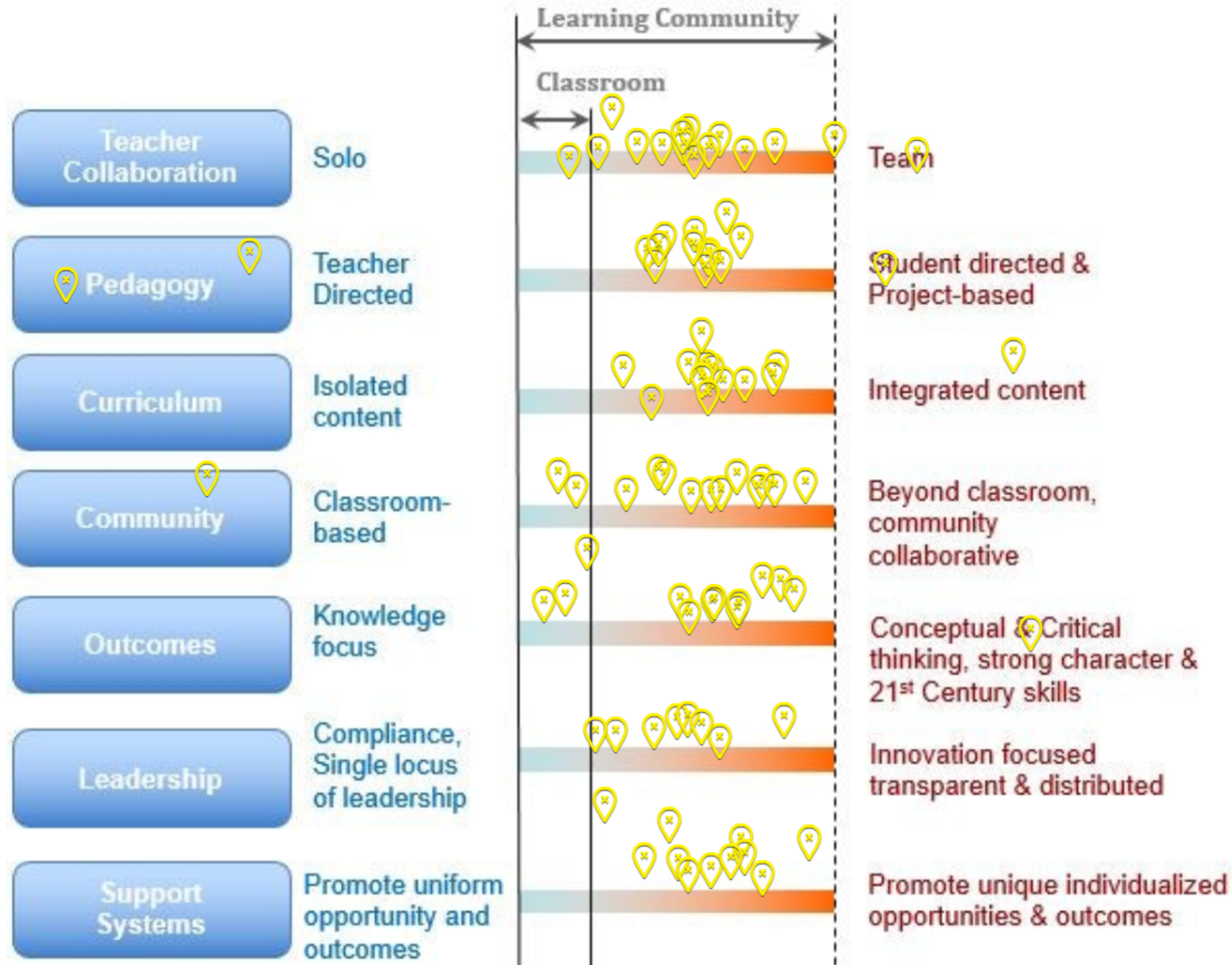
Douglass Elementary BVSD

RTA Architects with FNI

Teaching and Learning Practice Spectrums

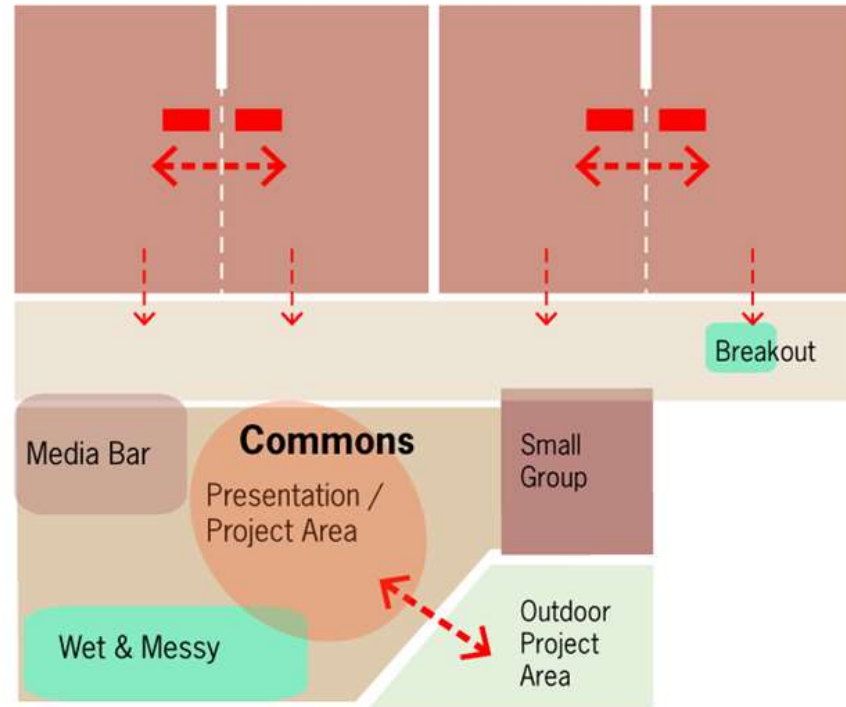


Where does RSD fall in the teaching practice spectrum?



Shared in Pairs + Commons

Optimized for: Collaborative teams of 2 or 4 teachers, periodic cohesive unit planning, analysis, and plan revision, shared assessment, flexible groupings, co-instruction, multi-cohort instruction, flexible and dynamic spaces for breakout and differentiated learning



Teacher Collaboration



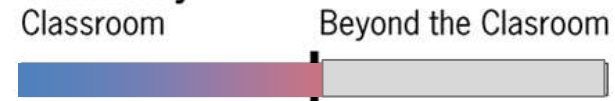
Pedagogy



Curriculum

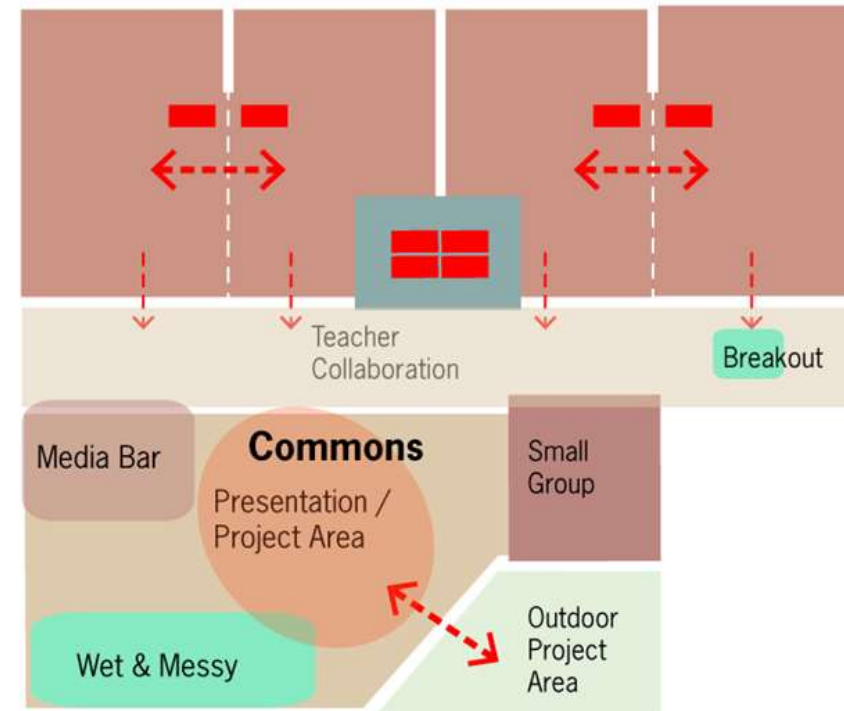


Community



All Rooms Shared + Commons

Optimized for: Collaborative teams of 3-4, regular cohesive unit planning, regular co-teaching, thematic integrated project-based learning, expanded sense of “community”, distributed and shared instructional leadership



Teacher Collaboration



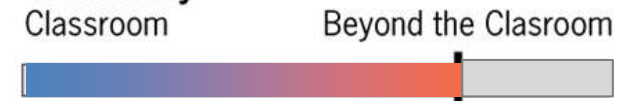
Pedagogy



Curriculum

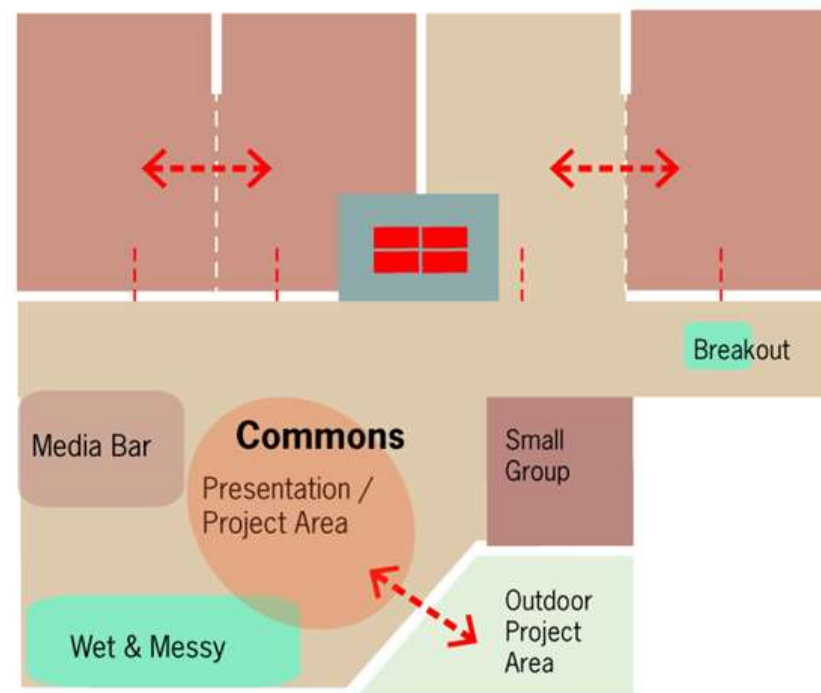


Community



Learning Community

Optimized for: Curriculum organized around interdisciplinary themes, distributed democratic leadership, shared student responsibility, co-facilitated, cohort scheduling, highest levels of “community” and self directed learning.



Teacher Collaboration

Individual Team



Pedagogy

Teacher Directed Student Directed



Curriculum

Isolated Content Integrated Content



Community

Classroom Beyond the Classroom



Where does the Ridgway School District fall in the Classroom Spectrum

Individually owned rooms

A

100%

Classrooms shared in pairs

B

Classrooms shared in pairs
+ Commons

C

All classrooms shared +
Commons

D

Learning Community

E



Douglass Elementary School

Boulder Valley School District





Design Development | Floor Plan Development





Design Development | **Floor Plan - 1-2 Learning Community**



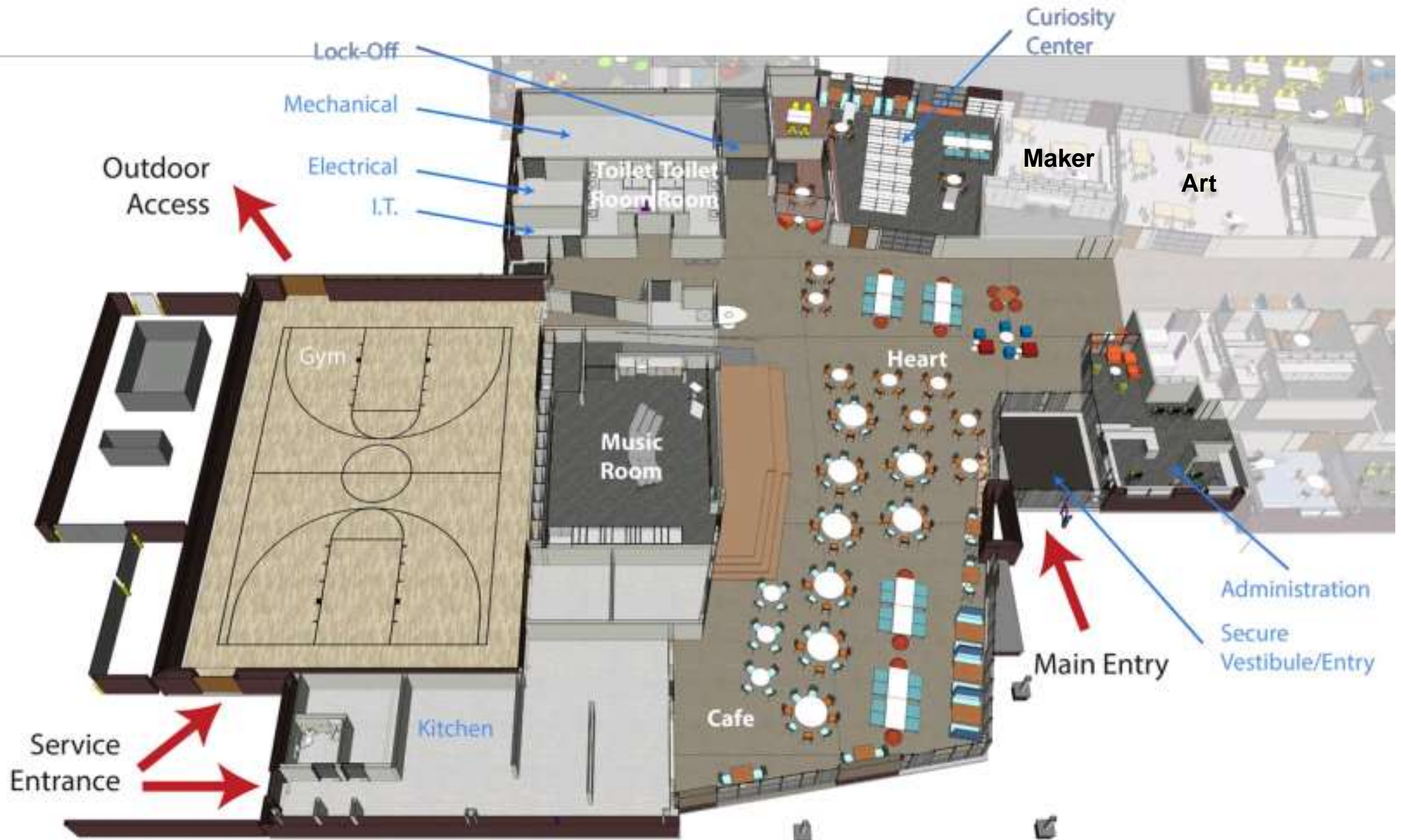








Design Development | Floor Plan - Heart / Cafe / Gym / Music







Learning Commons



“Provide flexible learning environments that support various modes of education”



Photograph: V/S Furniture



Ideal Learning Spaces call for:

- **Flexibility and Variety**
- **Agility**
- **Collaboration**
- **Transparency**
- **Community**
- **Technology**
- **Choice**

Maker Space/Learning Center

BEFORE





Spaces that Build Relationships

- Breakout Space
- Project Space
- Group Space
- Student Space



Learning Communities



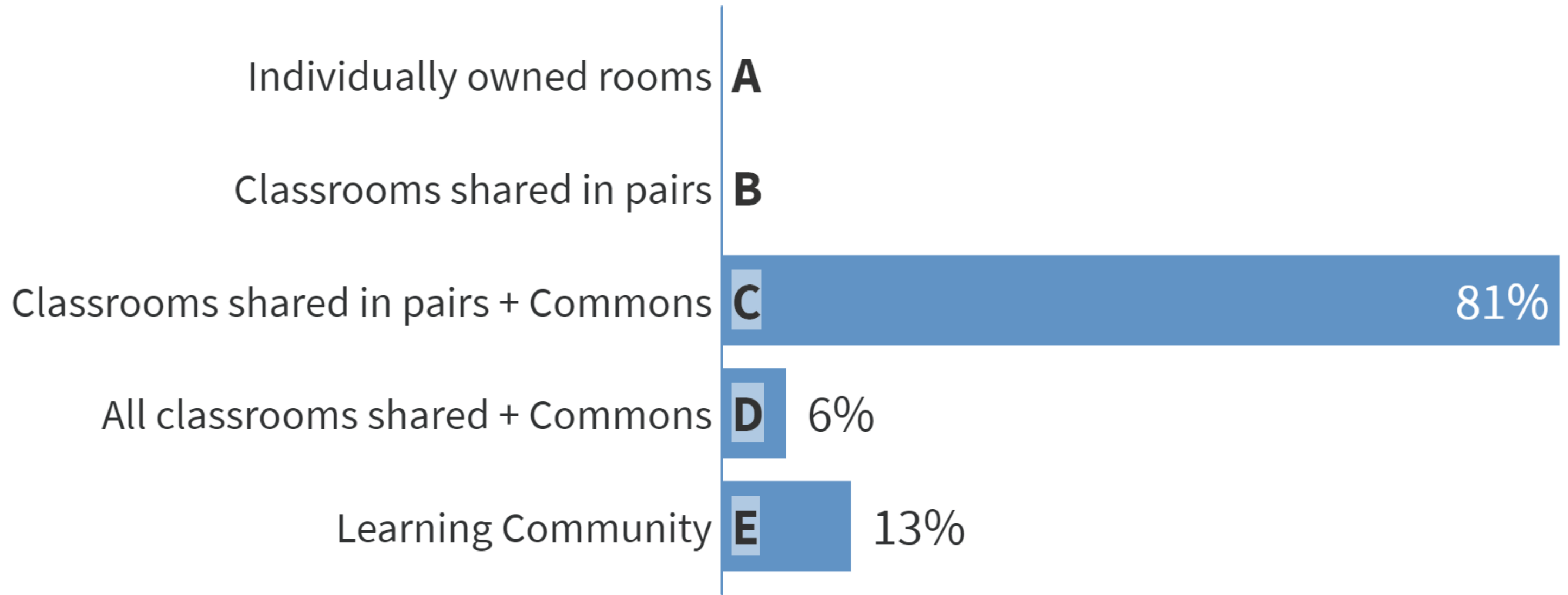
Chinook Trail Middle School

Ridgway School District Facilities Master Plan



Where would you like the Ridgway School District to be in the Classroom

Spectrum



Break into groups

5 minutes each question

What are the biggest obstacles you face
in your existing facilities?

(Limit to top 5 items)

What would be different in your ideal
school from what you have today?


(Limit to top 5 items)

Ridgway Secondary School Concerns

Obstacle — Science Community Can't break-out

- Industrial Arts limited
 - Automotive
 - Welding
 - Home Ec
 - Woodworking
- Performing Arts limitations
- furniture not flexible
 - Not inviting in student spaces.
- Teacher breakroom ^{not} inviting or collaborative
- Conference room off the main office not big enough
- More outdoor learning spaces.
- Cardio/weight-lifting space needs to be a dedicated space
- practice field / track
- greenhouse growing / horticulture space
- Teacher housing

- lack of open ^{work} areas w/ flexibility
- view/natural light
- ^{lack of} integration (pre-school building + overall)
 - buildings
 - classroom spaces
- energy eff.
- circulation/flow
- hierarchy
 - spaces
 - function

• 21st century spaces ~~are~~ functional  purpose w/ flexibility

Quest.

#2

Having flexible space, shared.

Quest.
#1

Poorly designed spaces for learning

#1 Outdoor Classroom zone is only two seasons
↳ GATED?

Quest.

#1

"Felt locked"

#2

Because of a flexible changing population - flexible spaces useful

Quest.

#1

Lack of ease of flow to outdoor spaces + resources.

#2/1

New/old building not integrated

Group:

- John Susan Marcia
- John Mike
- John Krista

Questions?

Next PAT Meeting – Options

Thursday, March 5th, 5:00-6:30pm

Next Public Meeting: April 16th

Thank You!



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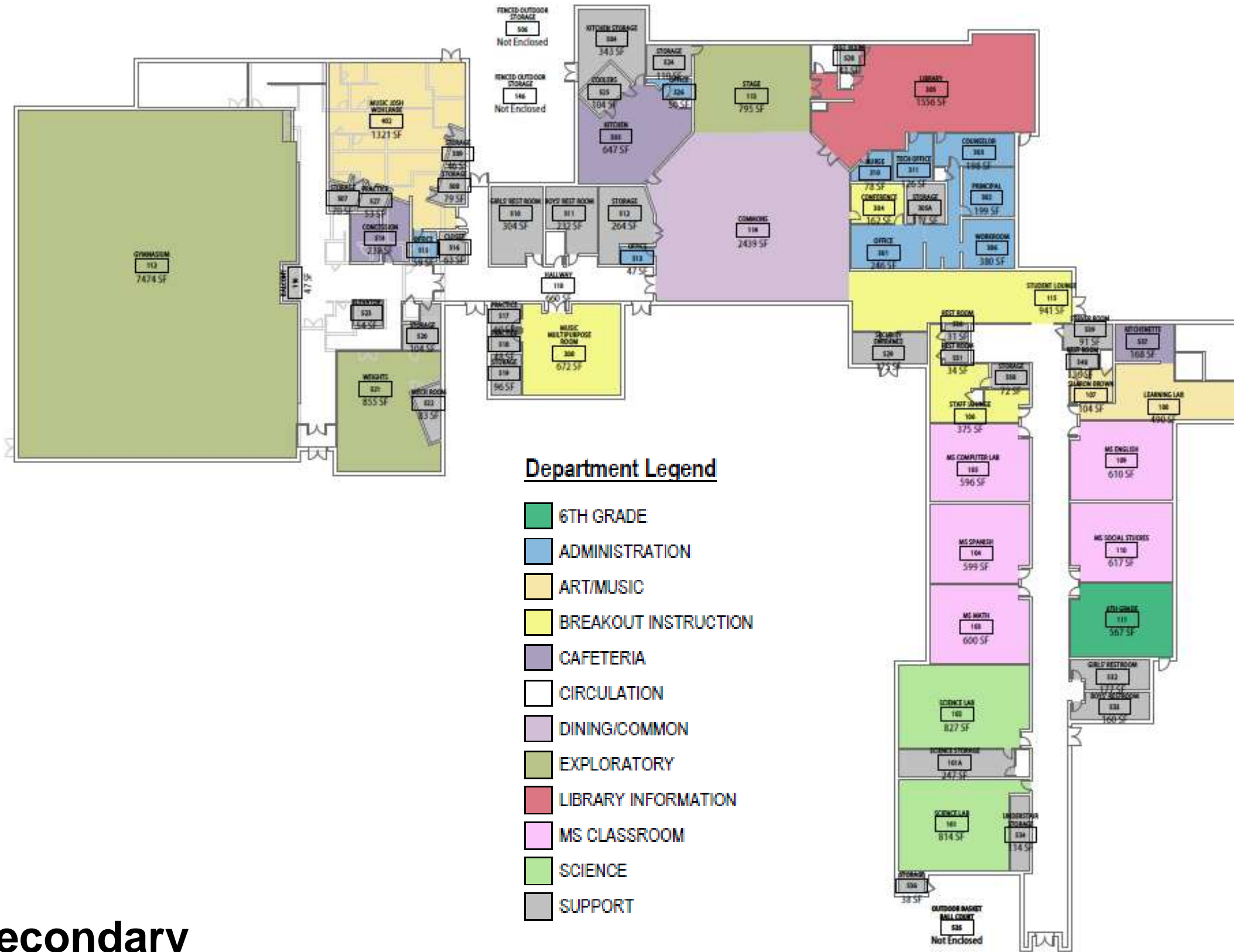


Department Legend

- 1ST GRADE
- 2ND GRADE
- 3RD GRADE
- 4TH GRADE
- 5TH GRADE
- ADMINISTRATION
- ART/MUSIC
- BREAKOUT INSTRUCTION
- CAFETERIA
- CIRCULATION
- DINING/Common
- EXPLORATORY
- INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS
- KINDERGARTEN
- LIBRARY INFORMATION
- PE/ATHLETICS
- SCIENCE
- SP.ED.
- SUPPORT

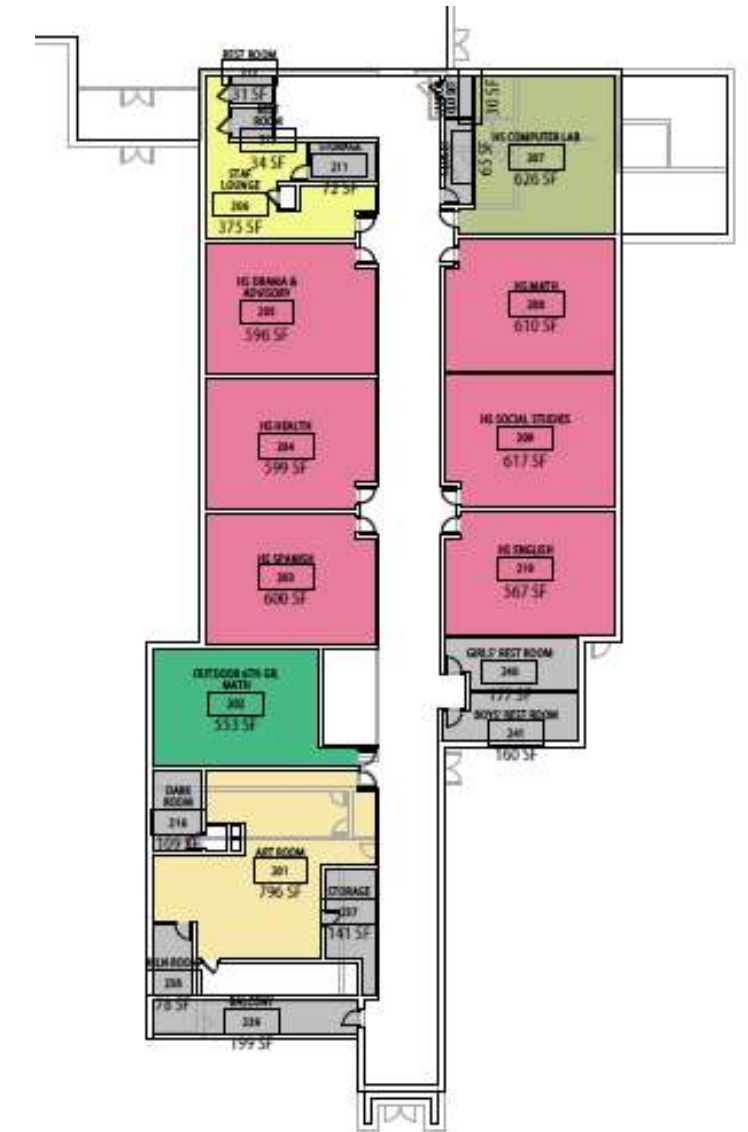


Elementary



Department Legend

- 6TH GRADE
- ART/MUSIC
- BREAKOUT INSTRUCTION
- EXPLORATORY
- HS CLASSROOM
- SUPPORT



Secondary

Elementary Capacity – 20 Students per Classroom

180 Students 327 SF/Student CDE 151 SF/Student

Enrollment 175 336 SF/Student

Secondary Capacity – 20 Students per Classroom / 70% Utilization

294 Students 210 SF/Student CDE 164 SF/Student

Enrollment 150 412 SF/Student

[B.E.S.T. Building Excellent Schools Today]

What is BEST?

Collaboration by CO legislative leadership, Gov. Bill Ritter, former State Treasurer Cary Kennedy, and a large coalition worked together on this for their ambitious and landmark legislation

The BEST legislation addresses health and safety issues by providing funds to rebuild, repair or replace the most needy K-12 facilities. The BEST plan calls for assessment, an expert-guided process for the selection of funding projects, and the spending of up to \$1 billion in funds without raising taxes;

Hazards and issues being addressed included: failing roofs, structural problems, inadequate fire safety, faulty and dangerous boilers, asbestos, code issues, inadequate educational suitability, overcrowding, faulty and dangerous electrical service, poor indoor air quality, lack of ADA accessibility, and carbon monoxide contamination.

3 types of BEST grants:

- 1 BEST Cash Grants [Fund smaller projects]
- 2 BEST Lease Purchase Grants [Fund larger projects]
- 3 BEST Emergency Grants [Unanticipated events]

Project funding is prioritized by:

**-Safety hazards, health concerns
and security at existing public
school facilities**

-Relieve overcrowding in public
school facilities

-Incorporating technology into the
educational environment

-All other projects

Match:

Ridgway School District: **54%**

**\$20.2M +10% Available Bonding Capacity
\$13M w/o new taxes
\$1.7M in current debt**