



Superintendent's Report

Syosset Central School District

November 20, 2023



Updates

- Identified additional self-construct areas within AVI.
- Added bathrooms per code to new Gym space and adjusted cost estimates accordingly.
- Identified value-engineering opportunity for SHS library by locating outside of courtyard to save construction costs. Adjusted cost estimates accordingly.

Project Overview

- Annual Visual Inspection
 - Health and Safety Items
 - ADA and Code compliance items
- Portable replacement
 - Village, Baylis, Walt Whitman, Berry Hill
- Safety/Efficiency
 - HBT Vestibule
 - SHS Bus Loop
- Programs
 - HBT Track
 - New playgrounds (South Grove, Willits, Robbins Lane)
- Enrollment Growth
 - South Woods
 - relocate business offices and convert to classrooms
 - Syosset High School
 - Relocate library and convert to classrooms
 - Construct additional Gym Space
 - Consolidate guidance and mental health services, expand robotics
- **Additional Project Option**
 - Air Conditioning for all main gyms at elementary and middle schools

Updated
AVI
Figures

2022 Visual Inspection Report - work included in Phase 3 Future Bond (as of November 16, 2023)											
Building System Description	Baylis Elementary	Berry Hill Elementary	Robbins Lane Elementary	South Grove Elementary	Village Elementary	Walt Whitman Elementary	Alice P Willits Elementary	South Woods Middle School	Harry B. Thompson Middle School	Syosset High School	Totals
Site											
Site Paving/Sidewalk	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4,770,180	\$ -	\$ 4,770,180
Site Electrical	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Playground	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Roofing Systems											
Roofing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,400	\$ 960,000	\$ -	\$ 1,920,000	\$ -	\$ 3,840,000	\$ 7,820,400
Exterior Finishes											
Exterior Walls/Repointing	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,080,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 2,255,580	\$ 15,335,580
Chimneys	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Windows	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fire Escapes/Stairs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Structural Elements											
Masonry Bearing Walls	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Piers & Columns	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Interior Finishes											
Ceilings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Floor Finishes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Casework (Science)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,940,000	\$ 5,940,000
Lockers (Hallway)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Locker Rooms	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,724,100	\$ 1,680,000	\$ 2,114,280	\$ 5,518,380
Radiator Enclosures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pool	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 2,400,000
Plumbing & Bathroom											
Bathroom renovation	\$ 456,256	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ 990,000	\$ -	\$ 2,046,256
Electrical Systems											
Electrical Service/Distribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Heaters	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Mechanical Systems											
Ventilation System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Unit Ventilators	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Air Handling System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,520,000	\$ 2,520,000
Control System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Heating Fuel System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Air Conditioning System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Exhaust Systems	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ADA											
Stairs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Elevators/Lifts/ Accessibility	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 1,656,256	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 2,300,400	\$ 2,040,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 5,444,100	\$ 8,640,180	\$ 19,069,860	\$ 46,350,796

Significant Items in the AVI

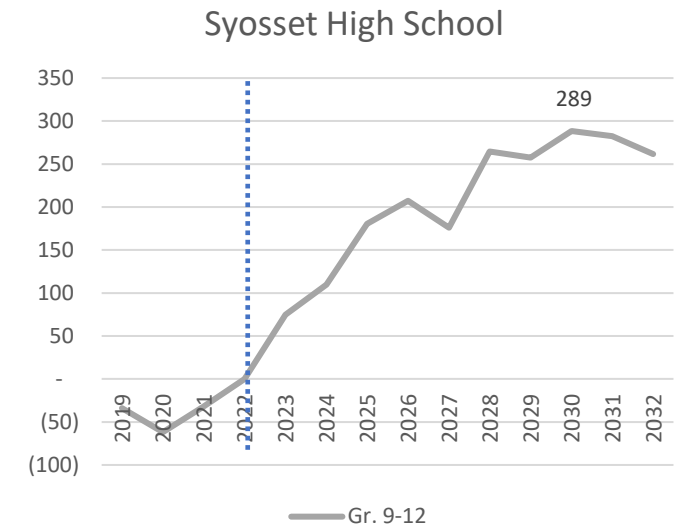
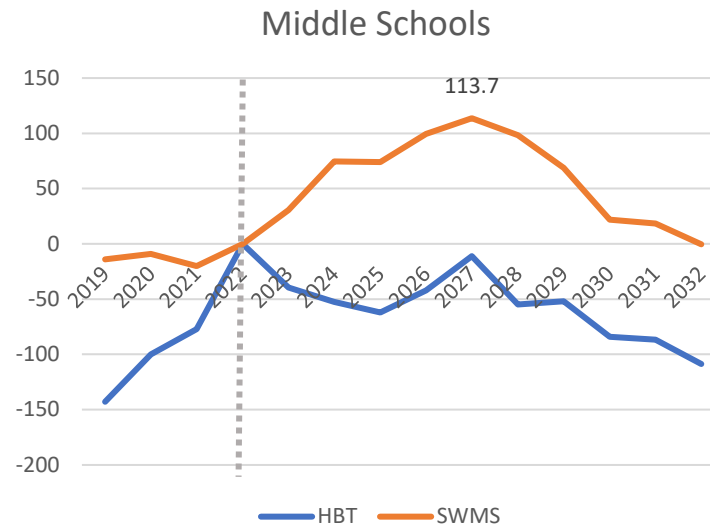
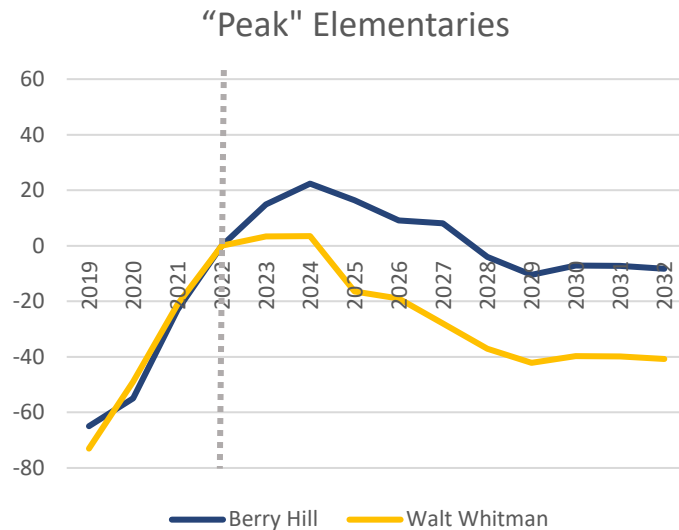
- Locker room rehabilitation and safety
- Pool dehumidification system
- ADA compliance for staff bathrooms
- Replace aging electrical distribution infrastructure at HBT

Replace Aging “Portable” Classrooms

- Classrooms at 4 schools were “temporary” construction
- All are aging
 - All are over 40 years old
 - All are now 20+ years past useful life
- They will take 18 months to replace, so we shouldn’t risk waiting until one fails.
- Using Modular construction will save a year of time.

Classroom Count	\$ (mil)
Walt Whitman – 4 classrooms	5.31
Baylis – 2 classrooms	3.14
Village – 4 classrooms	5.31
Berry Hill – 7 classrooms	12.8

Enrollment Growth – Projected Change Relative to 2022-23

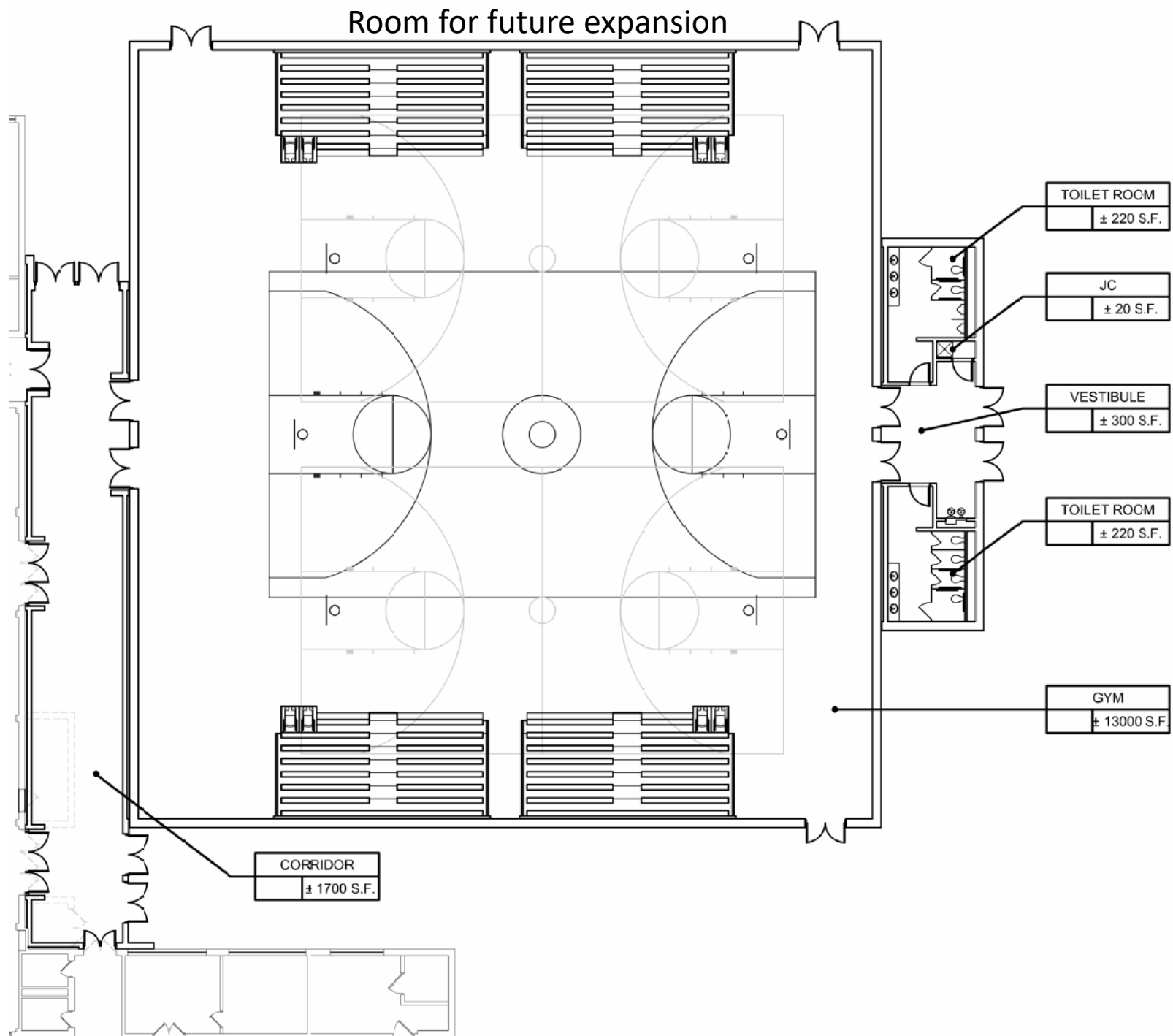


Addressing Enrollment Growth

- Elementary
 - Build new modular classrooms,
 - Delay demolition of aging “portables” until the enrollment bubble ends.
- Middle School
 - Convert office space back into classrooms at South Woods Middle School.
 - Relocate Business office to rented space.
- Syosset High School
 - Build new library and convert existing library back into 5 classrooms.
 - Build new gym space with 4 teaching stations (i.e. 4 half-gyms).
 - Consolidate guidance counselors, social workers, psychologists in one location (frees up space for expanded Robotics program).

SHS Additional Gym

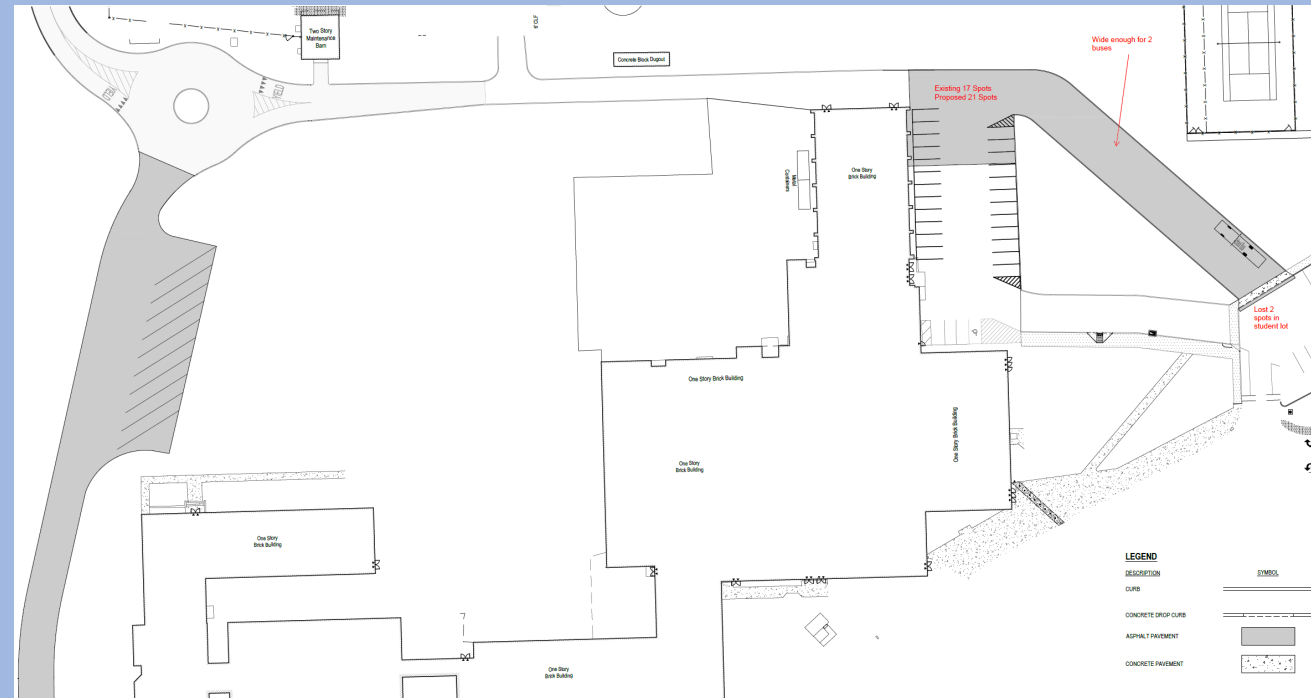
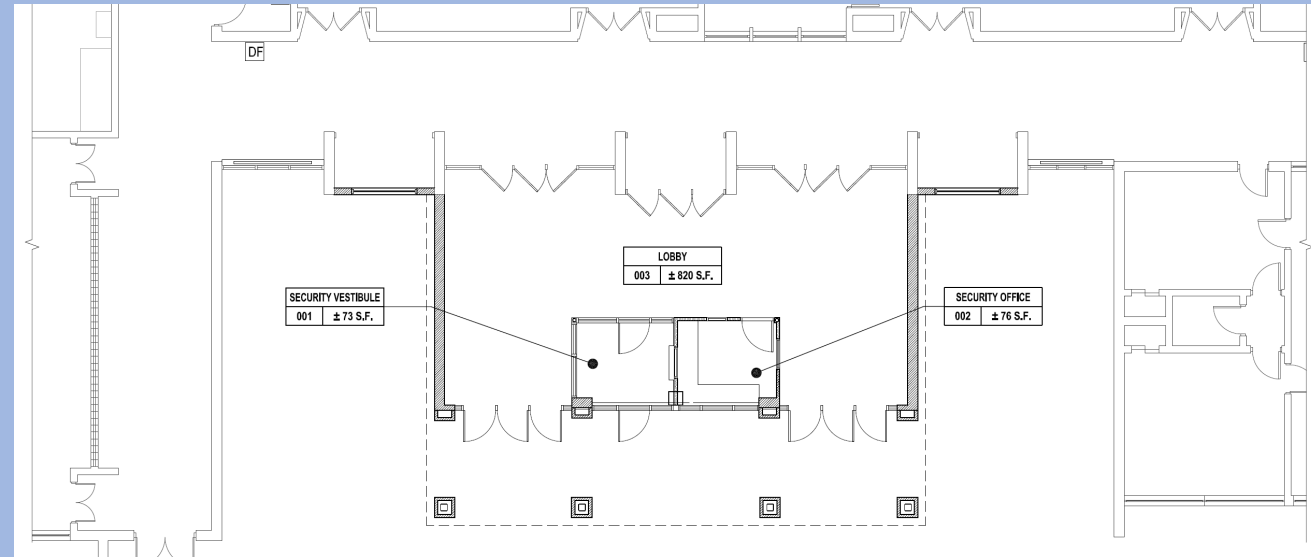
- 13,000 square feet
- Size would accommodate maximum of
 - 2 basketball courts
 - 3 volleyball courts
 - 4 pickleball courts
- Externally accessible bathrooms adjacent to “the Barn”
- Room for 600 spectators for basketball/volleyball match
- Can be isolated from building for community use.





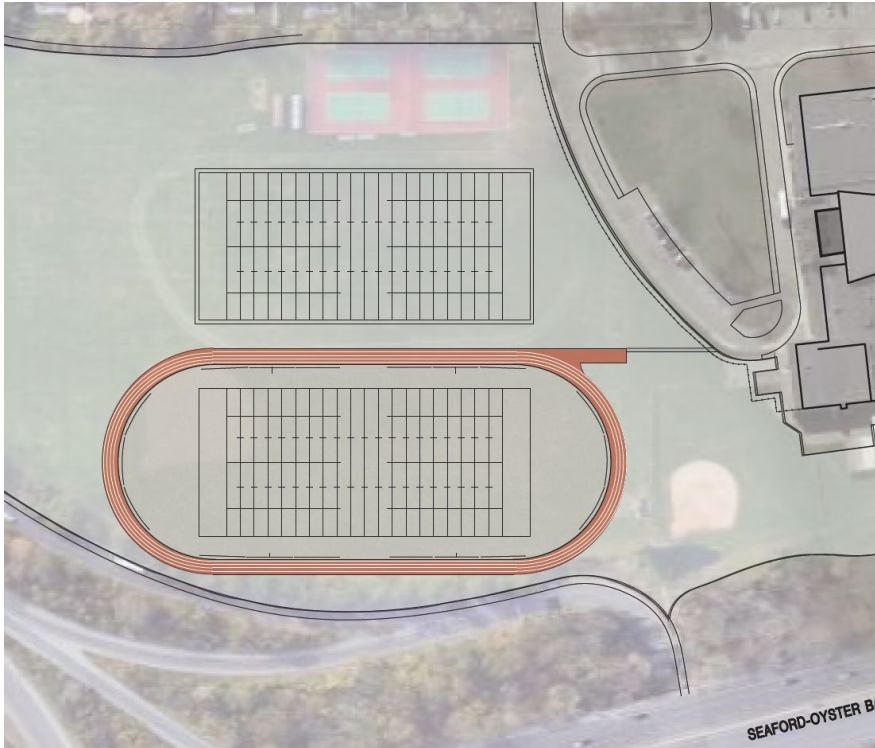
Safety/Efficiency

- Expand vestibule at HBT
 - Better visitor screening.
 - Better visibility for guard.
- Create additional bus loading space at SHS
 - Will speed up dismissal at SHS
 - Will reduce dismissal delays at middle and elementary school
 - Will split exiting traffic onto South Woods Rd. into 2 exits



Additional Projects

- Asphalt track at HBT
 - Comparable program to South Woods
 - Natural turf field
 - Adds fence from Tennis to Gym



- Elementary Playgrounds
 - Add playground equipment at:
 - Robbins Lane
 - South Grove
 - Willits



Project List

Project	Cost (mil)
AVI Work - Revised 11/2/23	\$ 46.35
Less Available Revenues	-2.34
HBT Vestibule	1.27
Rear Bus Loop	1.20
Guidance Suite/Robotics Swap	4.58
BH Portable – 7 classrooms	12.84
WW Portable – 4 classrooms	5.31
Baylis Portable – 2 classrooms	3.14
Village Portable – 4 classrooms	5.31
SHS Library	8.25
HBT Track	1.85
Playground	0.75
Gym Space	11.40
TOTAL	\$ 99.91
Less Capital Reserve	-4.00
Final Total	\$ 95.91

- Offset with \$4 million in Capital Reserves.
- Keep \$4 million in Capital Reserve for emergencies.
- Additional Proposition:
 - \$10 million for elementary and middle school gym air conditioning

Additional Proposition:

Air conditioning for all main gyms at Elementary and Middle School

Village Elementary School	<i>\$900,000</i>
Robbins Lane Elementary School	<i>\$900,000</i>
AP Willits Elementary School	<i>\$900,000</i>
Walt Whitman Elementary School	<i>\$900,000</i>
Baylis Elementary School	<i>\$900,000</i>
Berry Hill Elementary School	<i>\$900,000</i>
South Woods Middle School	<i>\$2,300,000</i>
HB Thompson Middle School	<i>\$2,300,000</i>
	<u><i>\$10,000,000</i></u>

* Note: South Grove Elementary gym is already air conditioned.

Next Steps

- If the BOE finalizes a draft plan tonight:
 - Make a draft plan available to the public
 - Hold public information sessions
 - Provide mechanisms for questions and suggestions
- BOE will review public comment
- BOE may make revisions
- Final plan will be adopted.
- Public Information sessions on final plan
- Vote in early spring to start construction in Summer of 2025
 - Accelerates review by NYSED
 - Avoids another year of cost inflation
 - Gain more favorable pricing by bidding early

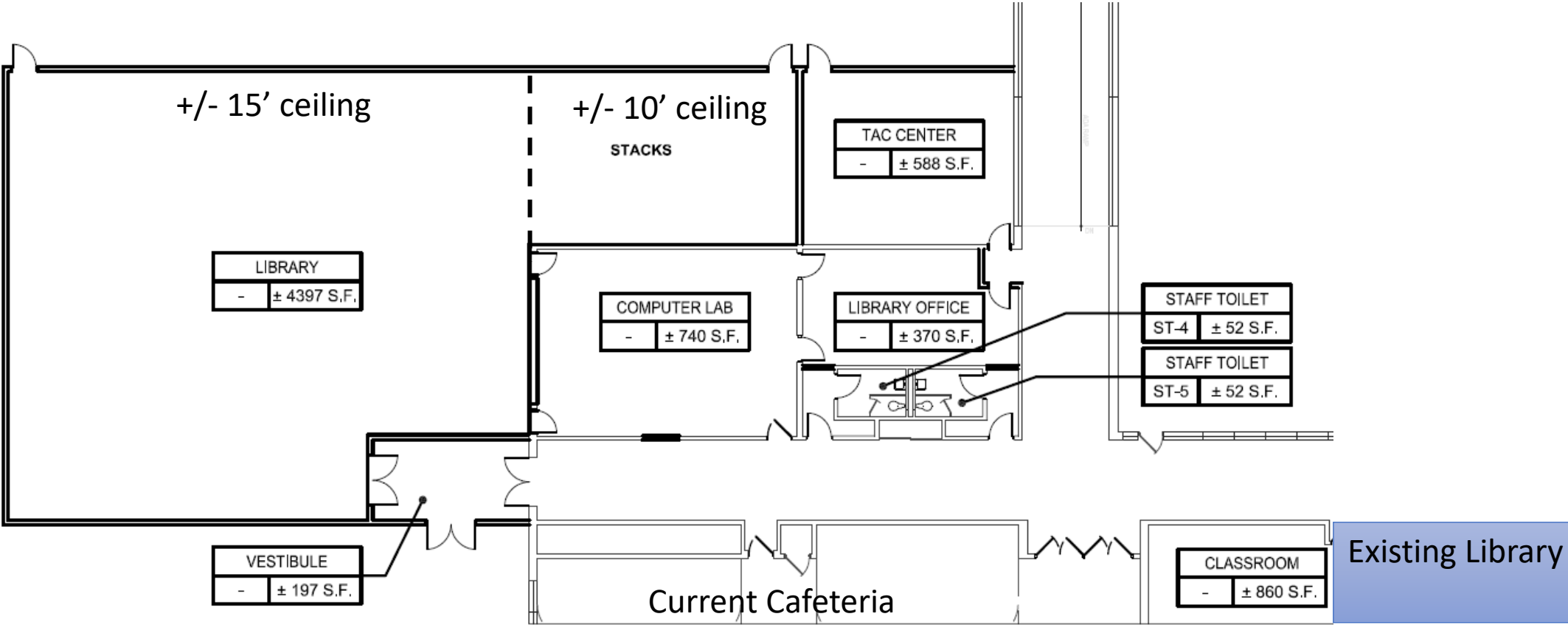
Potential Opportunity

- Syosset Library has approached us about making the Woodbury School a satellite location
- They would share renovation costs
 - We'd jointly seek grants
- Uses would include
 - Student tutoring space
 - Outdoor programming
 - Seed garden
 - Community meeting room
 - Adult education
 - Staff Professional Development



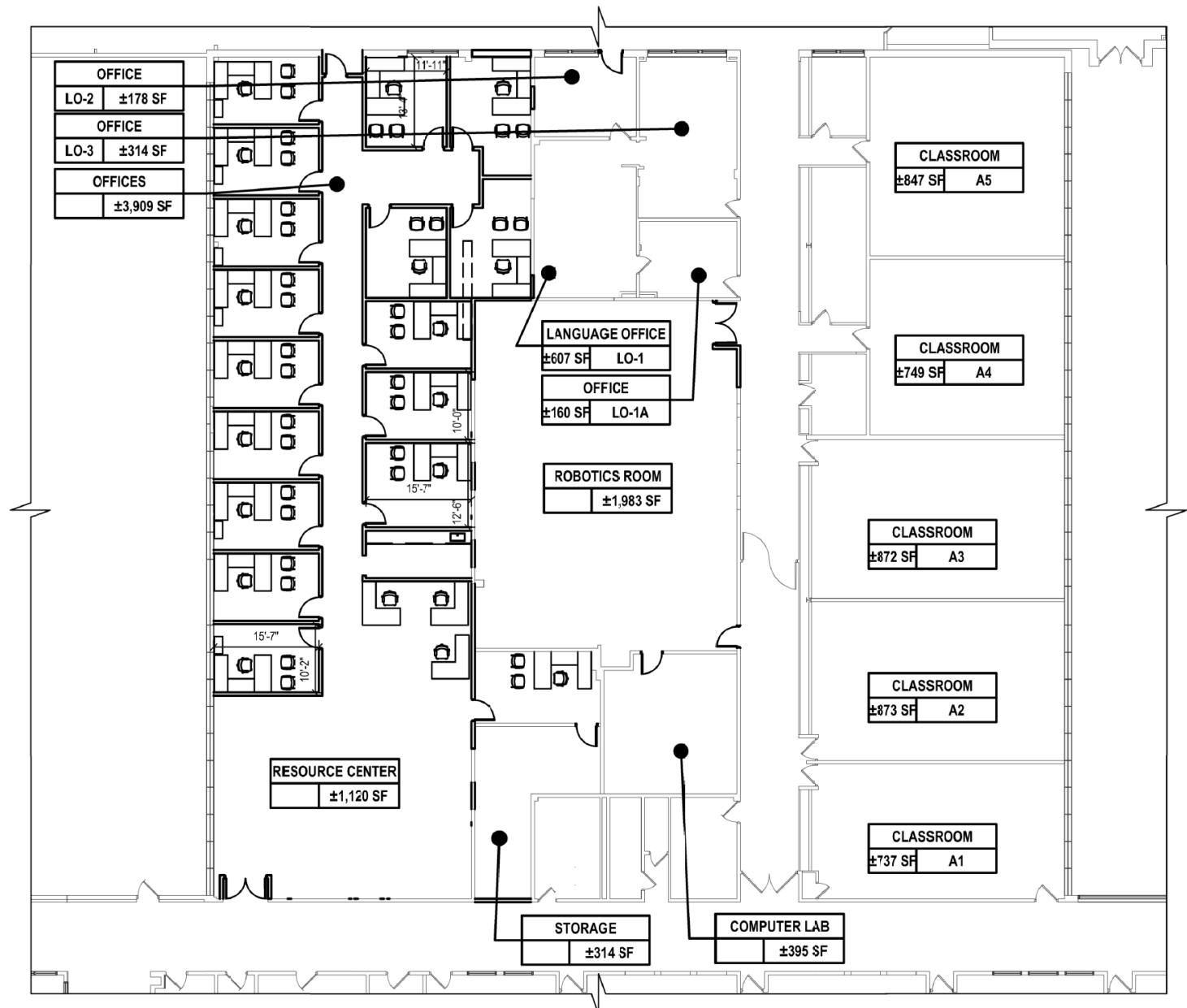
Project Detail

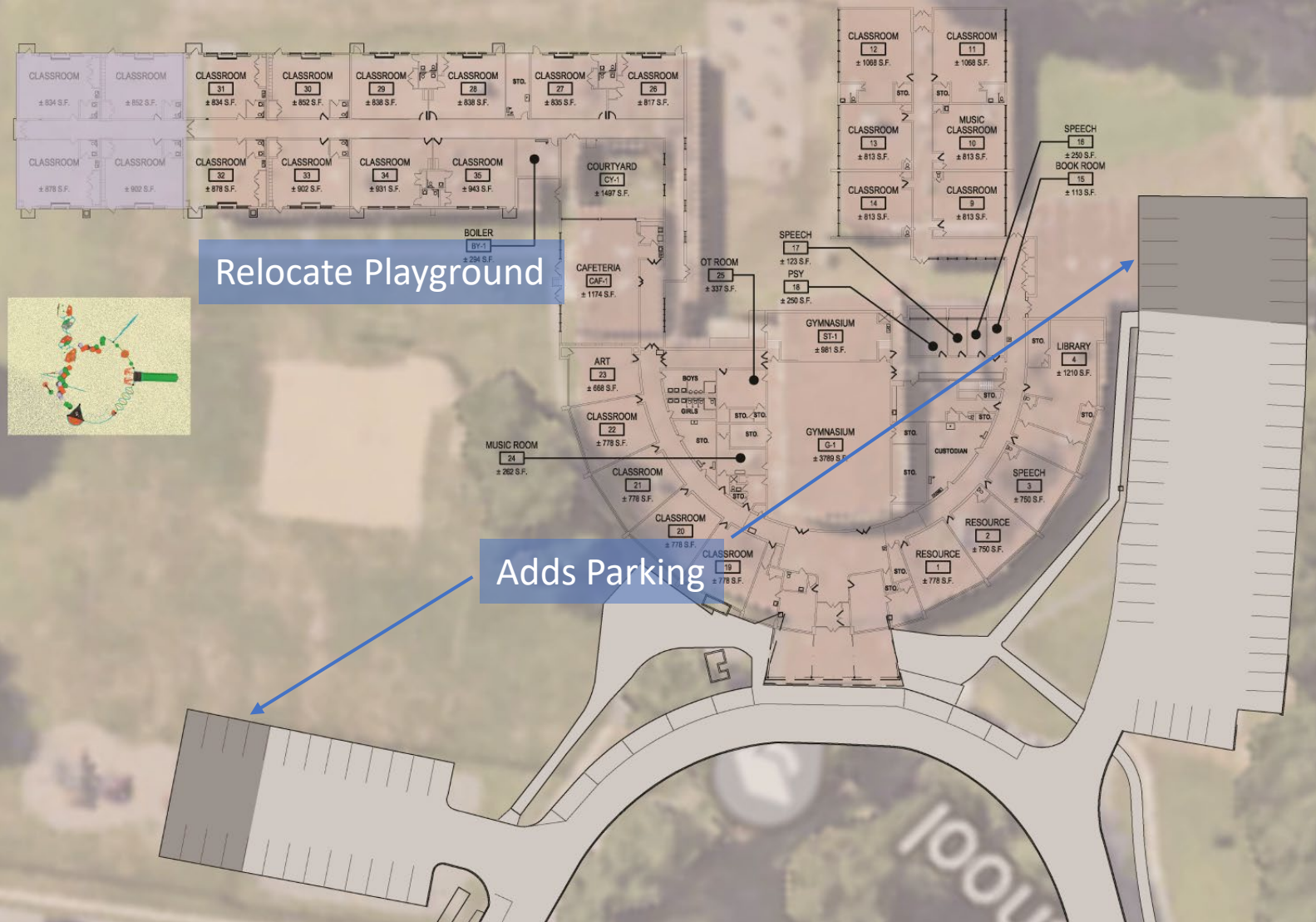
SHS Library



SHS

Guidance/Robotics





Portable Replacement (Village, Baylis)

Portable Replacement Walt Whitman

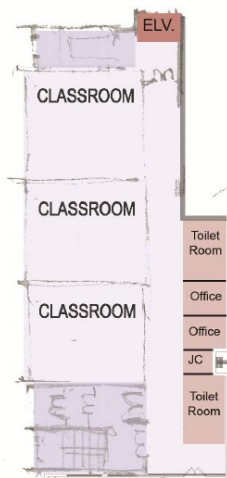


Portable Replacement Berry Hill

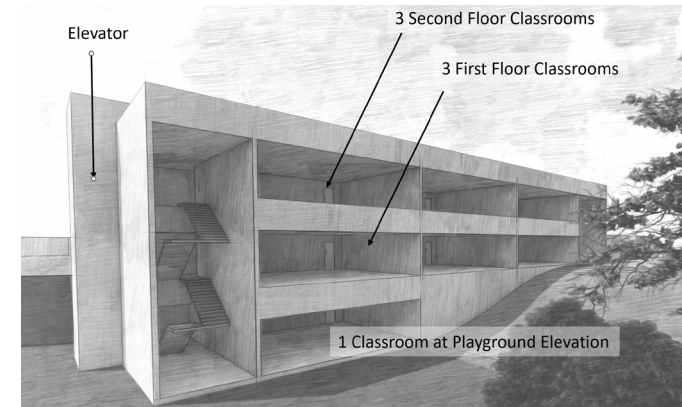
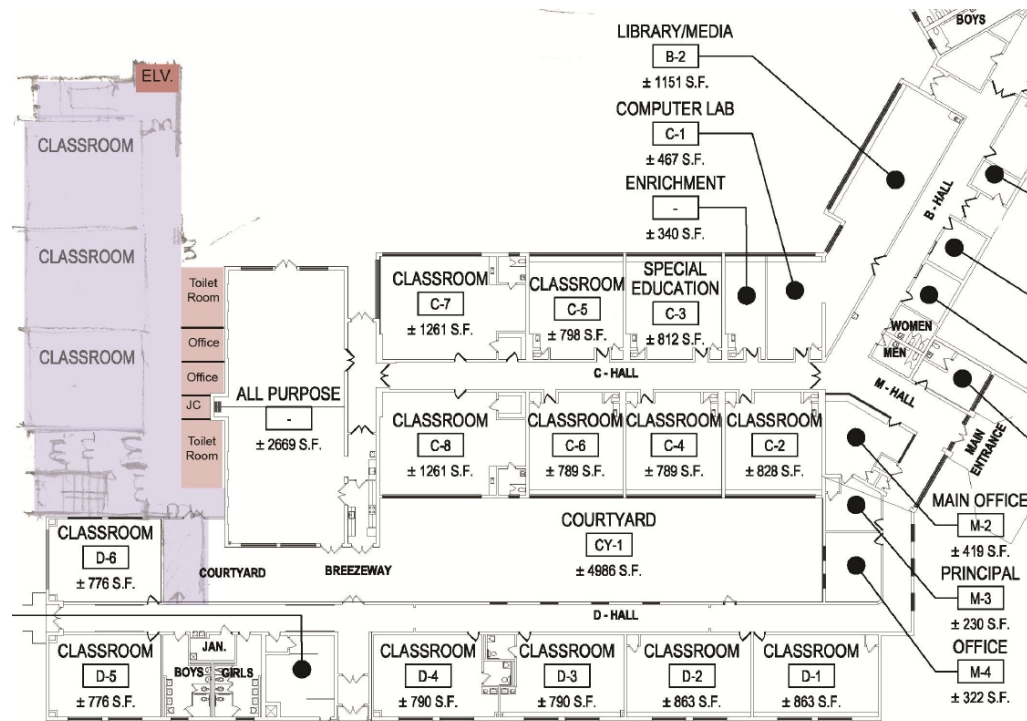
Lower Level



Second Floor



First Floor



HBT Vestibule Elevation



New Initiatives Underway

Elementary Schools

Current Initiatives

- The OLWEUS bullying-prevention program
- The Harmony Social and Emotional Program promotes intentional relationships and inclusive communities. Topics:
 - Diversity & Inclusion
 - Empathy & Critical Thinking
 - Communication & Problem Solving
 - Peer Relations
- Our faculty and staff are trained to recognize behaviors that do not align with our school's Code of Conduct and report them.
- Social Workers in every building conduct lessons aligned with our SEL Calendar. Topics:
 - Self-Awareness
 - Social/Cultural Awareness & Interpersonal Relationships
 - Decision Making & Problem Solving
- Assemblies are conducted throughout the year for the entire student body to promote pride in our schools and set expectations, including Code of Conduct programs, and Unity Day activities that build kindness, acceptance, inclusion through celebration of both similarities and differences.

Enhancements

- Programmatic
 - Adding Anti-Defamation League's "**World of Difference**" upper elementary program
 - All schools will complete **No Place for Hate** program
 - ADL requires schools to complete projects which explicitly address hate
- Staff Training
 - District staff are attending professional development at Nassau BOCES on December 4th on **Teaching the Holocaust** in age-appropriate ways at elementary school
 - **Courageous Conversations** (HTMC program through BOCES)
 - Building leaders are meeting with the leaders of Syosset's Interfaith Council to discuss curricular enhancements and resources for teaching about identity-based conflict and bias
- Curriculum
 - All 5th grade students will read Four Perfect Pebbles, A Holocaust Story by Lila Perl and Marion Blumenthal Lazan
 - Students will participate in a unified assembly with their respective future middle school classmates with the author 11/29 or

Middle Schools

Current Initiatives

- Programmatic
 - **No Place for Hate** activities teach students about bias and hateful language.
 - **Multicultural Week, World Kindness Day & Unity Day**
 - 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. includes visits to:
 - Holocaust Memorial Museum, exhibits on the Holocaust and antisemitism
 - African American Museum exhibits about racism and persecution.
 - The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to underscore the true cost of war.
- Curriculum
 - Grade 6 – “My Part of the Story: Exploring Identity in the United States,” a unit provided through **Facing History and Ourselves**
 - Comparative study of world religions originating in the Eastern Hemisphere
 - Civics & Citizenship standards demonstrate respect for the rights of others in discussion and classroom debates, introduce and examine the role of conflict resolution, and identify rights and responsibilities of citizens within societies in the Eastern Hemisphere.
 - Grade 7 – **Complexities of U.S. History** with emphasis on democracy and responsibilities of individual citizens as members of a plural society. Students learn about the contributions of the various cultural groups that have emigrated to America over time.
 - Grade 8 - **Consequences of Hate, Bias & Discrimination**
 - Nationalism and the causes of WWI, impact of the Great Depression
 - Global conflicts WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War
 - American responses to wars with emphasis on Japanese internment camps, and the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
 - The rise of Hitler and the atrocities of the Holocaust, with explicit instruction around propaganda, symbols of hate, and the persecution of Jews
 - The immigrant experience and post-war immigration policies
 - Struggles for equality including labor movement and progressive reforms including, the Civil Rights Movement, Women’s Suffrage, Native Americans, the LGBTQ community,
 - Selected readings explore civic choices and decisions citizens make in a democracy. Texts include To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee, and Rite of Passage, by Richard Wright.

Enhancements

- Programmatic
 - Students in 6th and 7th grade will have visits either to (or from) the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center (depending on HMTC’s availability)
 - Students who do not participate in the 8th grade Washington DC trip will have an alternate field trip activity to include a visit to (or from) the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center in Glen Cove.
- Staff Training
 - Implement **“Schools Where We Belong”** an expanded partnership with **Facing History and Ourselves**.
 - All staff will participate in training with additional focused Professional Development for English and for Social Studies teachers.
- Curriculum
 - 6th grade – Social Studies 6 will expand the comparative study of world religions to highlight both the grave impact of religious persecution and intolerance, as well as emphasize the positive contributions of Jewish people and notable figures across other world religions to history as well as modern society.
 - 7th grade – Health 7 curriculum will be strengthened in the areas of social health, personal identity, and our collective responsibility for the well-being of others.
- Code of Conduct
 - All students taught the possible infractions and consequences, including prohibited speech,
 - Beginning in the 23-24 school year, students and families will be asked to acknowledge their review of the Code in the same way they acknowledge the Acceptable Use Policy/Chromebook Agreement.
 - Review of the Code of Conduct will be conducted through the 6th grade transition process
 - Community Expectation conversations, inclusive of Code of Conduct review, will be held QUARTERLY throughout middle school.

High School

Current Initiatives

- Programmatic
 - All 10th grade students participate in **Holocaust Remembrance Day** in partnership with HMTC
 - Grade-level assembly with a keynote from a survivor or family member.
 - Students follow up in individual workshops with facilitators from HMTC and our community.
 - Junior Day
- Curriculum
 - **GRADE 10 - KEY IDEA 10.5: UNRESOLVED GLOBAL CONFLICT (1914–1945)**
GRADE 10 - KEY IDEA 10.10: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
 - Additional focus on human atrocities and mass murders in this time period.
 - Since the Holocaust, human rights violations have generated worldwide attention and concern. The **United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights** has provided a set of principles to guide efforts to protect threatened groups and has served as a lens to examine historical occurrences of oppression.
 - In response to World War II and the Holocaust, the United States played a major role in efforts to prevent such human suffering in the future.
 - **Mandatory reading selections spark student conversations about diversity, inclusion, and belonging:**
 - Grade 9: Brighton Beach Memoirs, by Neil Simon
 - Grade 10: The True Story of Hansel and Gretel, by Louise Murphy, Night, by Elie Wiesel, and Maus, by Art Spiegelman
 - Grade 11: The Tattooist of Auschwitz, by Heather Morris

Enhancements

- Programmatic
 - Beginning **“Schools Where We Belong”** program
 - Two-year partnership with **Facing History and Ourselves**
 - Ongoing teacher professional development and curriculum design focusing on identity, membership, and belonging.
 - **“Deconstructing Symbols of Hate”** (Grade 9) HTMC Program
 - **“Fighting Hate in Social Media and Gaming”** 20 Students attending on December 1st at Mid-Island YJCC
 - Only 20 slots available; so planning to bring the program to Syosset as well.
- Staff Training
 - Facing History and Ourselves half-day professional development “launch” for 25 humanities (ELA/SS) teachers across grades 6-12 in:
 - Classroom Contracting for Civil Discourse and
 - Navigating Difficult Conversations.
 - **“Teaching the Holocaust”** – Staff development at Nassau BOCES on December 4th. Staff will turn-key train other staff
 - **“Courageous Conversations”** (HTMC program through BOCES)
 - **Syosset’s Interfaith Council** is meeting with principals to discuss curricular enhancements and resources for teaching about identity-based conflict and bias
- Curriculum
 - Enhancing curriculum related to Civic Readiness and the Seal of Civic Readiness
 - Student Code of Conduct lesson to become annual event. Feedback from student government to help revise.

District-wide

Current Initiatives

- Leadership Team Training:
 - Jillian Whyte, Director of Client Relations, Innovative Designs for Education.
 - Microaggressions: Cultivating an Affirming Learning Environment. Creating student-centered learning environments that affirm individual identities; foster positive academic outcomes; develop student' abilities to connect across lines of difference; elevate historically marginalized voices.
 - John Krownapple, Dignityconsulting.com
 - Participants learn to co-create healthy school and classroom cultures that honor dignity and nurture belonging through three structures: interpersonal, institutional, and instructional.
 - Randy Young: Partners in Inclusivity, Inc. randy@ptrsinc.com
 - Affiliated with "The Center for Community Inclusion at Long Island University" Culturally Responsive Curriculum and Development of Cultural Competence, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion facilitator. Topics: CRE work, cultural competency building, and staff development, and curriculum writing projects.
 - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Conference (ESBOCES)
 - enhancing the capacity of educators to foster school environments that meet the needs of all learners, promote cultural competence, and to ensure voices from all groups of people within the school community are heard.
 - Reimagining Education: Teaching, Learning and Leading for a Racially Just Society (Teacher's College, Columbia University)
 - Annual four-day professional development institute held in July in New York City and Online
- Leadership and teacher team participation in the Nassau County Council of Superintendents Curriculum Committee Curriculum Projects:
 - Defining Moments...The Civil Rights Movement [Shades of Long Island: How the Syosset School District Teaches Race In the Classroom | Shades of Long Island](#)
 - New Initiative developing a **K-12 Anti-bias Curriculum** (starts Jan. 26th)
- Diversity Hiring Fair – Initiative in partnership with Nassau BOCES.

Enhancements

- Code of Conduct
 - Will be revised and clarified to provide clearer directions, expectations, and consequences for students to follow and understand.
 - The revised Code of Conduct will continue to be included in the printed District Calendar and sent to every home in the District.
 - Every new student who moves to Syosset will receive the same training on the Code experienced by their grade-level peers.
 - Enhanced staff review and training on the District Code of Conduct and DASA process (annual training is currently in place).
 - Access to the District Code of Conduct on the District Website will be easier to navigate from the home page.
 - DASA Reporting tools will be more prominent on the home page
- Professional Development
 - Leadership Team Meetings focused on immediate and ongoing conversations Professional Development and Trainings with Leaders from the Interfaith Council
 - December 4th, Professional Development: **Effective Strategies to Implement Holocaust Education for Administrators, Teachers and Librarians**
 - Expanded partnership grades 6-12 with **Facing History and Ourselves**
 - ADL Leadership Webinar: As part of the **Shine a Light Initiative** to build awareness and understanding of antisemitism, engage in a roundtable discussion with leading organizations in the fight against antisemitism and gain important understanding, tools and strategies to find success in the classroom.

END