



Educational Visioning Workshop Oliver Partnership School Feasibility Study

Workshop One Overview and Notes

June 6, 2019

On June 6, 2019, a group of approximately 25 Lawrence Public Schools, OPS and UAO administrative leaders, teachers, students, parents, and community partners participated in an Educational Visioning Workshop run by New Vista Design and SMMA. The workshop was the first of a number of anticipated collaborative sessions designed to inform the Oliver Partnership School Feasibility Study and design process. Participants were led through a step-by-step visioning process aimed at capturing their best thinking about OPS's and UAO's current and future educational goals and priorities, and connecting them to best practices and possibilities in innovative school facility design.

The June 6 workshop explored the following topics:

- **Priority Goals** for the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility
- **Future Ready Learning Goals** as connected to OPS's and UAO's present and future educational visions
- **Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals (SCOG Analysis)** associated with OPS's and UAO's current academic programs as well as their vision for a renovated and/or new facility
- **Future Ready Design Patterns** that innovative schools throughout the country have put into practice in order to support their forward-thinking learning goals on the level of facility design

All notes from the June 6 workshop can be found on the following pages, along with the workshop agenda and a list of attendees.

In the Fall of 2019 educators and students will participate in one or more additional workshops in which the following topics will be addressed:

- **Guiding Principles** for design of the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility
- **Blue Sky Ideas** for the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility
- **Bubble and Adjacency Diagramming** for the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility
- **Talking Points and Priorities** that the EFG would like to communicate to the town of Lawrence with regard to its vision and goals for the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility



Priorities and Considerations

The following list of priorities and considerations for the design of the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility was brainstormed during the participant introduction section of Educational Visioning Workshop One, on June 6, 2019. The group included approximately 25 participants from Lawrence Public Schools, OPS and UAO leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners. Priorities have been grouped by like themes.



Community Access

- Common spaces with access to community
- Performance space
- Full size gym
- Dance Studio
- Music room
- On site kitchen for cafeteria

An Up-To-Date School

- Resources that are up to date
- Handicapped and Universal Access
- Technology
- Science LAB
- Computer LAB
- Art LAB

Family Support

- Parent Resource Room
- Health Clinic

Display and Exhibition

- Whiteboard with magnets to display students work

Flexible and Adaptable Spaces/Classrooms

- Flexible learning spaces
 - Learning suite
 - Regulation size gym - multi use
- Flexible furniture
 - Standing desks
 - Movable desks
- Designated common areas
- Areas for small group instruction
- Individual/group work
- Flexible and adaptable learning spaces
 - I.e. most classes can be combined easily

Acoustic and Visual Comfort

- Academic spaces that minimize noise/visual distraction
- Thicker doors with thicker windows
- Music room with sound-deadening

Thermal Comfort

- Windows that open with screens
- Air conditioning

Priorities and Considerations Continued

A Place You Want to Be

- A space that is beautiful/comfortable
- Teachers and students can have fun

Gathering and Performance Spaces

- Rooms where both schools/students can interact
 - Controlled connectivity between OPS and UAO
- Large common space(s) for collaboration and meetings
- Cafetorium or gymnasium
 - Great acoustics
 - Fit parents for performances
- Big multi-purpose room
 - Host large group performances

Areas to Read and Focus

- Reading LAB with all resources
- Reading spaces in classrooms with bean bags
- Really big library with lots of books and space for reading
- Spaces that feel collegiate and scholarly to promote school-focused mindset
 - I.e. Library/Workspace
- Safe room for Special Education students to deescalate or cool down
- Big gym space for volleyball and basketball

School Store

- Students can have jobs and practice real life skills

Hands-On Learning

- Home Economics room with stove and fridge

Centrally Located Cafeteria

- Big bright modern kitchen and cafeteria
 - Age appropriate spaces and student tables
 - Needs a loading dock for deliveries
- Separate zones for lunch and recess

Indoor and Outdoor Play

- Playground that can be used year round
- Space for students to run around during recess/indoor/outdoor

Safety and Security

- Safety exits near classrooms
- Security system
- Visual access
- Safe outdoor play areas for kids
- Classroom safety in lockdown situation

Storage

- Lots of safe storage
 - Classroom materials
 - Student storage

Parking and Traffic Flow

- Drop off and pick-up
- Site access





Future Ready Learning Goals

The following set of priority “Future Ready Learning Goals” for Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver students was developed during Educational Visioning Workshop One. Four teams of 5-6 participants worked to create their own set of Learning Goals, after which each team presented to the larger group. Each team’s list was then grouped by like goals, with each Learning Goal receiving 6 votes for appearing on an original list.



1. Social Emotional Learning (36 Votes)

- Empathy and Caring
- Integrity and Ethical Decision Making
- Global Perspective and Awareness
- Cultural Awareness
- Civic Competencies

2. Critical Thinking (30 Votes)

- Problem Solving
- Analytical Thinking
- Synthesis and Evaluation

3. Real World Connection (30 Votes)

- Application of Learning
- Effective Use of Real-World Tools

4. Leadership & Teamwork (30 Votes)

- Collaboration
- Self-Directed Learning
- Setting Goals

5. Communication (24 Votes)

- Effective Written and Oral Skills
- Technology Literacy

6. Curiosity, Creativity and Risk-Taking (12 Votes)

- Joy
- Success and Failure

7. Mastery of Academic Content (12 Votes)

- Math, Science, Language Arts, Technology and Foreign Language



OPS SCOG Analysis

The following list of Strengths, Challenges, and Opportunities & Goals with regard to the Oliver Partnership School’s programming and facilities was brainstormed by OPS teachers and administrators during the Educational Visioning Workshop that took place on June 6, 2019. The group included approximately 25 participants from Lawrence Public Schools, OPS and UAO leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners. Responses have been grouped by like themes.



OPS STRENGTHS

- Strong staff
- Students known well
- Excellent curriculum
- Parent communication
 - Shared information
- PTA
- Central location
 - Near library
 - Near two parks
 - Lots of activities
 - Good connection to district support
 - Location supports parents/events
- Adult learning and community center
- Architecture and history of building
- Collaboration and common planning time
- 4/5 grade teams
 - Two teachers per team
 - Humanities/STEM
- Intervention / PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)
- Effective and creative use of all spaces
 - Expert at making due
- Strong Professional Development opportunities for teachers
- Push in pull out approach to Special Education
- Specials
 - Fine arts
 - Music
 - TECH/STM
 - Physical Education
- Enrichment
 - Boy Scouts
 - Girl Scouts
 - Dance
 - Nutrition
 - Karate
 - Intramural Sports



OPS CHALLENGES

- Our central location can be a challenge in terms of logistics
- Getting kids in and out of building
 - Pick-up & drop off
 - Transportation
 - Buses
 - Crossing the street
- Language barriers
- Students with chronic absences
- Schedule - we run 5 lunches
- Hard to schedule classroom support

- Having nine entrances does not promote safety
 - Old doors are easy to prop open
 - The homeless population can access the building
- Space is a challenge
 - Classrooms are small
 - Not much space for small group work
 - Hard to find places to meet with parents for private meetings
 - No place to deescalate students
 - Outdoor recess (lack of space and materials)
- Windows do not open / no screens
- Rain comes into some classrooms



OPS OPPORTUNITIES & GOALS

- Create a shared space - Learning Commons
 - Support Indoor recess
- Support co-teaching opportunities
- Provide more robust technology
 - Tap into language translation
- Space for PTO
- Restructuring of English Language Learners' program
 - Fit in Newcomer Program
 - Involve EL parents more
- Expand PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program
 - Leverage fellowship
- Create a safe/welcoming entry area
 - Provide a sheltered place for students and parents to wait near the entry

- Provide separate entries for upper and lower schools
- Facilitate better pick-up/drop-off of students
- Improve indoor/outdoor connections
 - Provide spaces for recess
- Create a Flyover (bridge) into park that is enclosed
- Celebrate history
- Improve cafeteria
 - Students can enjoy lunch more
 - Practice social skills
- Provide more and closer bathrooms and water fountains
- Provide more storage in classrooms/hallways
 - Cubbies for storage



UAO SCOG Analysis

The following list of Strengths, Challenges and Opportunities & Goals with regard to Up Academy Oliver’s programming and facilities was brainstormed by UAO teachers and administrators during the Educational Visioning Workshop that took place on June 6, 2019. The group included approximately 25 participants from Lawrence Public Schools, OPS and UAO leadership, as well as administrators, teachers, students, parents and community partners. Responses have been grouped by like themes.



UAO STRENGTHS

- Strong academic program
 - Data collection and analysis
- Community and connection between staff and students
 - Solid relationships and collaboration
 - Empathy
- Staff to staff relationships are very strong
 - With culture of collaboration, honesty and trust
- Academic background of teachers
- Everyone is open to trying new things
- Good balance between play and learning
- Enrichment
 - Activities that are chosen by the students of all grade levels
 - A time when students come together



UAO CHALLENGES

- Collaboration across ESL, Special Education and general content teachers – due to classroom locations
- Creating vertical connections across and within departments
- Budget
 - Understaffed (large teacher loads)
 - Provide the meals based on budget/district/teachers, etc.
- Intimidating building, which is not inviting for students or parents
- Lack of space and availability of space
 - Large class sizes - classes of 30 and no space
 - Not enough spaces for breaks
- Orientation of classrooms
- Transition to and from classrooms
 - Seating for long periods of time in the same classroom and changing periods



UAO OPPORTUNITIES & GOALS

- Create flexible spaces
- Provide common learning spaces
- Support self-directed learning - similar to higher education learning
- Smaller class sizes
- Subject based classrooms
- Pull-out spaces near classrooms
- Open opportunities for student/parent activities
- Offer elective courses
- Support learning across grades
- Support activities within classrooms that allow students to move around
- Individualized schedules





Desired Future Ready Design Patterns

The following set of priority “Future Ready Design Patterns” for the design of the renovated and/or new OPS/UAO school facility was developed during Educational Visioning Workshop One, on June 6, 2019. Teams of OPS and UAO teachers, administrators and students each worked to create their own list of desired Design Patterns which are listed below, with those identified by both groups listed first.

Shared OPS and UAO Design Patterns

The following Desired Future Ready Design Patterns were identified by both OPS and UAO teams as being important to them.

a) Welcoming Entry and Reception Area



b) Clusters of Learning

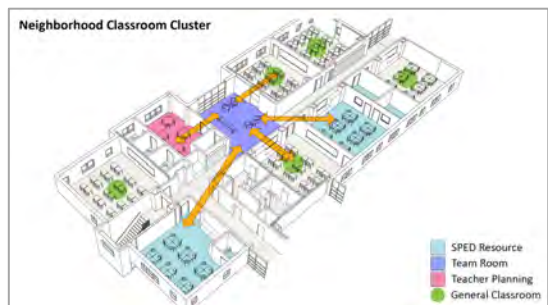
- Grade Level Neighborhoods

c) Gathering and Commons Spaces

- With durable furniture

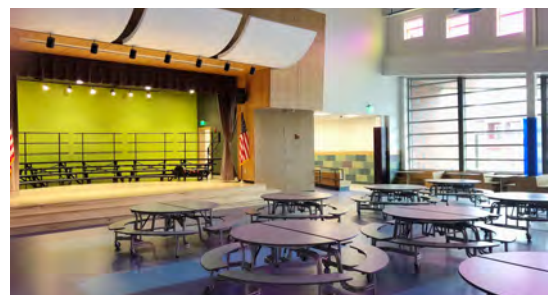
d) Quiet Spaces

- But students must be visible



e) Cafetorium/Multi-Purpose Space

- The stage should not be in the Gym
- The Gym needs its own space



f) Branding and Identity

- Should be distinct for each school

Additional Desired Design Patterns Highlighted by OPS

The following Desired Future Ready Design Patterns were identified by the OPS team as being important to them. This does not signify that these are not of importance to the UOA faculty as well, only that they were highlighted by OPS workshop participants during this activity as having particular resonance for them.

- a) Safety and Security
- b) Gatekeeping
- c) Agile Classrooms
- d) Flexible Furniture
- e) Learning Commons Media Center
- f) Distributed Dining Zones and Resources
- g) Child Scaled
- h) Professional Work Areas
- i) Centralized Enrichment Spaces
- j) Display, Exhibition and History
- k) Outdoor Connections (not open to public)
- l) Engaged Outdoor Play
- m) Sustainability
- n) Roof Garden



Additional Desired Design Patterns Highlighted by UAO

The following Desired Future Ready Design Patterns were identified by UAO team as being important to them. This does not signify that these are not of importance to the OPS faculty as well, only that they were highlighted by UAO workshop participants during this activity as having particular resonance for them.

a) Parent, Community and Family Room

b) Different Entrances for Both Schools

c) Different Identities for Both Schools

- #RISEUP Values are integral to UAO

d) Natural Light

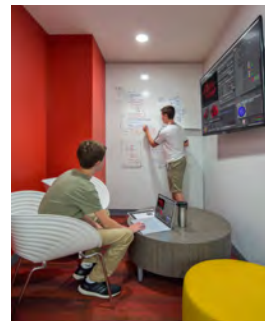
- With shades and screens

e) Pull Out Rooms

- Connected and close to classrooms

f) Common Space

- For students to do independent work





Educational Visioning Workshop
Oliver Partnership School Feasibility Study
Workshop One

June 6, 2019 – 1:00-4:00 PM

Agenda

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: By the end of the session we will have begun to...

- Share **Priority Goals** for Lawrence Public School’s master planning process and the design of the renovated and/or new Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver
- Discuss 21st century teaching and learning strategies and identify **21st Century Learning Goals** as connected to current and future best-practices within Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver
- Assess Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver’s **Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals** with regard to the development of its academic programs and school facilities
- Share **Visions for the Future** evolution and growth of Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver
- Explore and prioritize a range of architectural **Design Patterns** that will best support forward-thinking teaching and learning within Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver

Time	Activity	Purpose
1:00 – 1:30	<p>Workshop Goals and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop overview • The Design Process / Creating a Design Guide • Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Priority Goals for the elementary school planning process 	<p>Introduce participants and clarify agenda and desired outcomes for this workshop. Share some of our priority goals for Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver’s planning process.</p>
1:30 – 2:15	<p>21st Century Schools and Learning Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Presentation: 21st Century Teaching and Learning • Video and discussion • Small group review of assorted 21st century learning goals and outcomes and creation of priority listings • Large group prioritization 	<p>Identify and discuss elements of 21st century teaching and learning as connected to Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver’s approach to its educational programming.</p> <p>Ground our thinking about design guidelines and desired building features in a discussion and exploration of 21st century learning goals for Lawrence Public Schools’ programming.</p>

2:15 – 2:30	BREAK	
2:30 – 3:00	<i>OPS/UAO SCOG Analysis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorm of Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver’s Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Goals 	Identify what is presently working well within Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver, what is challenging, and what opportunities exist with regard to the further development of academic programs and the renovated and/or new school facility.
3:00– 3:55	<i>Future Ready School Facility Design Patterns</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and Q&A <i>Design Patterns for OPS and UAO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small group review of assorted facility Design Patterns Creation of priority listings Large group prioritization 	Ground our thinking about design guidelines and desired building features in a discussion and exploration of new school Design Patterns. Identify priority Design Patterns for L Oliver Partnership School and Up Academy Oliver ‘s renovated and/or new facility.
3:55 – 4:00	<i>Closing and Next Steps</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next Steps review and Q&A 	Hear from participants about their questions and thoughts.



Visioning Workshop One Participant List

NAME	POSITION	EMAIL
1. Carol Noonan	Nutrition Services Director	carol.noonan@lawrence.k12.ma.us
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