



Thorson Elementary School – LRMP Priority Needs

February 5, 2018

DRAFT

The following list of “Priority Needs” at the **Thorson Elementary School** was compiled and created using all the collected data from the staff, student, parent and community focus groups held over the past few months. The identified themes and subsequent needs will serve as a guide to support potential solutions.

Increase Building Capacities

- Additional classrooms to accommodate student growth projections.
- Ample dedicated storage spaces for all learning spaces.
- Additional classrooms to permit flexibility of scheduling and class offerings.
- Increase classroom space to accommodate for various student work areas and for project-based learning.
- Remove storage from hallways to improve student flow.

Teaching and Learning / Program

- Redesign classrooms and learning spaces that are easily reconfigured.
- Improve accessibility and proximity of same grade level classrooms to form grade level clusters.
- Add adaptable and flexible age-appropriate furniture.
- Add makerspaces, Project Lead The Way (PLTW) and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) programs to further critical thinking, problem solving skills and career exposure.
- Add a media room.
- A dedicated art and music room (orchestra) with adequate storage natural light and sound proofing.

Cafeteria Spaces and Large Group Assembly Spaces

- Multi-purpose space to accommodate all-school activities.
- Breakout spaces for small group and individual instruction.
- Large group instructional space separate from current lunchroom.
- Repurpose the presentation room to allow for greater flexibility and usage for breakout sessions and PIE (Prevention, Intervention, Extension) instruction.
- Redesign Instructional Media Center (IMC) to increase flexibility and prevent hallway distractions.

Collaboration and breakout Spaces

- Provide adequate, functional small group breakout spaces dispersed throughout the school.
- Add collaborative meeting spaces for students, staff and parents.



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Community Access

- Develop multi-use space for students before and after school; four-year-old kindergarten students opposite their school day; community groups and student activities.
- Spaces that allow for increased/ continued interaction and partnerships with community, industry, and businesses.
- Community controlled access separate from the rest of the school.

Natural Light, Windows and Views of Nature

- Improve access to natural lighting throughout the entire building.

Traffic Flow, Circulation, Parking, Drop-off and Pick-up

- Improve pedestrian safety by increasing parking spaces.
- Reconfigure traffic pattern through parking lot to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety.

Safety, Security and Infrastructure

- Attach Health Room to the main office.
- Separate boys' and girls' kindergarten restrooms that have their own designated entrance/exit from that of the classrooms.
- Control access at all building entryways.
- Provide interior cameras in hallways.