

Commitment to Choice

The San Jose Unified School District offers a wide array of magnet and special programs so that all students can find areas of focus and interest. These District-wide choice programs allow exceptional learning opportunities by providing students broad and in-depth knowledge and skills in seven highly specialized secondary program areas.

Academic, Visual and Performing Arts

Lincoln High, Hoover Middle, and Castillero Schools

Telecommunications

Gunderson, and Steinbeck Schools

Arts, Sciences and Telecommunications

Steinbeck School

College/University Readiness

Willow Glen Middle and High Schools

Communications

Leland and Bret Harte Schools

Environmental Sciences and Technology

Pioneer and John Muir Schools

International Baccalaureate and Technology

San Jose High Academy and Burnett Middle Schools

History of the Process

Fall, 2000: cluster meetings held with middle and high school principals to review bond funding and specialized needs.

Fall 2002: principal and site meetings with staff, students and community to further define programmatic requirements.

Winter 2002: site meetings with Turner Construction (Program Manager) and HMC Architects (Program Architects) to review scope and budgetary implications

Program Description:

The general areas of work identified at each school were as follows;

specialized instructional programs

specialized
instructional
program

S.I.P.

San José Unified School District

Middle Schools:

Peter Burnett

Theme: International Baccalaureate (IB) and Technology

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

Burnett intends to enhance curriculum offerings by establishing four centers on its campus that will provide intensive IB instructional opportunities. Each center will focus on a key academic component of the IB program: 1) Humanities and social sciences; 2) math/science; 3) Language arts; 4) Integrated curriculum. Current facilities will be remodeled to accommodate teacher professional development and high-end technology applications specifically suited to each course of study.

Castillero Middle School

Theme: Academic, Visual and Performing Arts

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

Castillero would like to enhance its outdoor stage and audience areas as well as convert the former wood shop classroom into a practice stage or black-box type of theater in support of the performing arts theme. The flexible configuration of the black box theater will provide an opportunity for a wide variety of performing venues. To support the arts and academics, a technology lab will offer students opportunities in multi-media, MIDI, art and illustration, and academic enrichment.

Bret Harte Middle School

Theme: Communications

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

As part of Bret Harte's overall effort to enhance its Communications theme, facilities will be reconfigured to provide a TV studio, radio station, video conferencing center, and two technology labs to enhance instruction, communication and teacher professional development.

Herbert Hoover Middle School

Theme: Academic, Visual and Performing Arts

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

Remodel the east wing of the historic Hoover building to enhance the school's visual and performing arts program offerings. This remodel will include a 200-seat theater and the necessary support spaces such as green rooms, dressing rooms, storage, rehearsal space, and public restrooms to serve theater patrons. Improvements to the existing Little Theater will also provide expanded rehearsal and performance venues.

John Muir Middle School

Theme: Environmental Sciences & Technology

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

As part of Muir's overall effort to provide all students with greater access to technologies that enhance the study of environmental sciences, remodel the 800 wing to provide multi media labs and expanded media storage facilities. Provide venues for student presentations and staff professional development, while supporting study in core subject areas. Provide lighting and technology enhancements to stage area, which is immediately adjacent to these classrooms, to support distance learning and to facilitate presentation of student projects created in the multi media labs.

Steinbeck Middle School

Theme: Arts, Sciences and Telecommunications

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

To support the arts, sciences and technology theme, the staff of Steinbeck has identified facility improvements to provide students additional performing arts and exhibition opportunities in the Media Center Art Gallery and the Stage multi purpose area. In support of the telecommunications theme, a center will be established to provide additional student learning and teacher professional development opportunities utilizing high-end video/audio telecommunications and presentation technologies. The Science theme will be supported by the addition of science classrooms in currently under-utilized facilities.

Willow Glen Middle School

Theme: College Center

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

WGMS and WGHS have partnered in the design of a facility, attached to the current media center, which will provide grade 6-12 students, parents and community opportunities to take college/university courses before, during and after school. This facility will be modeled after the newly constructed learning facility on the San Jose City College campus. The two facilities will be linked via internet and video conferencing. As a satellite college-learning center, it will provide opportunities for high school concurrent credit, adult education, and teacher professional development.

specialized
instructional
program

S. i. P.

San José Unified School District

High Schools:

Gunderson High School

Theme: Telecommunications

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

The staff at Gunderson would like to enhance its Telecommunications/Multi-Media theme to include the creation of audio/video production studios and editing rooms. Facility upgrades of existing computer labs and the existing Communication Center will accommodate expanded Teleconferencing/Telecommunications applications to support student learning and teacher professional development.

Leland High School

Theme: Communication Arts

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

To enhance the Leland Communication Arts theme, the staff would like to remodel the J wing to a more flexible/transparent, open space configurations to support a Communications Center. The Center will provide students the opportunity to develop Communication themed projects through animation, filmmaking, journalism, photography and speech and debate.

Lincoln High School

Theme: Academic, Visual and Performing Arts

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

In an effort to further enhance its Performing Arts theme, Lincoln would like to make modifications to its existing Black Box Theater. Those modifications include closing off the food service windows from the Theater; adding a Lobby with a Snack Bar and a Box Office, providing access from the new Lobby to Restrooms for audience use, and installing air-conditioning as well as constructing Dressing Rooms and a Prop/Storage Room. Improve the existing Dance Classroom to include acoustic treatment and a wood dance floor for student safety.

Pioneer High School

Theme: Environmental Sciences and Technology

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

Pioneer High has identified improvements to its Science Labs, above and beyond the SJUSD Facilities Standards for high school science labs, to support its Environmental Sciences theme. In addition to some basic science curriculum needs, upgrades will include remodeling of existing spaces, addition of a high end Physiology Lab and appropriate technology upgrades, as well as internet access and video conferencing for each science classroom. Science Labs will provide students and staff immediate connectivity to local educational resources as the Monterey Aquarium and Tech Museum as well as state and national educational venues.

San Jose High Academy

Theme: International Baccalaureate (IB) and Technology

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

In alignment with Burnett, SJHA will enhance IB curriculum offerings by establishing four centers on the campus that will provide intensive IB instructional opportunities. Each center will focus on a key academic component of the IB program: 1) Humanities and social sciences; 2) math/science; 3) Language arts; 4) Integrated curriculum. Current facilities will be remodeled to accommodate teacher professional development and high-end technology applications specifically suited to each course of study.

Willow Glen High School

Theme: College Center

Curriculum/Facilities Alignment Goal:

In partnership with WGMS, WGHS has collaborated in the design of a facility, attached to the current media center, which will provide grade 6-12 students, parents and community opportunities to take college/university courses before, during and after school. The facility will be modeled after the newly constructed learning facility on the San Jose City College campus. The two facilities will be linked via internet and video conferencing. As a satellite college-learning center, the facility will provide opportunities for high school concurrent credit, adult education, and teacher professional development.