



Call to Artists

53 Commissions for Permanent Two & Three Dimensional Artworks!

→APPLY ONLINE AT: <https://dcdgs.call2artists.com>

Applications Due May 29, 2023

Opportunity

The Department of General Services (“Department” or “DGS”) is issuing this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to engage individual artists and artistic teams (Artist) to respond to this Call to Artists with professional qualifications in addition to a proposal of site-specific artistic capital improvements for the renovation and additions to the following properties in Washington, DC. The Artists shall develop a new original permanent work of art made specifically for each awarded commission.

1. Garfield Elementary School
2. Whitlock Elementary School
3. School Without Walls at Francis Stevens
4. Dorothy Height Elementary School
5. Stead Park Recreation Center
6. Joy Evans Therapeutic Recreation Center

Project Goals, Themes, & Budget

This Call for Artists seeks works of art for the following spaces throughout the listed properties below. Please be very specific (referring to School or Recreation Center and Location number) as which piece(s) of art you are responding to. There is one online application where you can just check off the commissions for which you are applying.

About DGS and the Percent for Art program

The Department of General Services (DGS) began its percent for art program in 2013 as a way to support our local creative economy and complement our award-winning architecture with diverse and inspiring permanent works of art. Since inception, DGS has commissioned nearly 400 works of art for nearly 20 properties – about 75 new works of art per year for the city. Our portfolio includes schools, shelters, parks and recreation and office buildings. Note: our sister agencies – the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities has a very robust public art program, as does DC Department of Public Works Mural Program, DC Libraries and DC Department of Transportation. In addition, in D.C., the GSA and Metro also have very robust public art programs. Thus, we are honored to do our part in a vibrant network of cultural resources in Washington, D.C. to support artists and elevate our built environment.

Our commissions range from large scale exterior sculptures, installations, suspended works of art, mixed media, paintings, illustrations, graphics, photography, furniture and even poetry. The program always reserves at least 50% of its commissions to DC artists or artists represented by DC galleries to ensure that our tax dollars are reinvested back into our local community. Even artists from outside of D.C. typically contribute to our local creative economy by working with local fabricators, printers, equipment rental outfits and installers – some of whom have even taken on emerging artists as assistants for installation and as mentees. All in all, we have a profound and deep gratitude for the artists, architects, construction teams and community who contribute to each commission.

The Department of General Services (DGS) has a mission to elevate the quality of life for the District with superior construction, first-rate maintenance and expert real estate management. By building and maintaining safe and green state-of-the-art facilities which foster economic growth and elevate educational environments, our trusted and skillful employees create modern and vibrant communities across all of the District of Columbia.

The Department of General Services (DGS), a relatively newly-established District agency, provides cost-effective, centralized facility management services. In October of 2011, the agency assumed the functions and responsibilities of the Department of Real Estate Services (DRES), Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization (OPEFM), Municipal Facilities: Non-Capital agency, and the capital construction and real property management functions of several other District agencies.

DGS improves the efficiencies of basic services, while removing redundancies, to provide the most cost-effective management and ensure the best value of the District's property acquisition, construction and maintenance resources.

Eligibility

The competition is open to professional artists with a minimum of five years of site-specific and/or public art experience. Some categories are restricted to artists from Washington, D.C. or artists who are represented by a D.C. gallery. Artists should have demonstrated experience working with community representatives, youth, businesses and government entities. In addition, the selected artist shall actively engage and collaborate with local residents.

Selection Criteria & Process

The selection panel, representing diverse interests and expertise, will review images submitted by artists and recommend (3) three to (5) five Finalists for each project for the first (1st) round. Each Finalist will be awarded a \$500 honorarium to create a site-specific design proposal that includes a rendering, an itemized budget, a project timeline, and a project narrative. For the second (2nd) round, the selection panel will review the design proposals, references will be checked and then (1) one finalist/team for the project will be recommended. Finalists will be notified by email. The artist's presentation of the site-specific proposal to the panel will be held virtually via "GoTo Meeting." Please note the Calendar and Timeline below.

Local finalists are welcome to attend the site visit (but DGS will share pictures to everyone via email)

The Public Art Evaluation Criteria used for Round 2 finalists will consider the artistic content, community engagement & impact, and capacity & sustainability

Artistic Content

The applicant's work sample and support materials (brochures, articles, letters of support, etc.) demonstrate high standards of artistic excellence within the chosen discipline(s);
Artist(s) and/or applicant's written concept exhibits high quality, innovation and creativity
Applicant has experience with site specific public art projects and uses personnel with demonstrated arts expertise (such as arts administrator, professional artists) to plan and implement artistic content;
The described project, goals and schedule of planned activities are feasible;
The applicant demonstrates a commitment to hiring DC-based artists, where applicable, to deliver artistic content (such as arts administrators, professional artists); and
Artist(s) and/or applicant demonstrate the ability to translate artistic discipline to project participants.
The Artist's portfolio of work is feasible for this particular project.

Community Engagement and Impact

Project provides shared learning opportunities in the District that facilitate a greater participation in the arts, relative to the artistic discipline
Applicant demonstrates sensitivity to the cultural, ethnic and economic background of the participants and the residents of the District of Columbia
Project addresses significant diversity of expression; Project addresses needs of the community;
Project location(s) and presentation(s) are accessible to persons with disabilities; and
Applicant has substantive experience working with community representatives, landscape architects, business and government entities

Notes:

2D: Two-dimensional. 2D pieces, typically wall-mounted, can be either bas relief, mixed media, painting, or printed. 2D pieces shall not protrude more than 4" from the wall surface and shall be kid-safe.

3D: Three-dimensional. Typically for exterior or interior-suspended. Works shall be child-friendly, meaning touchable (if in reach as opposed to suspended works for example), kid-safe and durable.

There are two (2) selection processes:

Request for Qualifications (RFQ), whereby an Artist and/or Team submits images of prior work demonstrating a minimum of five years of site-specific public art experience.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 29, 2023

SEMI-FINALISTS ANNOUNCED: June 20, 2023

The finalist for each location will be determined through an Art Selection Committee selection process. Due to the quantity of artwork being commissioned, the Selection Committee reserves the right to direct commission and/or select artists who applied for one commission location for any other location. This will be a commission for a new original permanent work of art made specifically for the site. A site visit will be conducted in concert with the architect and general contractor prior to the submittal of a site-specific design proposal and photos will be shared with out-of-town finalists, or finalists who are otherwise unable to attend the site visit.

SITE SPECIFIC DESIGN PROPOSAL DEADLINE: August 23, 2023

Site Specific Design Proposals shall include or consider the following:

- Fabricated from durable, low-maintenance material that can withstand the elements and requires minimal maintenance. This work will be permanently installed in a school or recreation center and must be able to withstand in an environment of very rigorous usage
- The work commissioned is for permanent installation and therefore should last for at least 50 years.
- Incorporate context of the local community, with sensitivity to the history, traditions and iconography that uplift the pride of the community.
- Adhere to requisite ADA and safety regulations.
- Engaging and enjoyable to individuals of all ages and backgrounds.
- DGS will prepare the site for installation, which may include blocking walls for reinforcement, concrete pads for exterior works and lighting. HOWEVER, the artist shall provide all installation, including fabrication, delivery, lifts, cabling, bolting, and other similar items. The artist shall work with DGS to confirm installation arrangements.
- We do have a list of local museum installers, rental companies and printers that can be of assistance if needed.
- Since the permanent installations will be located in very active environments (schools, shelters, recreation centers, etc.), it is crucial that your proposal consists of materials and/or coatings that are durable. For instance, for paintings and other flat surfaces, we require two (2) coats of UV/graffiti protection. For paintings, we typically have them pasted onto the surface with a simple wood frame built around it – so that if the work needs to be removed in the future, it can be saved and carefully removed from the original location. If the artwork is installed at human height level, your work should be able to withstand touching and be extremely durable and easily cleaned. These details can be fleshed out in final design but should be accounted for in your budget.
- **Three (3) References from recent projects**

Capacity and Sustainability

The applicant is sufficiently stable, in terms of arts expertise, organizational capacity, and financial status to implement the proposed project;
 The applicant demonstrates the internal capacity to administer the project and has appropriate financial monitoring systems in place to track expenditures
 The applicant’s budget information is detailed, accurate, feasible, and directly related to the project. All items are eligible expenses;
 The applicant has experience in producing similar public art projects; The work of art is designed to last for at least 50 years; and
 The design proposal and the selection committee’s recommendations will be forwarded to the DGS for review and final approval. The artist whose design is approved will then enter into an agreement with DGS for final design, fabrication and installation of the artwork.

The final selection is conditioned upon a positive reference check.

Project Timeline

Public Art Timeline		
Activity	Start Date	End Date
Call-2-Artists/ RFQ Advertised on DGS's Website		Friday, May 5, 2023
RFQ Application Deadline for Artists		Monday, May 29, 2023
Semifinalists Notified and Announced	Tuesday, June 13, 2023	to Tuesday, June 20, 2023
Site Review & Share Photos With Out-of-Town Artists	Wednesday, June 21, 2023	to Wednesday, July 12, 2023
Site Specific Proposal Deadline		Wednesday, August 23, 2023
Consensus Meeting w' Panel to Confirm Winning Artists	Friday, September 29, 2023	to Friday, October 13, 2023
Announcement and Winning Artists Notified	Friday, October 13, 2023	to Friday, October 20, 2023
Artist's Jobsite Review, or Photos Shared, Survey	Monday, October 23, 2023	to Monday, November 6, 2023
Final Design Mtg, Contracts Issued, Process 1st Payment	Tuesday, November 7, 2023	to Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Fabrication, Delivery and Installation	Wednesday, November 29, 2023	to Friday, June 28, 2024
Installation Deadline		Friday, June 28, 2024

RFQ SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Round One – Complete the On-line Form Located at:

<https://dgs.dc.gov/page/dgs-solicitations> - then choose which commission(s) for which you wish to apply. There is one on-line application this year, on which you can apply to all properties at the same time. However, you will need to download each Call to Artists to access the pdf that has art package with the floor plans and elevations for each project.

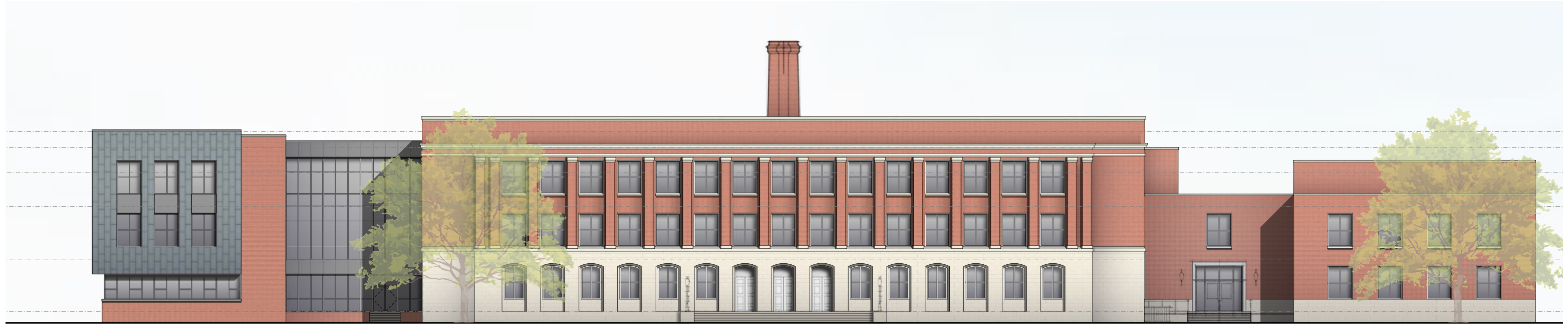
2. Round Two – Submit the Design Proposal(s)

TO SUBMIT PRESENTATION(S) FOR ROUND 2:

-PRIOR TO THE VIRTUAL SITE-SPECIFIC PROPOSAL PRESENTATION, ARTISTS SHALL SUBMIT THE DESIGN PROPOSAL(S) AND ANY DIGITAL MODEL THAT THE ARTIST MAY HAVE. DGS WILL UPLOAD THE PRESENTATION AND WILL FACILITATE THE PRESENTATION OF YOUR PROPOSAL WHEN IT IS YOUR TURN TO REVIEW BASED ON A TIME SLOT THAT DGS PROVIDES. THE PRESENTATION SCHEDULE WILL TYPICALLY ALLOW EACH ARTIST TEN (10) MINUTES EACH FOR PROPOSAL PRESENTATION (5 MINUTES FOR DESIGN AND 5 MINUTES FOR Q & A).

-THE PRESENTATION WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY VIA GOTO MEETING, INCLUDING ANY DIGITAL MODEL THAT THE ARTIST MAY HAVE.

1. QUESTIONS – E-mail to sandy.bellamy@dc.gov. Do NOT leave questions on voice mail. Questions and answers will be shared with all participants.



SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS @ FRANCIS STEVENS

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT DATA

Address: 2425 N St NW, Washington, DC 20037

Grades Served: Pre-k3 - 8th grade

SY19-20 Enrollment: 473 students

Design Capacity: 680 students

Project Scope: Major renovation of existing historic 1920s and 1950s building, new construction addition and infill, complete site redesign

Special project conditions:

-Designing for net-zero energy, LEED, and WELL certification

-Borders Rock Creek Park

-Existing building includes historic elements and detailing

-Curriculum includes partnership with a variety of community partners: FoodPrints, Embassy Adoption Program, YMCA, Squire Patton Boggs, Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, Everybody Wins! DC, Capital World Language Services, The Advisory Board, The George Washington University, A-Step Enrichment

OVERALL DESIGN GOALS

The design goal for the modernized School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens building and campus is to provide an inspiring facility that showcases the best of the historical elements of the original 1920s and 1950s architecture, while simultaneously providing both modernized and new learning spaces that complement the school's educational and cultural goals. The design strives to be a model of how sustainable, net-zero energy, and WELL design can be gracefully integrated within a historic existing building, creating a 21st-century school that fosters and inspires the next generation of environmental stewards.

SWWFS SCHOOL MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION

SWWFS will provide every student with a rigorous student centered academic program led by nurturing educators who empower students to be risk takers and critical thinkers in order to become productive and global citizens.

OUR VISION

To make School Without Walls at Francis Stevens a diverse, inclusive and equitable learning environment that promotes integrity, respect, intellectual curiosity and global citizenship with the purpose of inspiring students to excel both academically and socially.

PROJECT DESIGN PRINCIPLES



1 Enhance and Celebrate Connections to the Outdoors



2 Reinforce the Relationship with Rock Creek Park



3 Provide a Place that Enhances the Sense of Community



4 Demonstrate a High-Performance, Healthy Learning Environment



5 Defer to the Civic Presence of the Historic Structures



6 Create Vertical Connections for All Grade Levels



7 Put Learning on Display

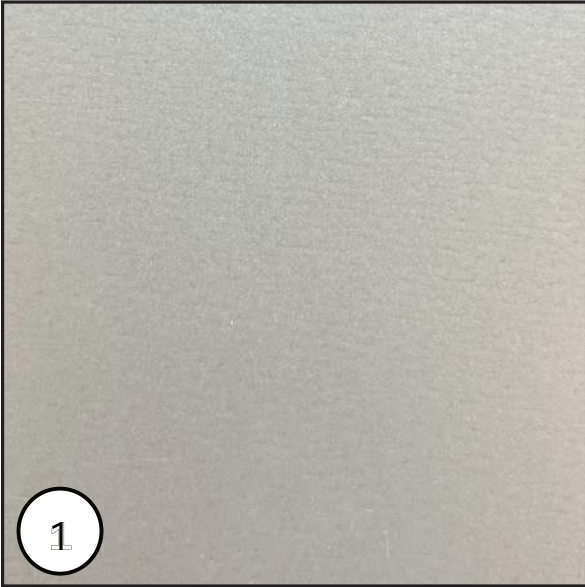


8 Embrace Equitable Student-Centered Spaces

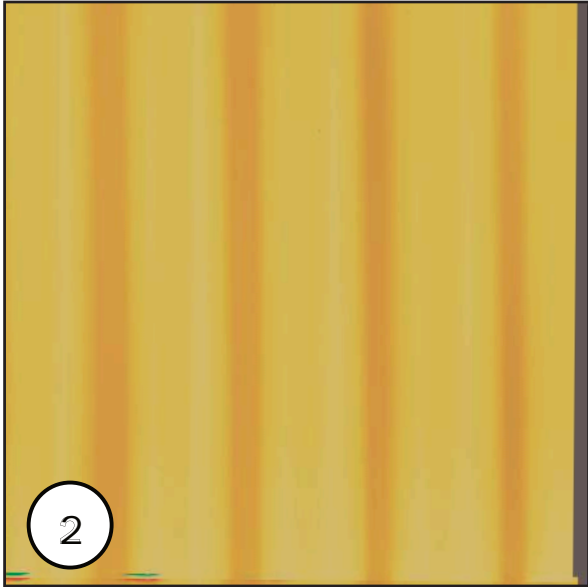


9 Create a Professional, Nurturing Environment that Inspires Teachers

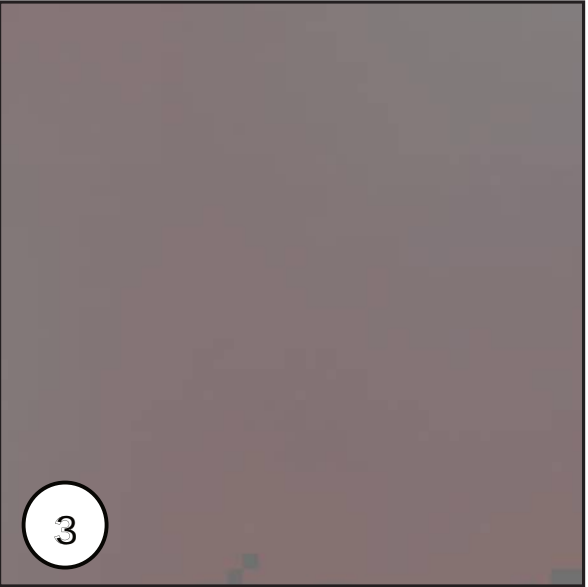
EXTERIOR MATERIAL/COLOR PALETTE



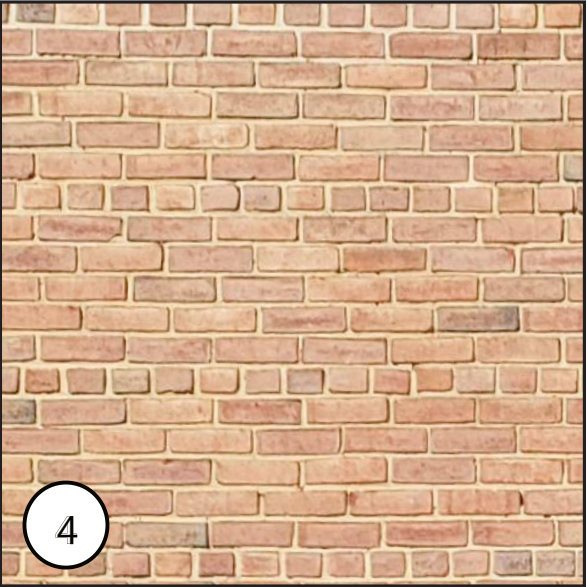
ALUMINUM PANEL



CORUGATED PANEL



ACM PANELS/WINDOW FRAMES/TRIM

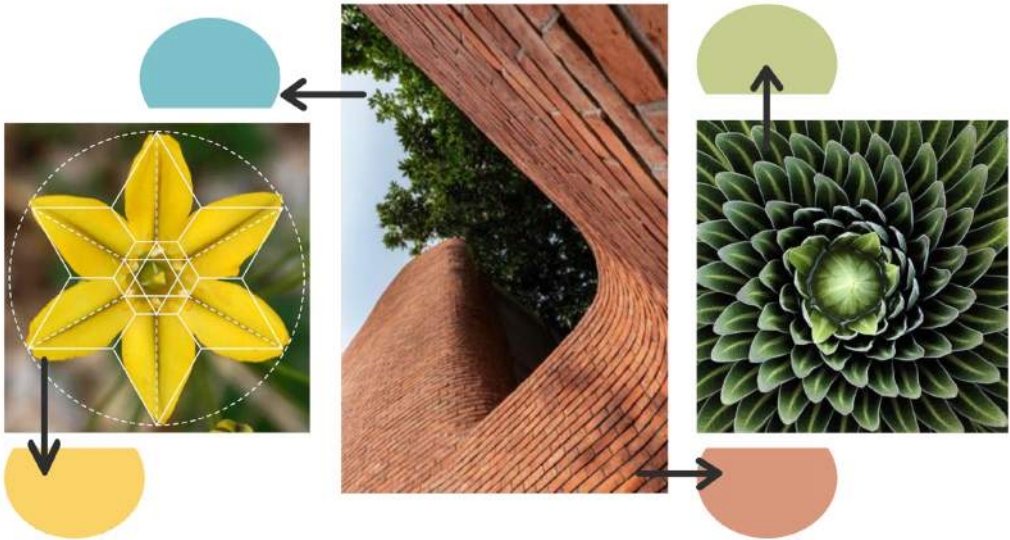


MASONRY



LIMESTONE/CONCRETE

INTERIOR MATERIAL/COLOR PALETTE



MAIN DESIGN PALETTE INSPIRATION:
NATURE AND THE HISTORIC BUILDING

ACCENT DESIGN PALETTE INSPIRATION:
SCHOOL SPIRIT, PURPLE AND YELLOW



	FIRST FLOOR: PRE-K	SECOND FLOOR: K/1 AND 2-5	THIRD FLOOR: 6-8
CLASSROOM	[Light Green Swatch] [Light Green Swatch]	[Light Green Swatch] [Dark Green Swatch]	[Light Green Swatch] [Dark Green Swatch]
ADMIN	[Light Orange Swatch] [Brown Swatch]	[Light Orange Swatch] [Brown Swatch]	[Light Orange Swatch] [Brown Swatch]
ENTRANCE ALCOVE	[Teal Swatch]	[Teal Swatch]	[Dark Teal Swatch]
BENCH SEATING	[Yellow Swatch]	[Image: Hallway with bench and teal door]	[Image: Hallway with bench and teal door]
LIBRARY AND AUDITORIUM ACCENT	[Grey Swatch]	[Image: Acoustic ceiling baffles]	[Image: Acoustic ceiling baffles]
GYM ACCENT	[Dark Purple Swatch]	[Image: Acoustic ceiling baffles]	[Image: Acoustic ceiling baffles]

NEW TERRAZZO

EXISTING TERRAZZO

NEW TERRAZZO

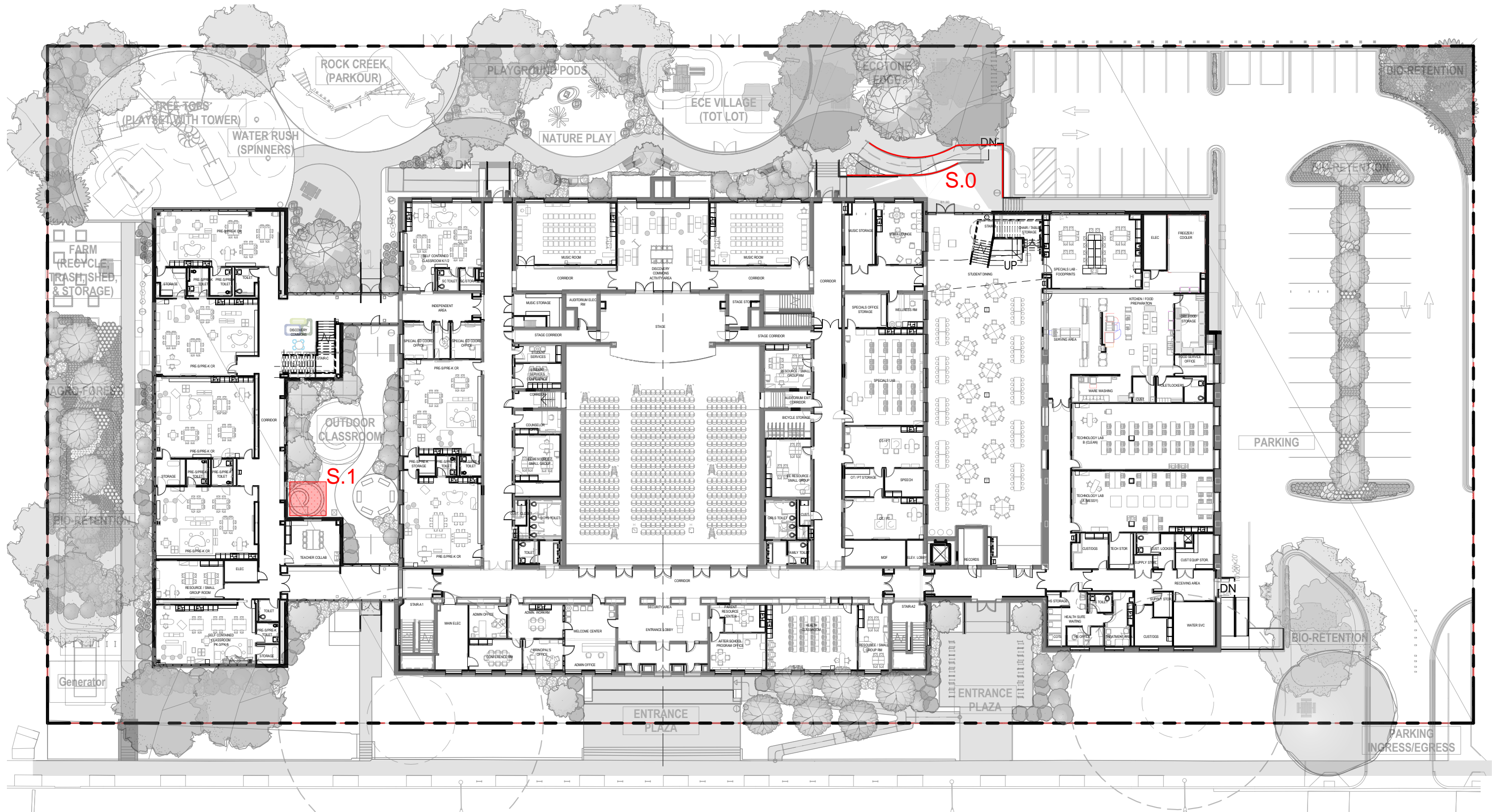
EXISTING TERRAZZO

WATER FOUNTAINS

DOORS

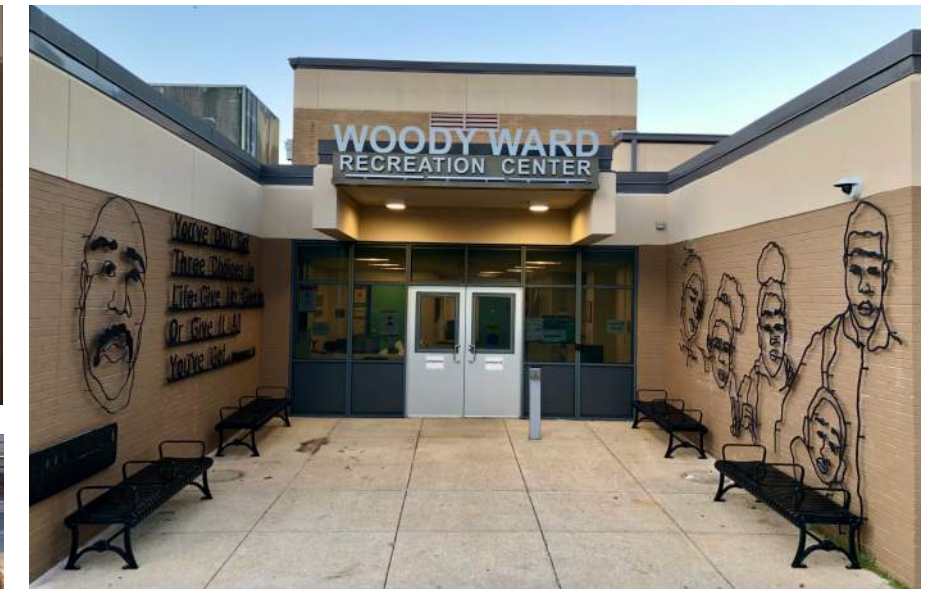
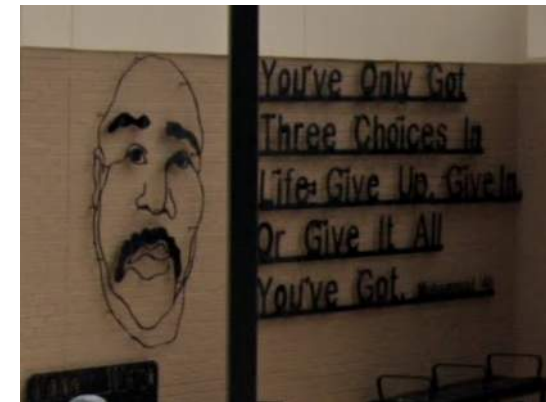
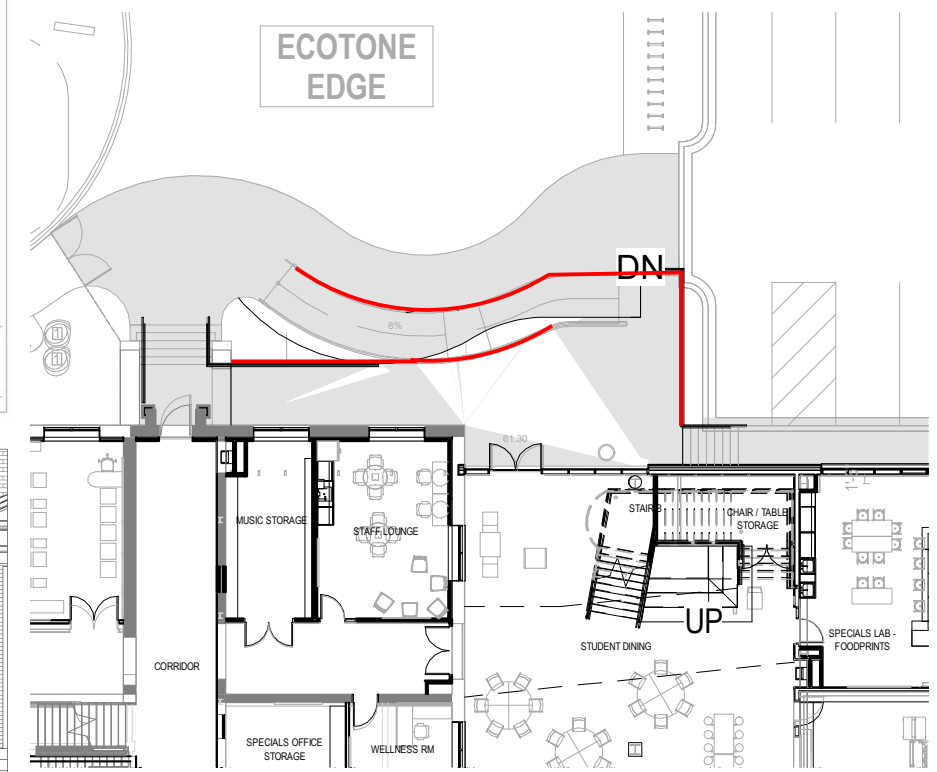
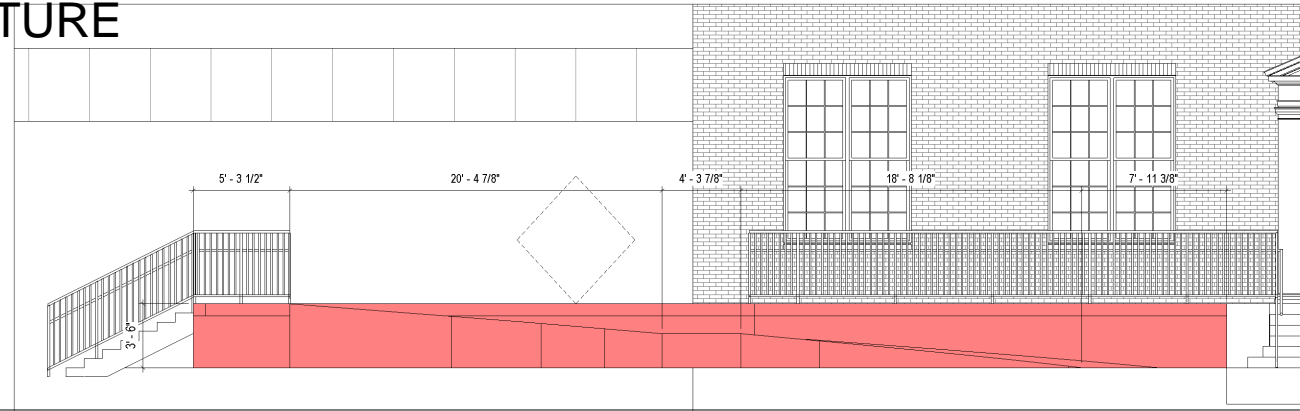
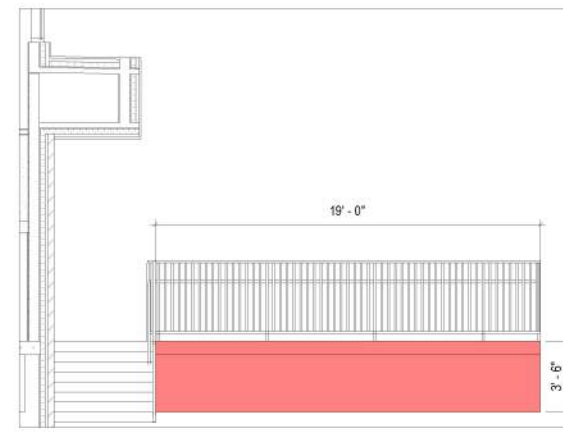
ACOUSTIC CEILING BAFFLES
AT STAIR C, LIBRARY, DINING COMMONS

SITE



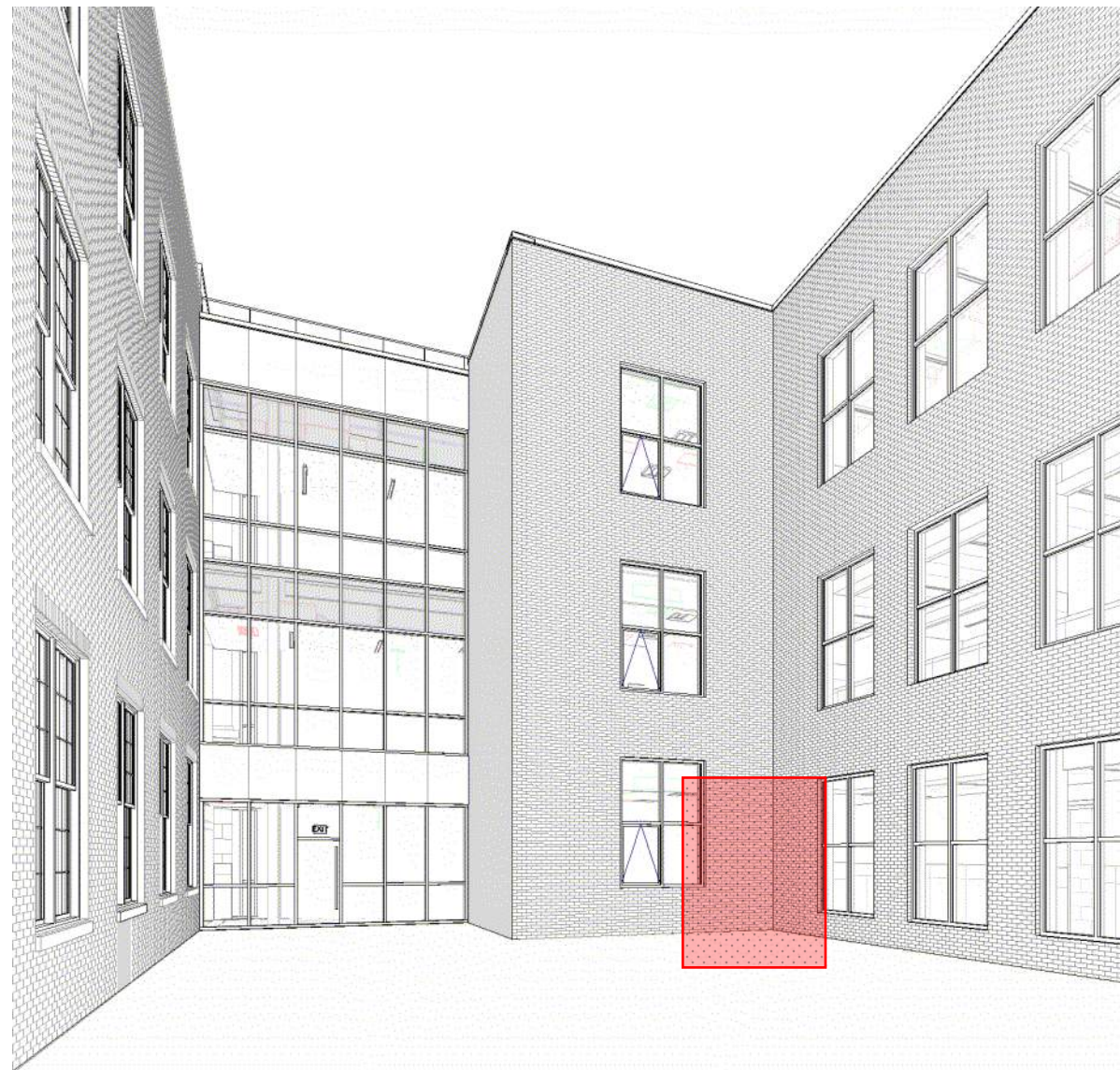
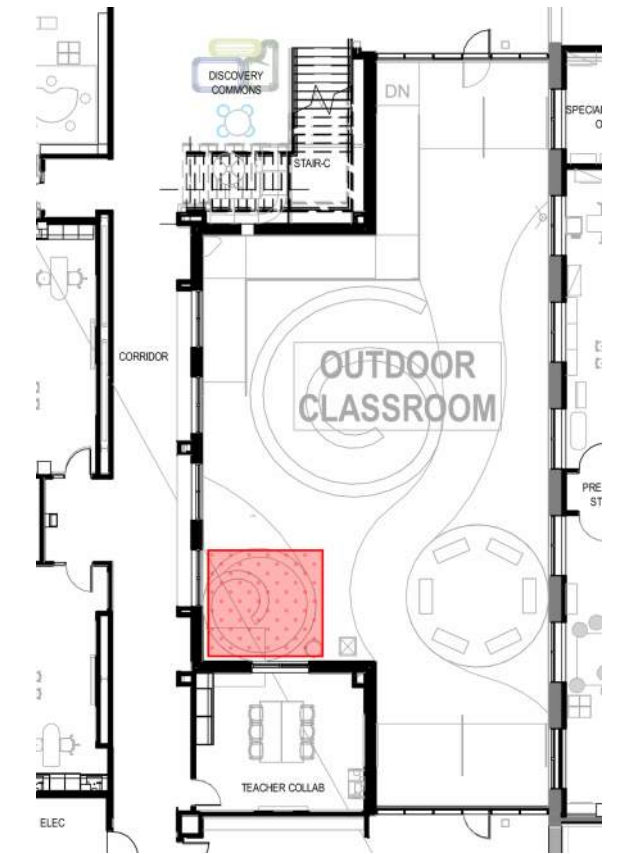
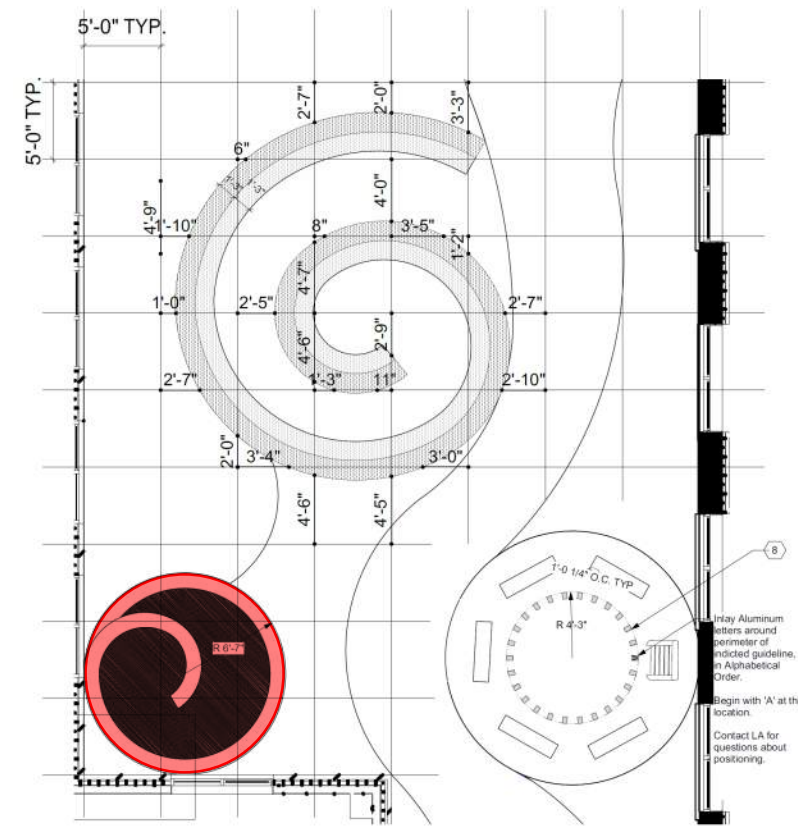
S.O NE RAMP

- METAL/MOSAIC ON CURVING CONCRETE PLATFORM/RAMP
- 3D WITH DEPTH RELIEF OF MAXIMUM 4"
- APPROPRIATE FOR AGES PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: PLAYFUL, NATURE

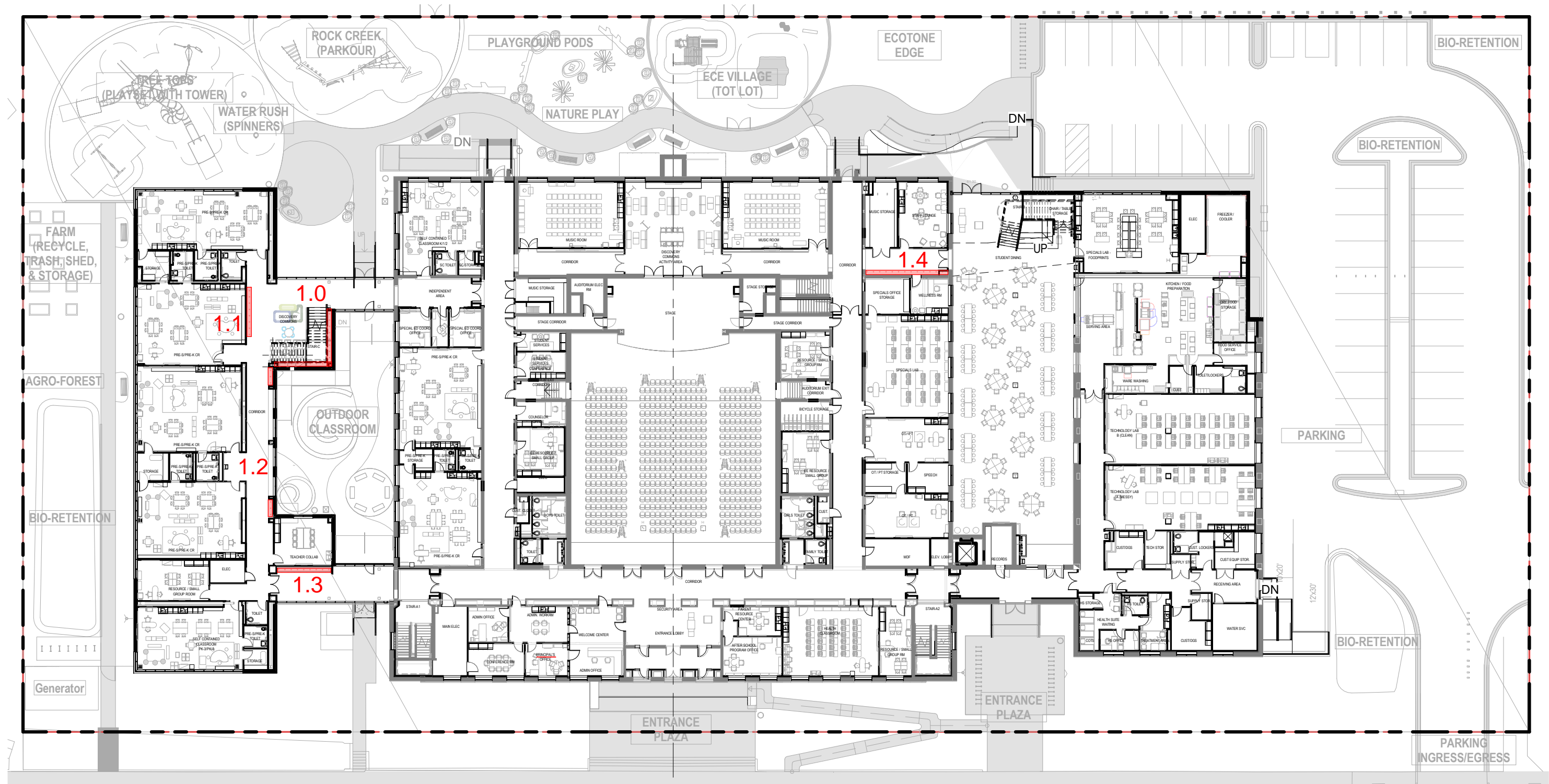


S.1 COURTYARD

- ARTIST SHALL PROVIDE ENGINEERED FOOTING DRAWINGS STAMPED BY A DC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER FOR CONSTRUCTION BY THE D/B CONTRACTOR
- NON-CLIMBABLE ART PIECE
- EXACT DIMENSIONS FLEXIBLE, SPACE PROVIDED HAS 6'7" RADIUS AND 12'0" HEIGHT
- IN A COURTYARD FOR QUIET LEARNING, LUSH PLANTINGS, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
- APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGES PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: WATER, NATURE

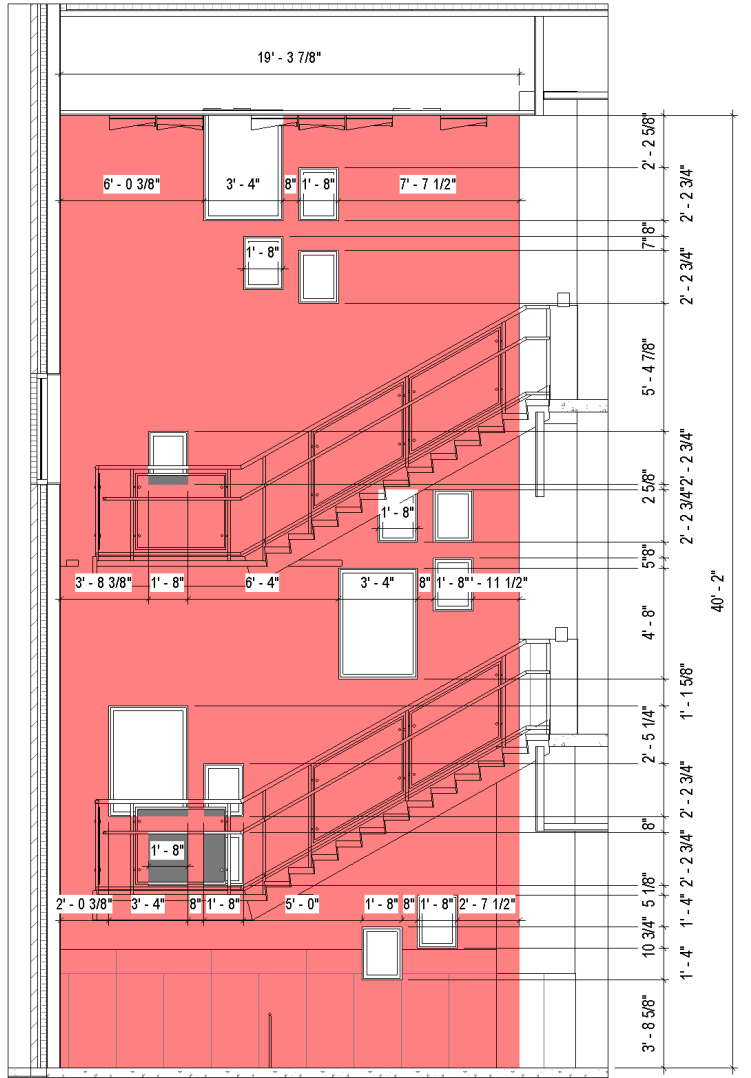
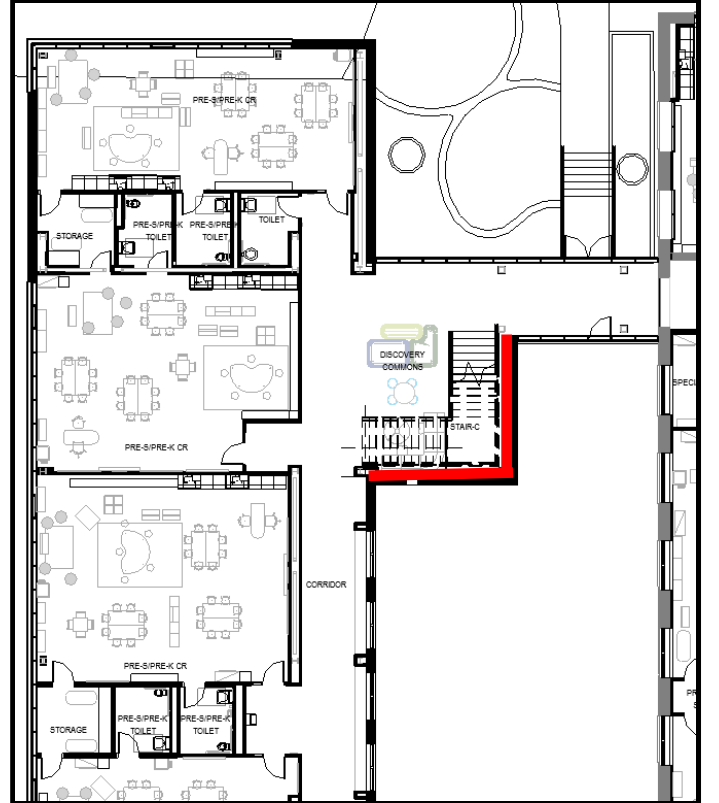
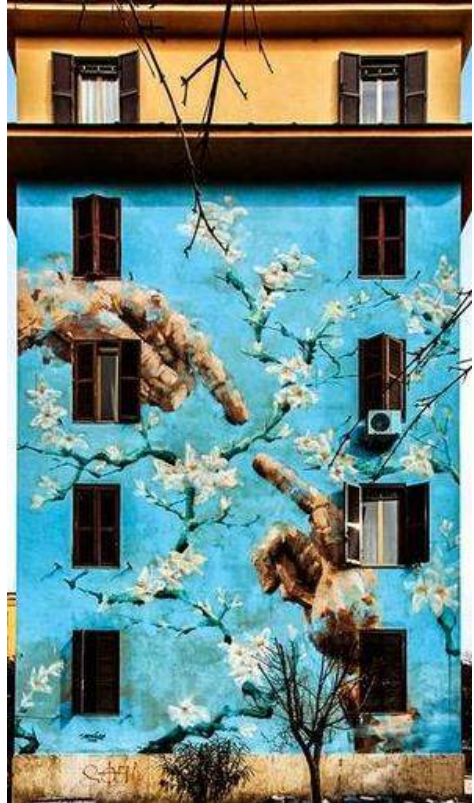


FLOOR 01



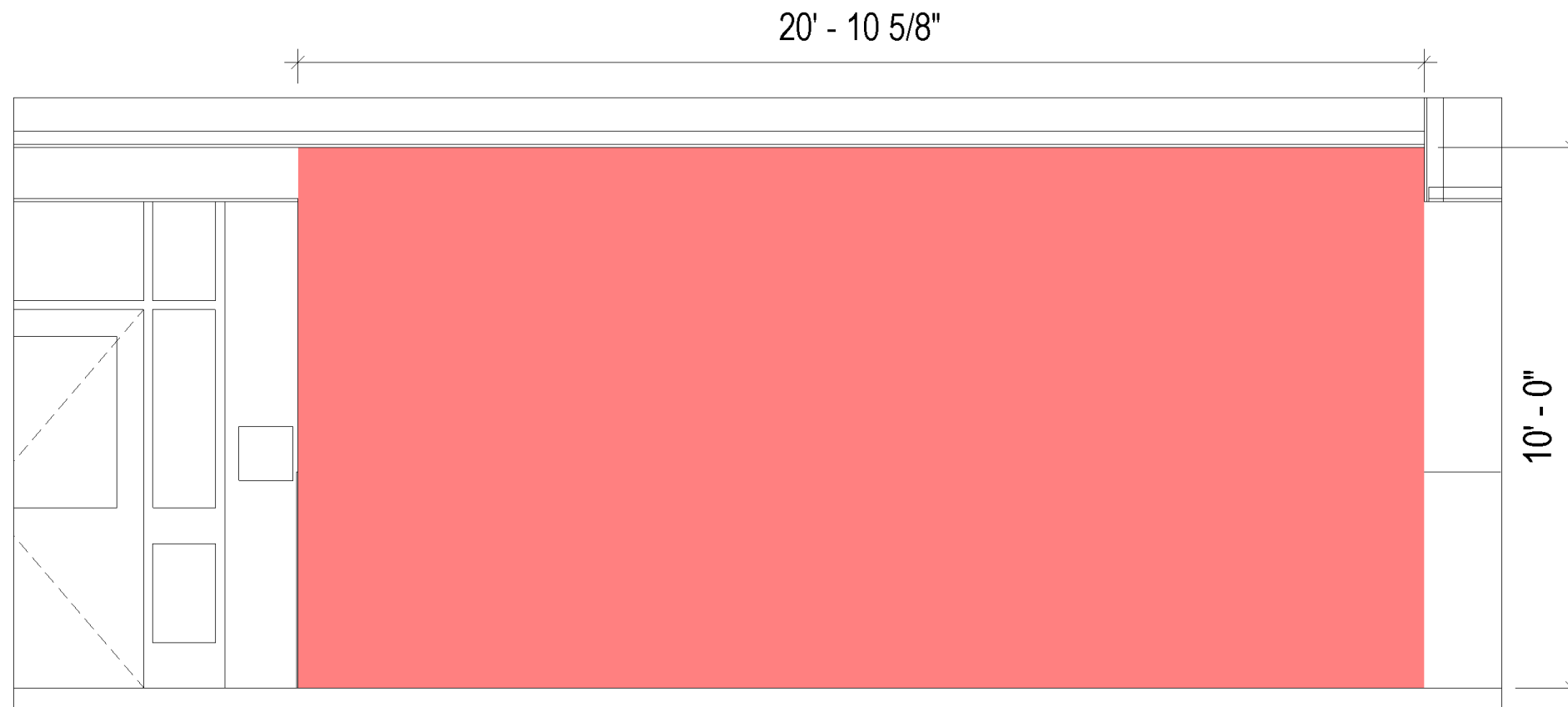
1.0 STAIRWAY C

- VINYL WALL GRAPHICS ON 2 WALLS
- GRADUAL TRANSITION FROM FLOOR 1 TO FLOOR 3 (PRE-K TO MIDDLE SCHOOL)
- COLOR PALETTE TO RELATE TO INTERIOR DESIGN PALETTE
- INCORPORATE WINDOW LOCATIONS IN DESIGN
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: FUN, PLAYFUL, MOVEMENT, GROWING, NATURE, ABSTRACT



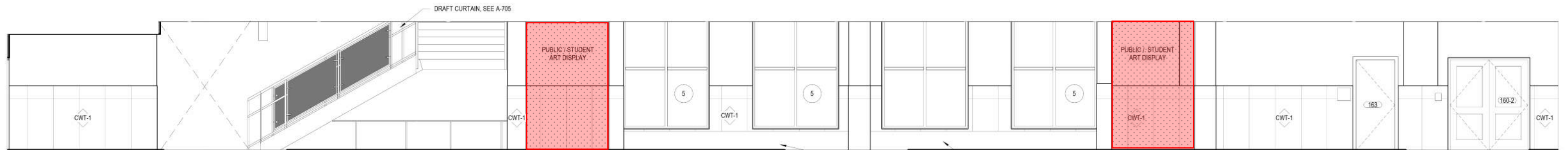
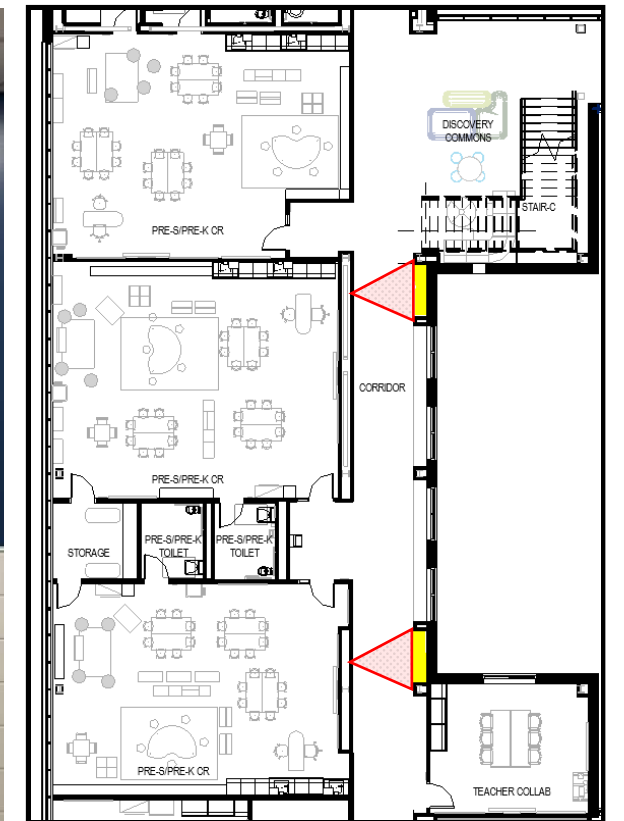
1.1 PRE-K LOUNGE AREA

- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC
- APPROPRIATE FOR PRE-K LEVEL
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, LEARNING, AFFIRMATION

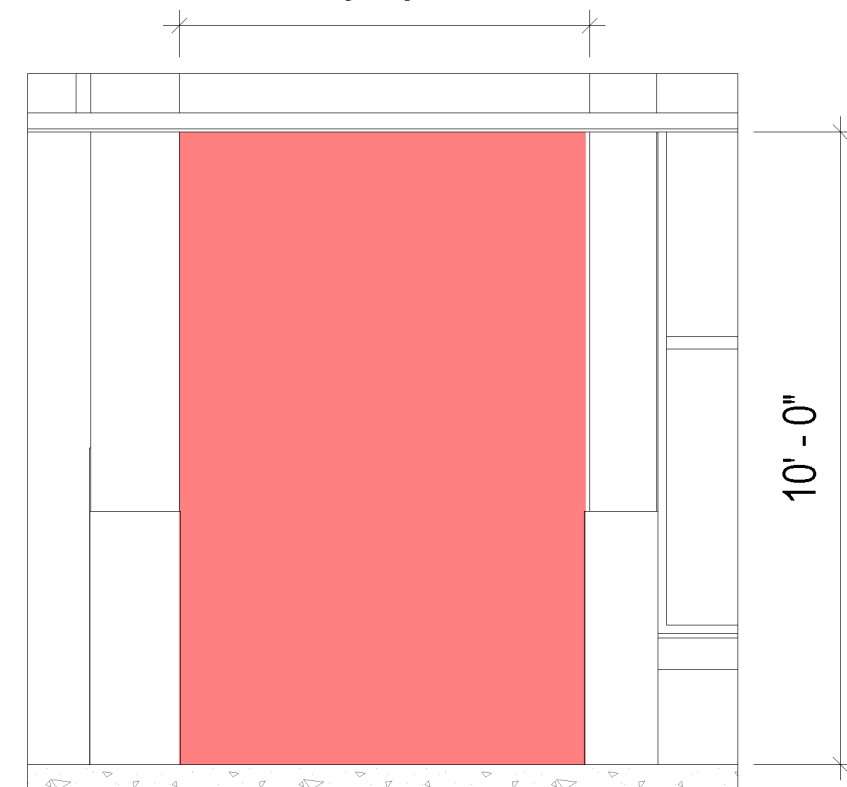


1.2 HALLWAY NOOKS

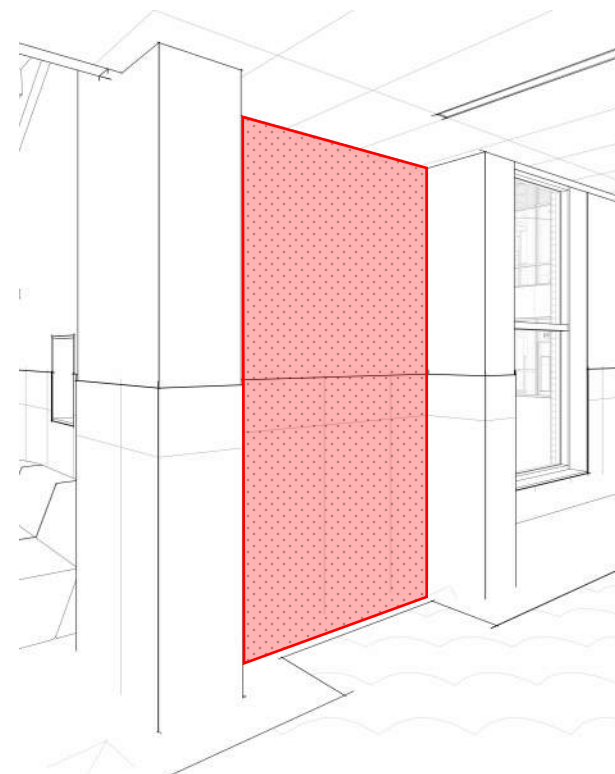
- 2 RELATED NOOKS
- 3D RELIEF DURABLE MATERIAL: MOSAIC, WOOD, ACRYLIC, ETC.
- FOUND OBJECTS TO INCLUDE STUDENT INPUT
- GC TO PROVIDE BLOCKING
- APPROPRIATE FOR PRE-K LEVEL
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: LEARNING, PLAY, COMMUNITY, NATURE, HUMAN SCALE



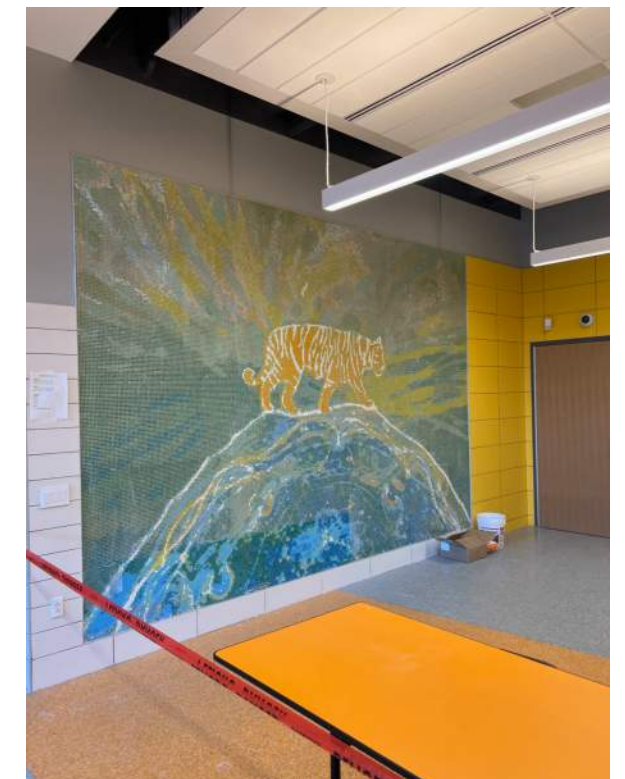
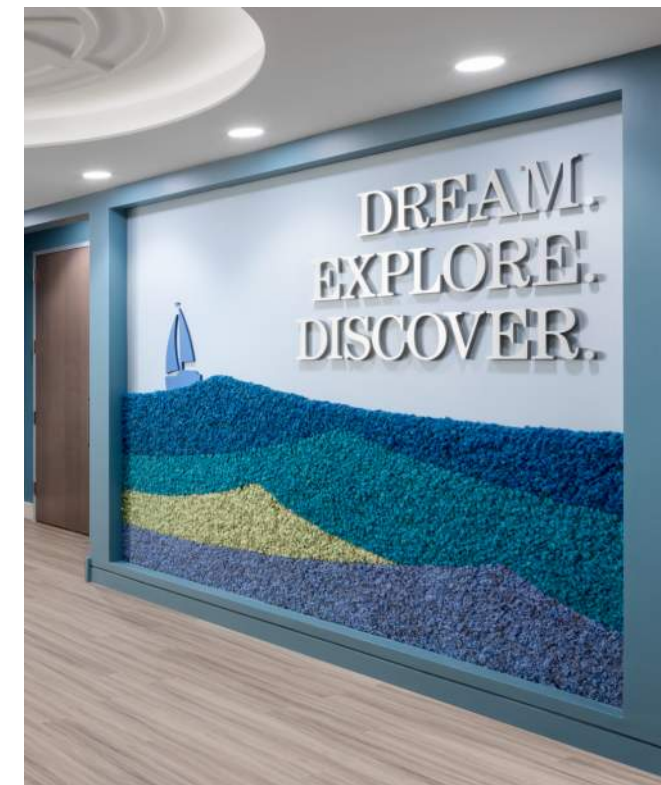
6' - 6"



10' - 0"

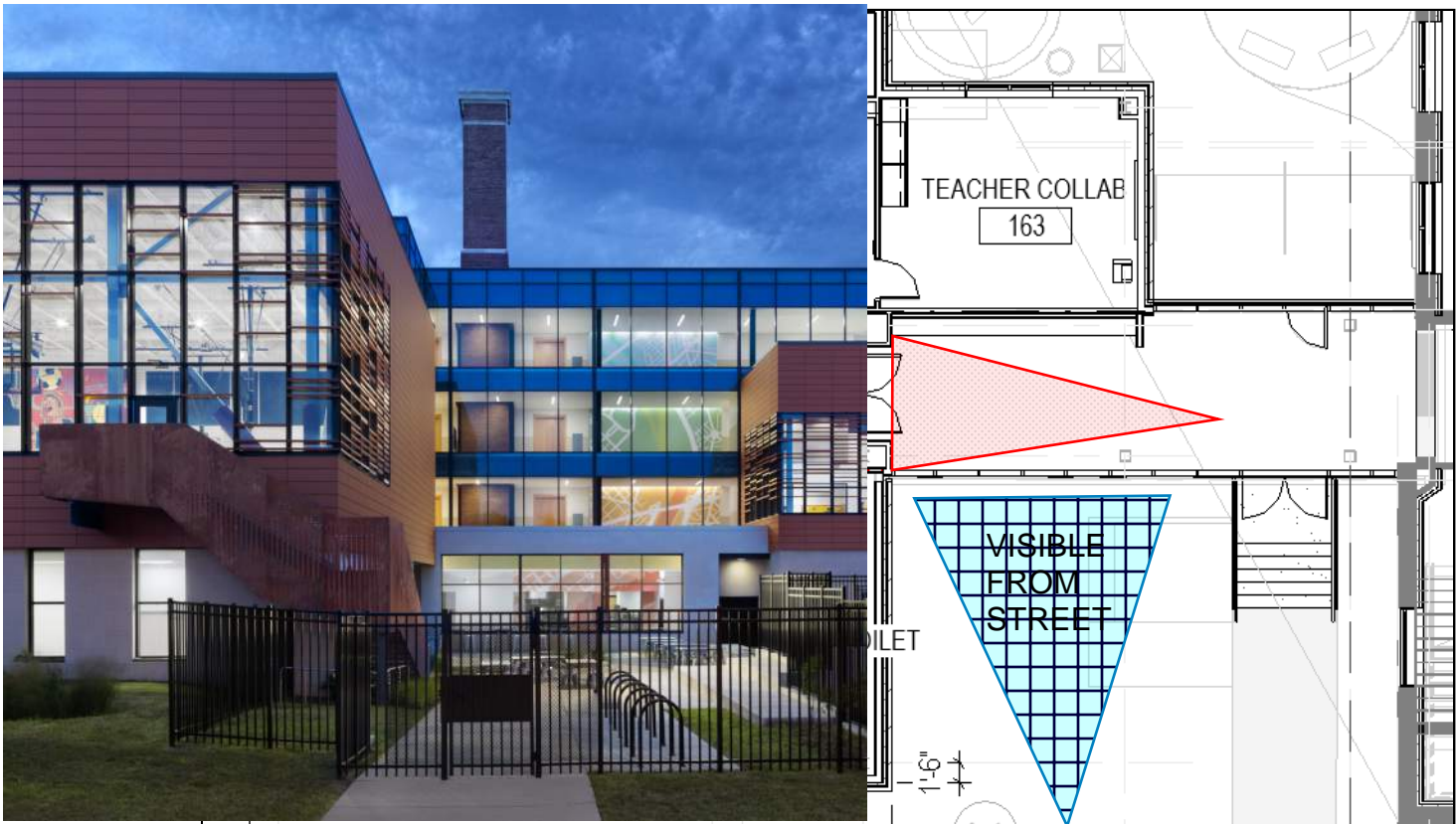


BENCH SEATING WITH NO BACK



1.3 BENCH SEATING

- 3 RELATED VINYL WALL GRAPHICS
- VISIBLE ON ALL THREE LEVELS FROM EXTERIOR
- COHERENT GRAPHIC ON ALL LEVELS, COULD BE CONNECTED AND STILL MAKE SENSE SEPARATED ON EACH LEVEL, COULD BE A TRIPTYCH
- LARGE SCALE
- RESPECTFUL OF HISTORIC BUILDING
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: ROCK CREEK PARK, NATURE



1.4 NORTH ENTRANCE

- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC
- INCLUDE SCHOOL NAME
- " SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS AT FRANCIS-STEVEN'S "
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: SCHOOL MISSION AND VISION, WELCOME



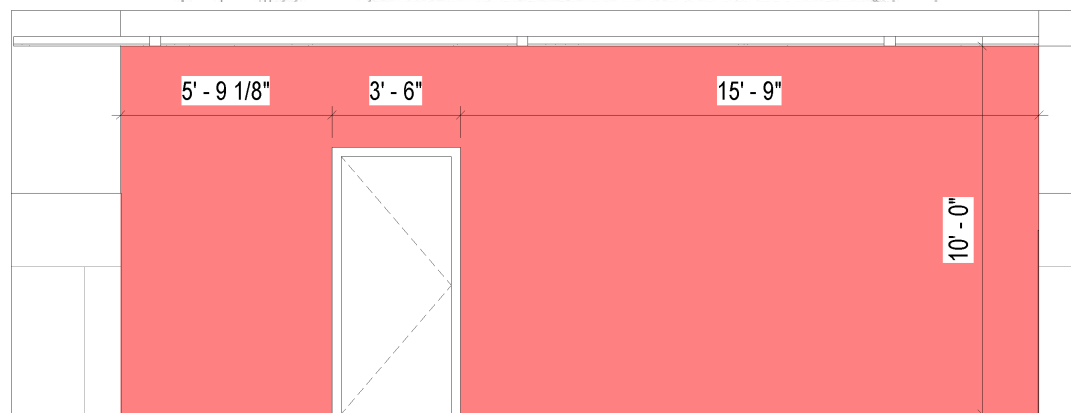
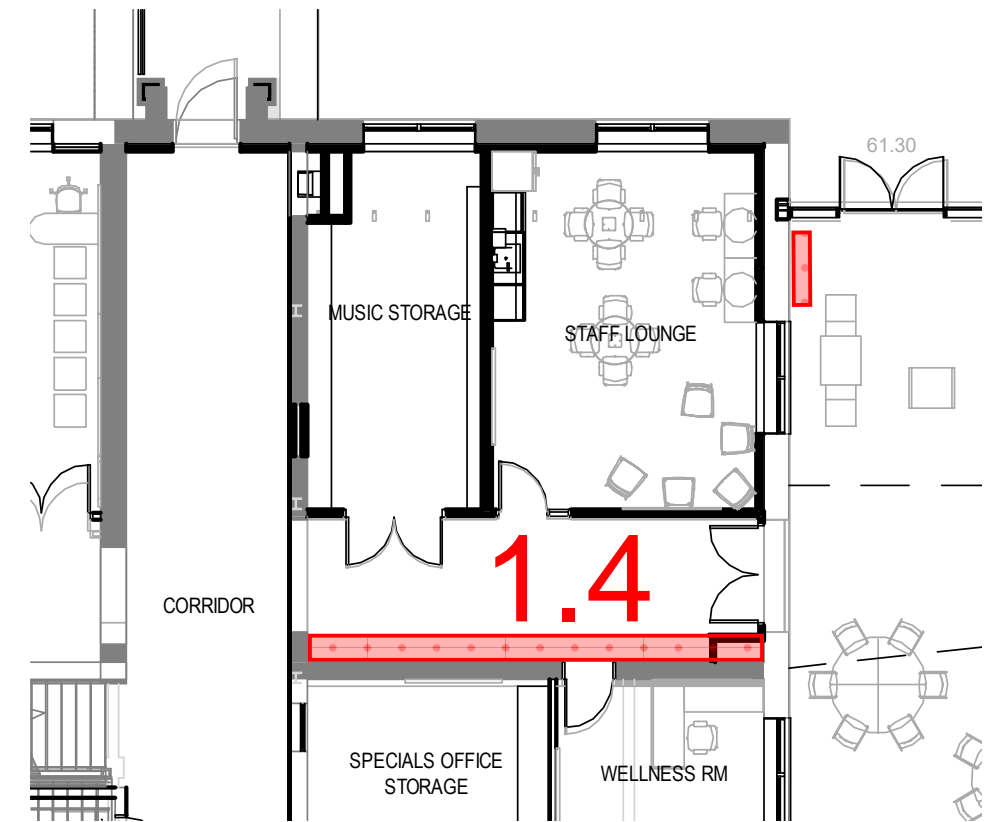
School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens

OUR MISSION

SWWFS will provide every student with a rigorous student centered academic program led by nurturing educators who empower students to be risk takers and critical thinkers in order to become productive and global citizens.

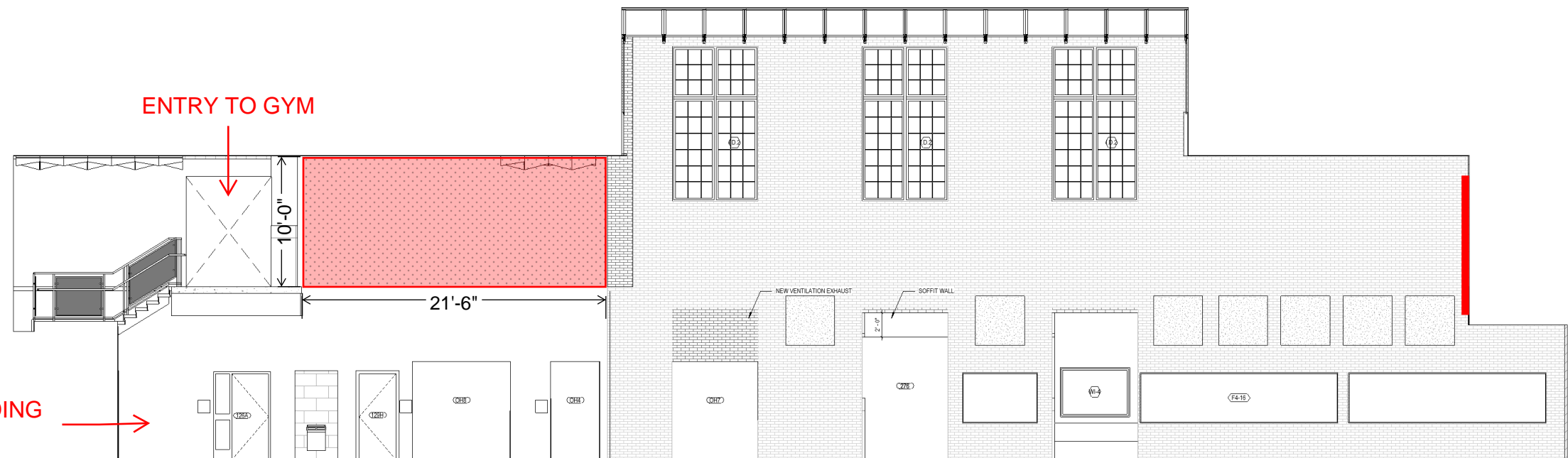
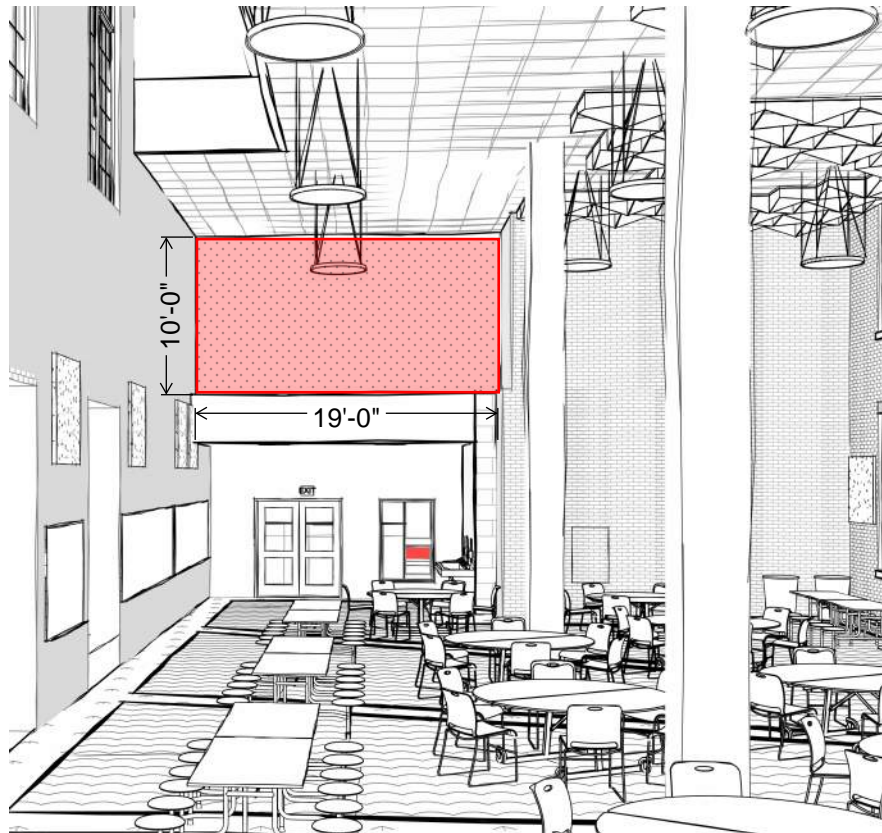
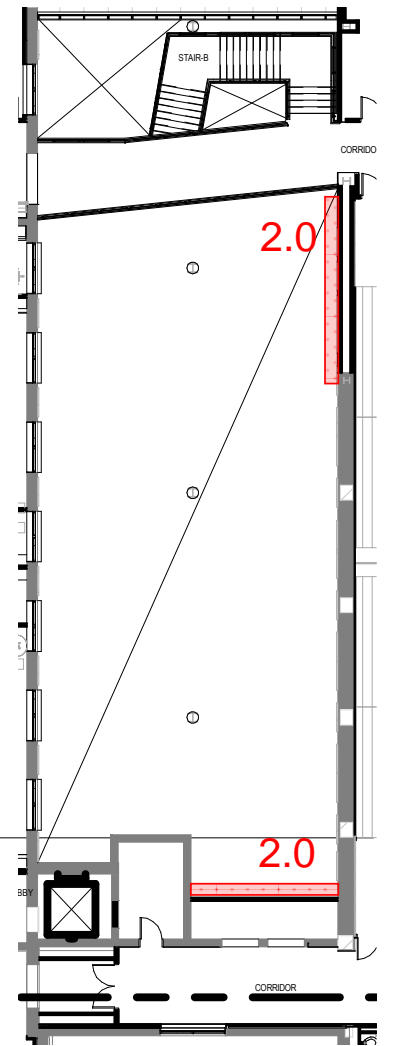
OUR VISION

To make School Without Walls at Francis Stevens a diverse, inclusive and equitable learning environment that promotes integrity, respect, intellectual curiosity and global citizenship with the purpose of inspiring students to excel both academically and socially.



2.0 DINING COMMONS

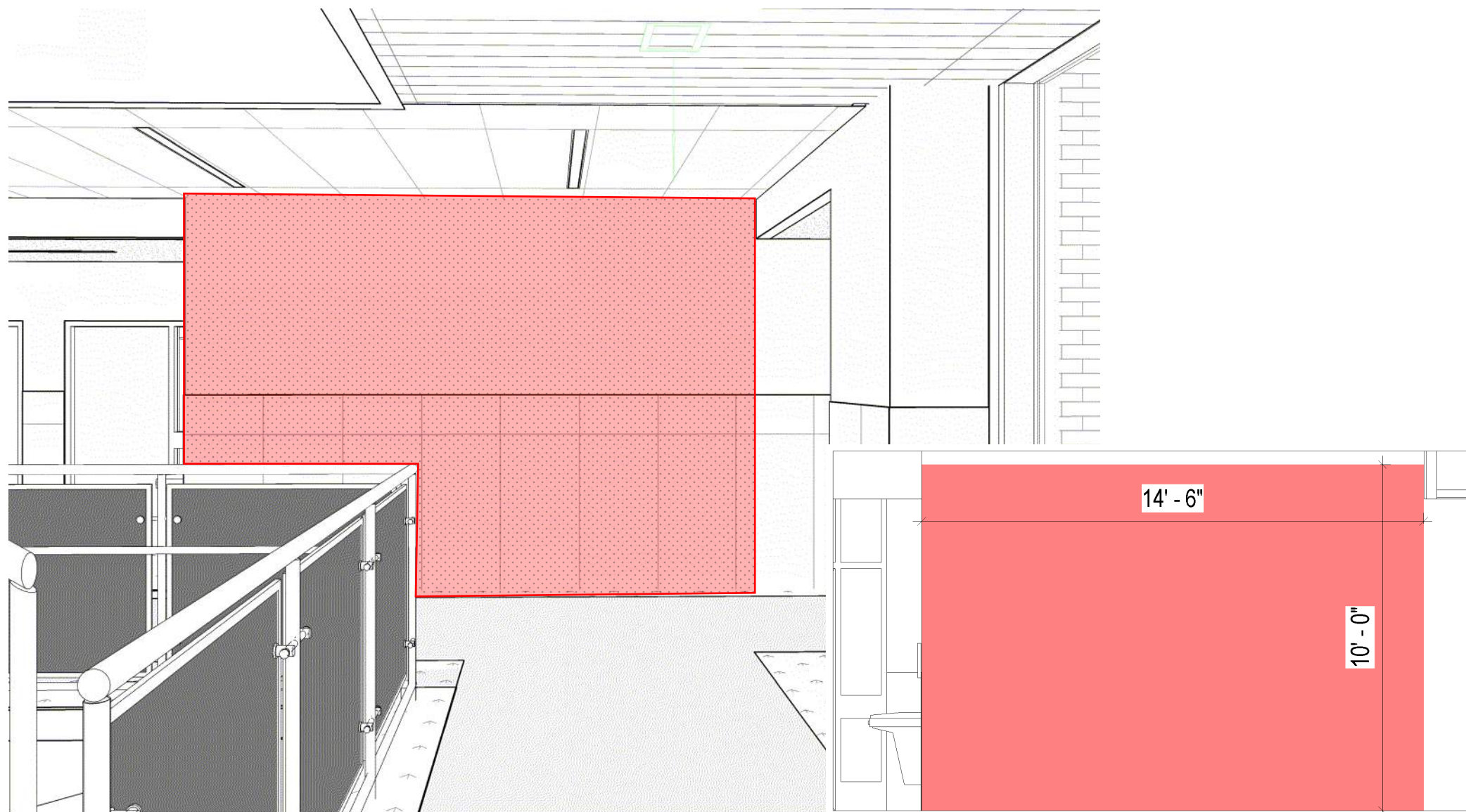
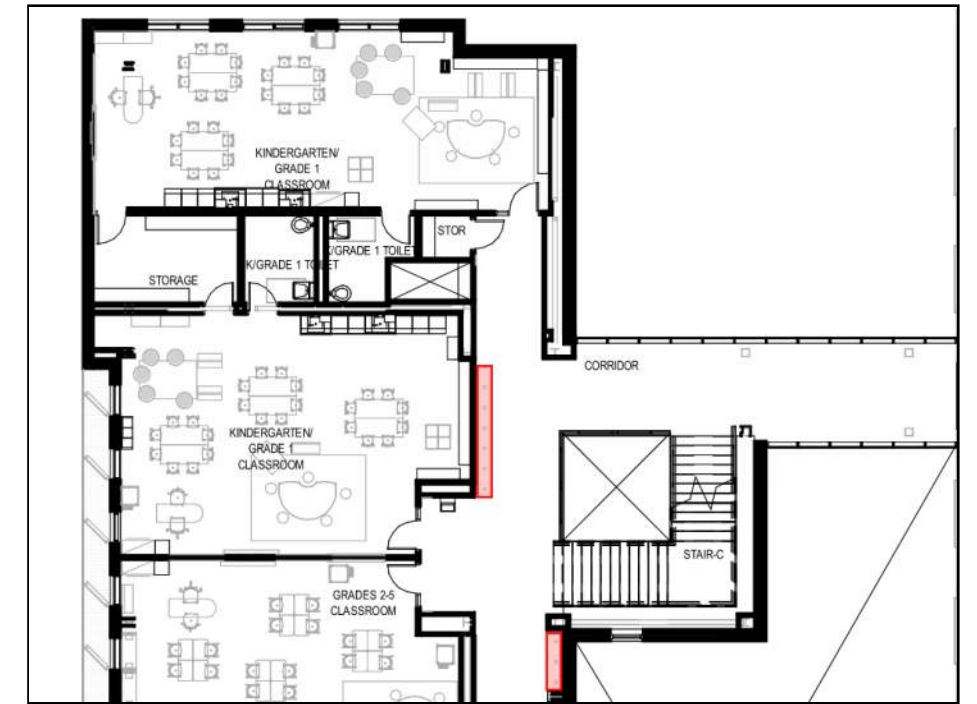
- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC ON DRYWALL
- 2 LOCATIONS BY ONE ARTIST: SHOULD RELATE TO EACHOTHER, CAN BE CONTINUOUS
- INCLUDE WHITE SPACE TO SEAMLESSLY CONNECT TO SURROUNDING ARCHITECTURE
- COMPLIMENT HISTORIC BRICK (FORMERLY BUILDING EXTERIOR)
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: FOOD, FARM-TO-TABLE NUTRITION, HEALTH, WELLNESS, ACTIVITY



MAJOR BUILDING ENTRANCE

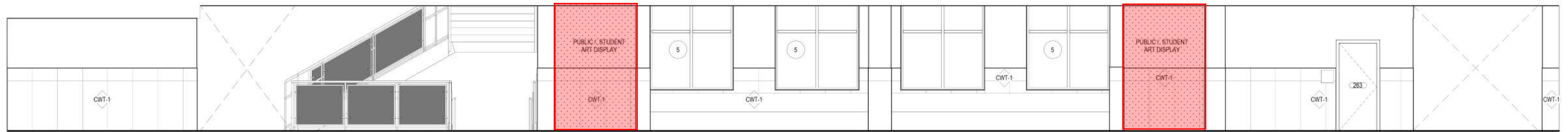
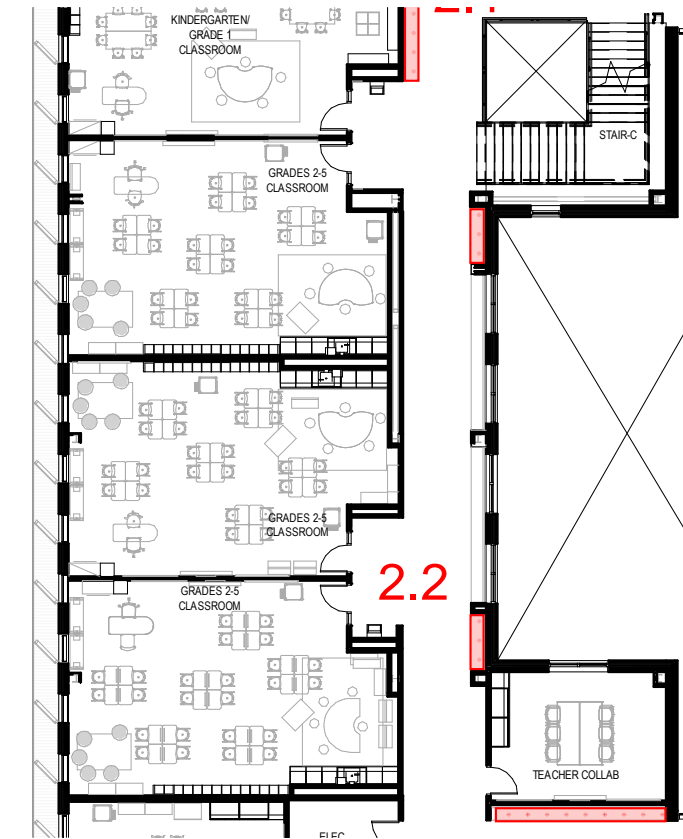
2.1 STAIRWAY ENTRANCE

- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC
- APPROPRIATE FOR KINDERGARTEN TO 5TH GRADE LEVEL
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, LEARNING, AFFIRMATION

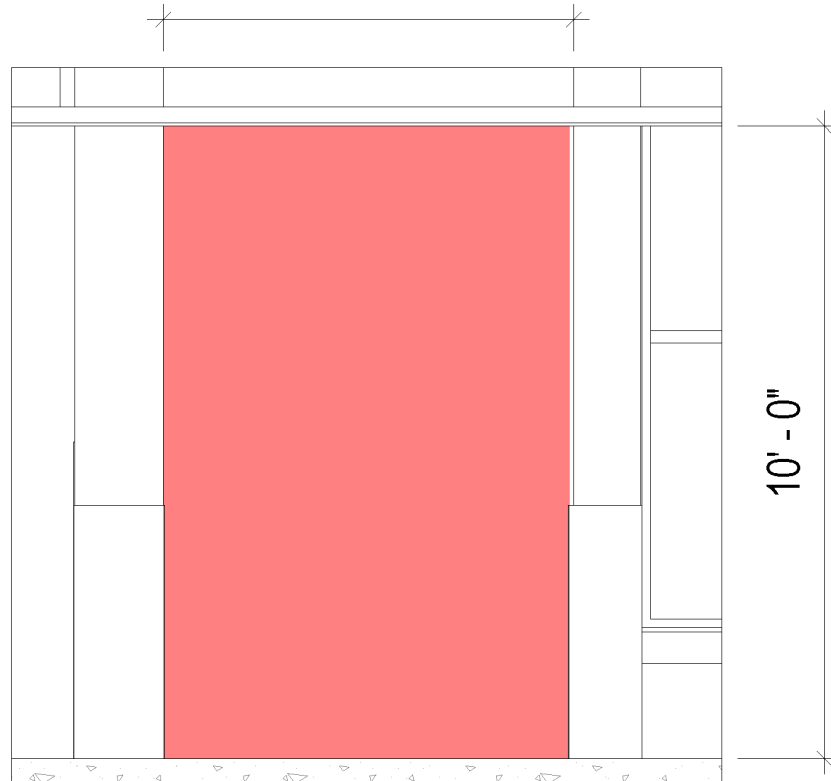


2.2 HALLWAY NOOKS

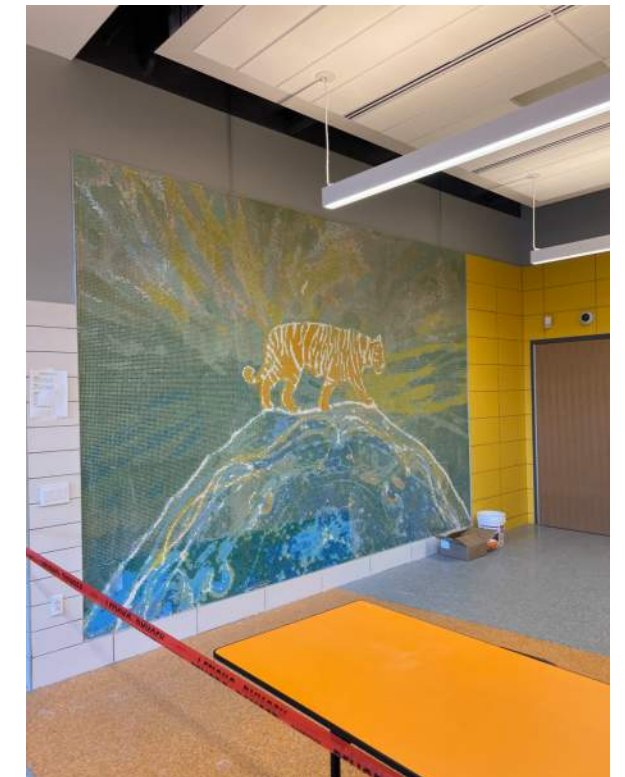
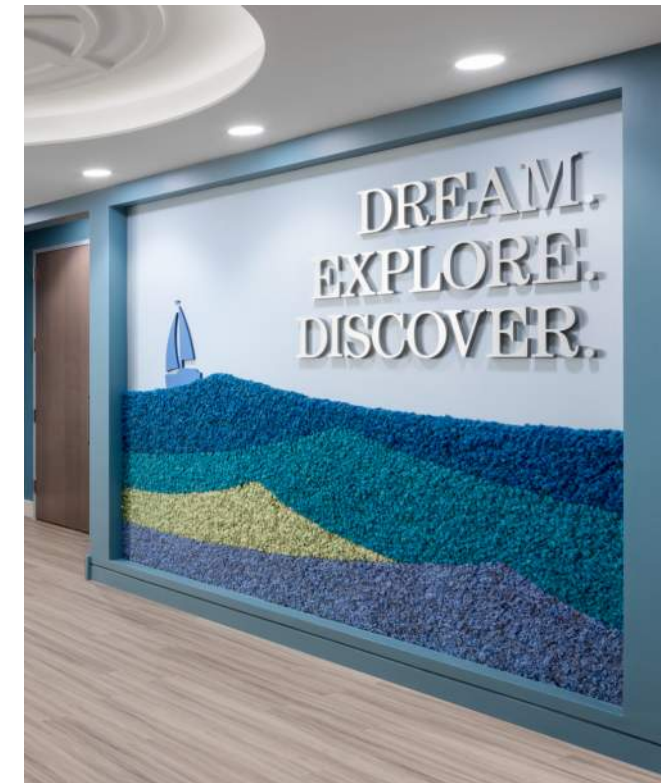
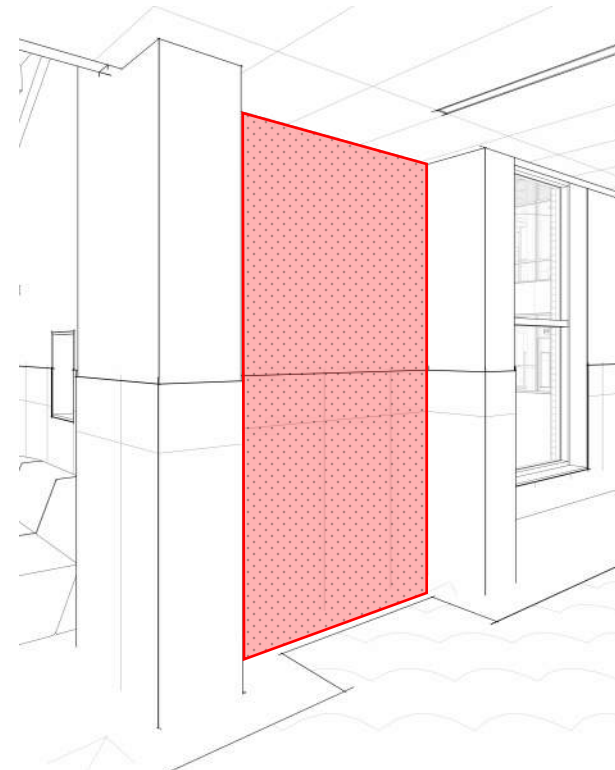
- 2 RELATED NOOKS
- 3D RELIEF DURABLE MATERIAL: MOSAIC, WOOD, ACRYLIC, ETC.
- FOUND OBJECTS TO INCLUDE STUDENT INPUT
- GC TO PROVIDE BLOCKING
- APPROPRIATE FOR KINDERGARTEN TO 5TH GRADE LEVEL
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: LEARNING, PLAY, COMMUNITY, NATURE, HUMAN SCALE



6' - 6"

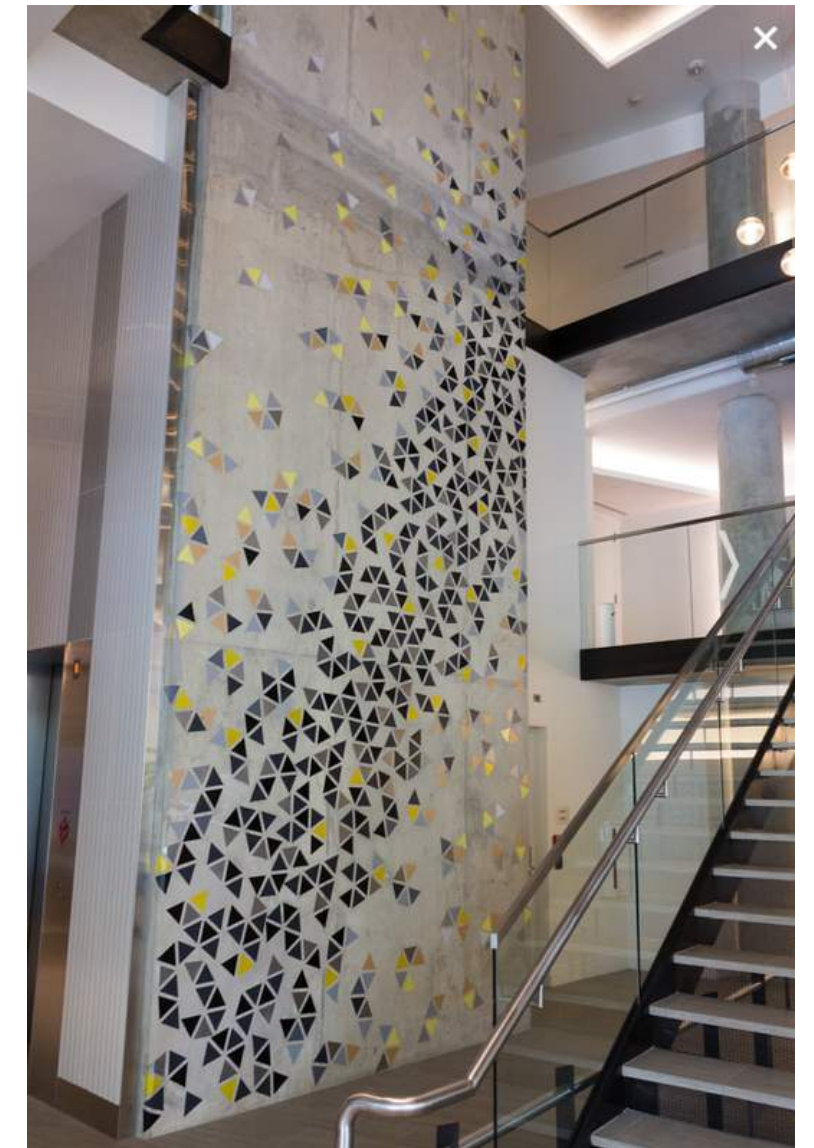
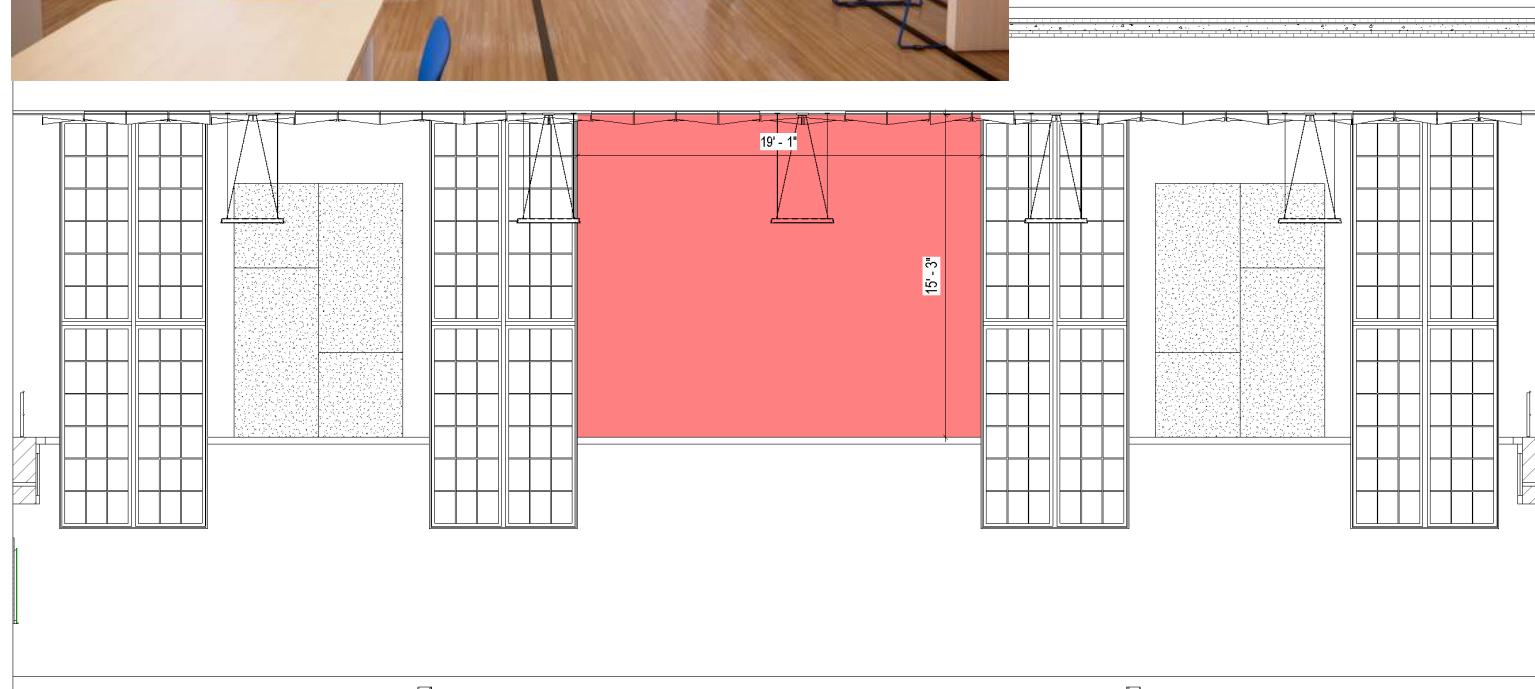
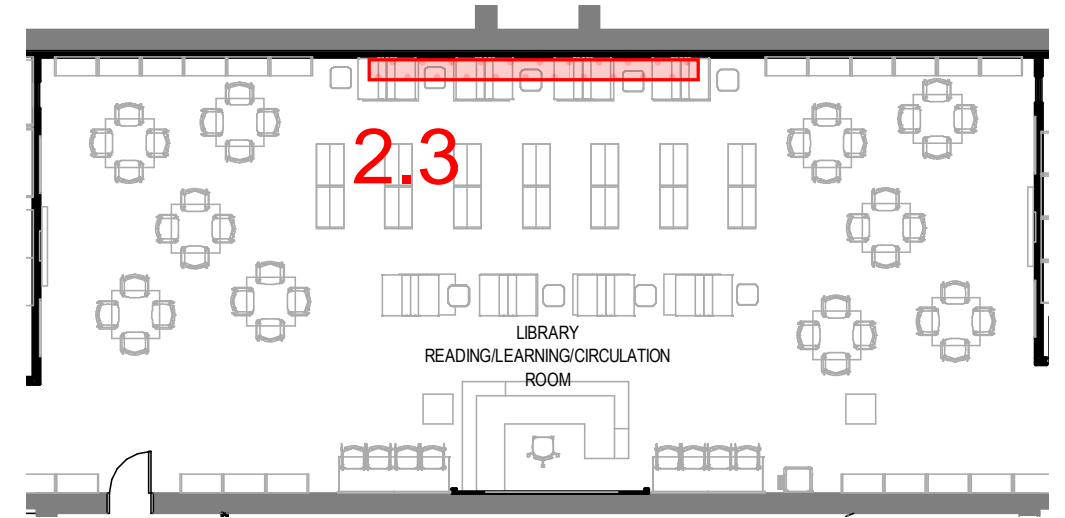


10' - 0"



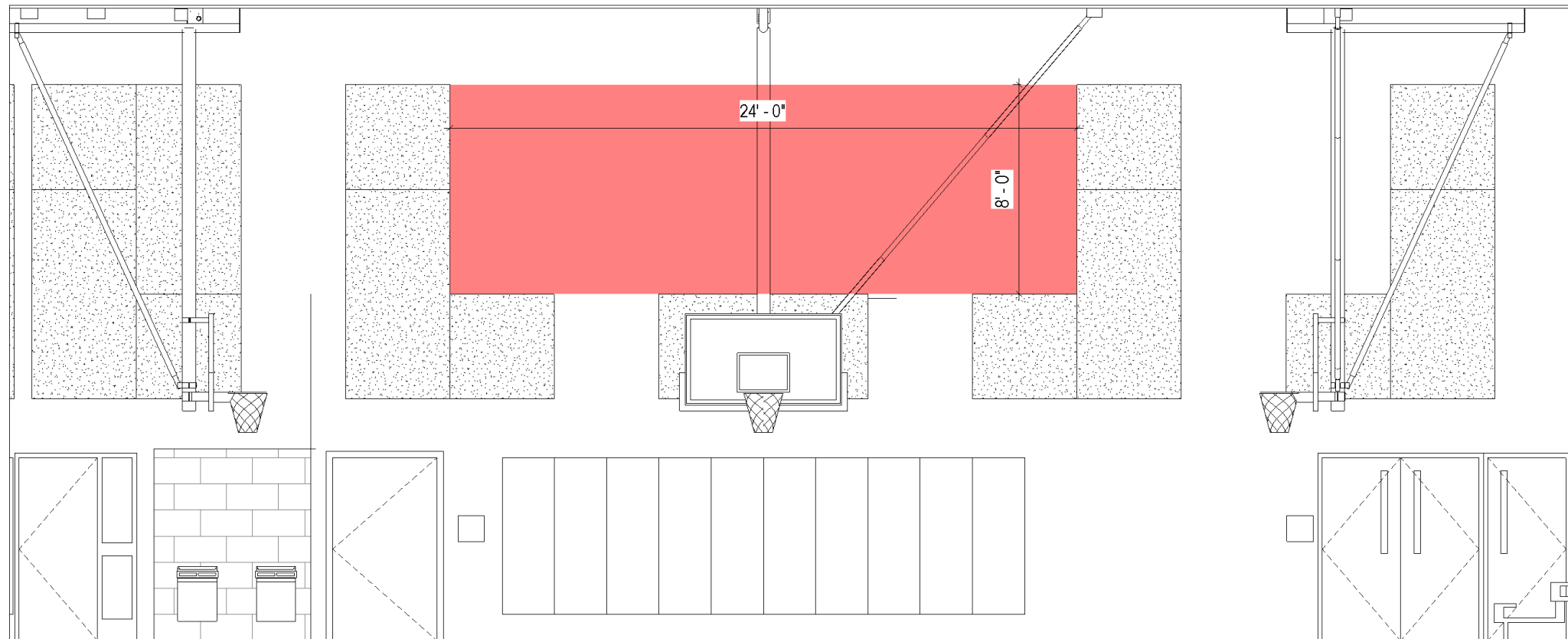
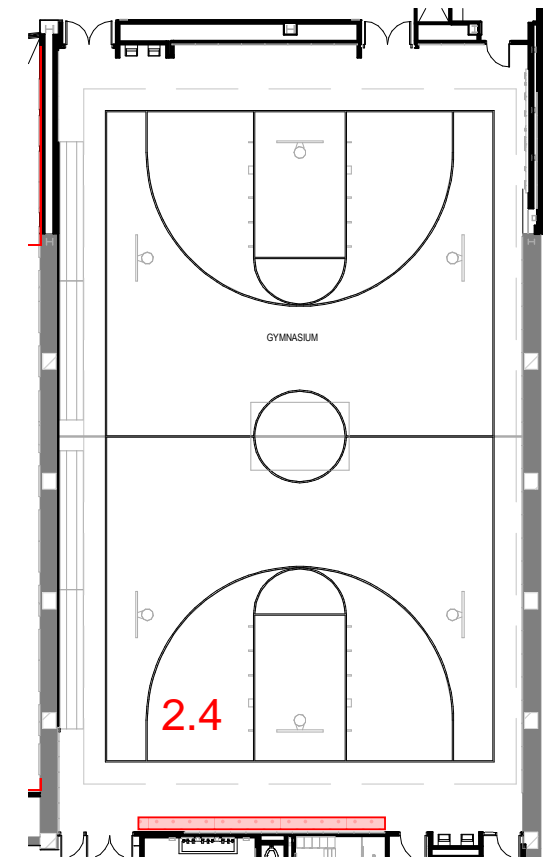
2.3 LIBRARY

- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC
- AREA OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE INTEREST - MUST BE SUBTLE/RESPECTFUL OF HISTORIC ELEMENTS (MOLDING, WOOD FLOOR AND STRIPING, BALCONY AND RAILINGS, ETC.)
- APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGES PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE
- UTILIZE WHITE SPACE TO INTEGRATE WITH ARCHITECTURE
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: ABSTRACT, GEOMETRY, COURT LINES, LEARNING, GROWING, LIFE, HISTORY

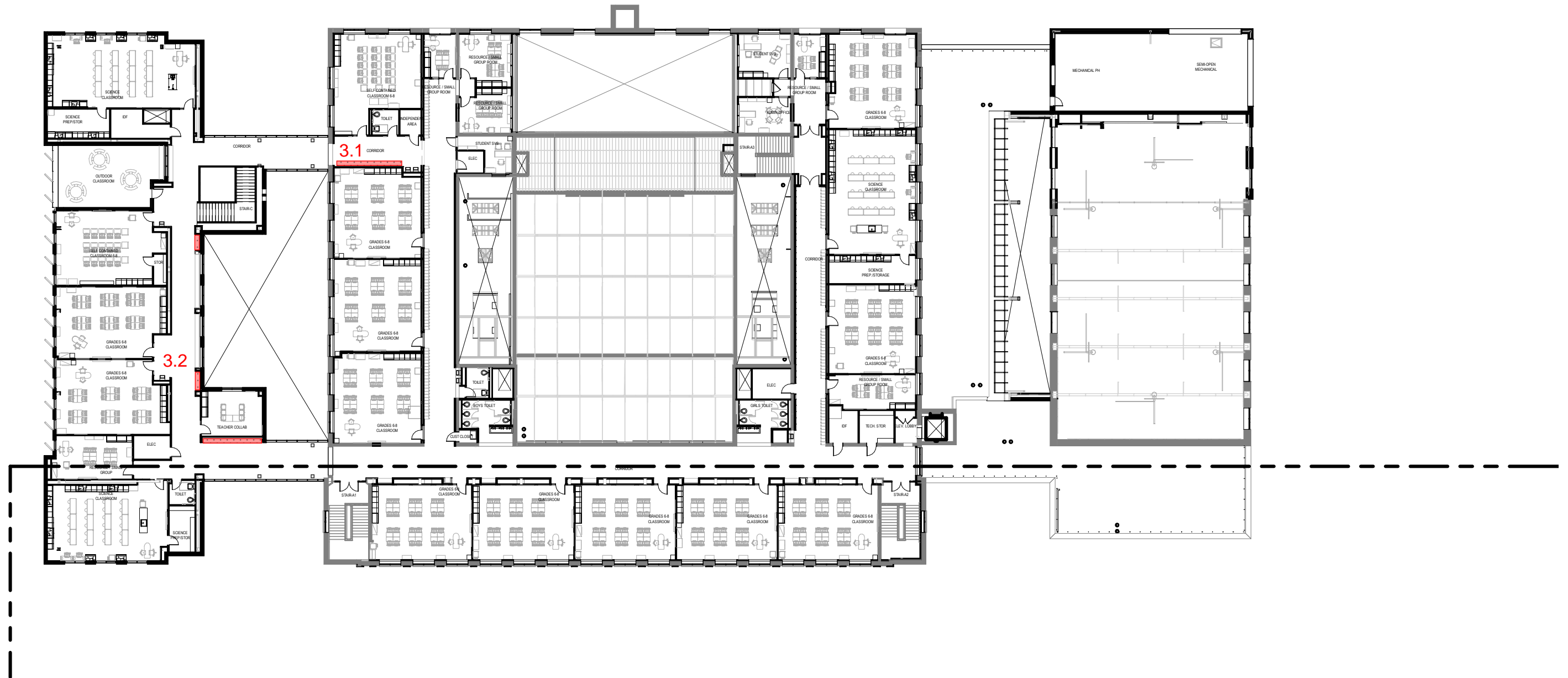


2.4 GYMNASIUM

- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC
- INCLUDE SCHOOL NAME
"SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS @ FRANCIS STEVENS"
- INCLUDE SCHOOL COLORS (YELLOW / PURPLE)
- SCHOOL MASCOT: TIGERS
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: SCHOOL SPIRIT

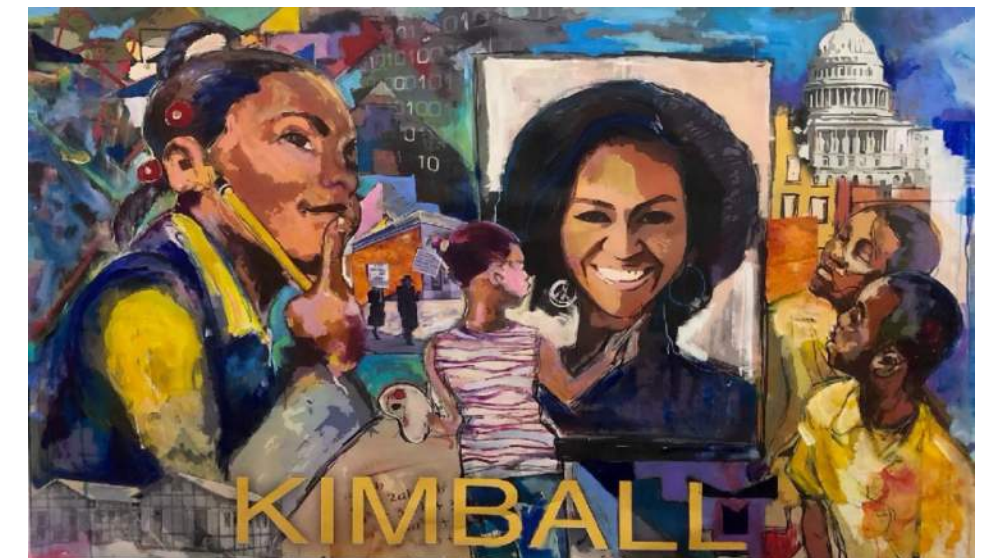
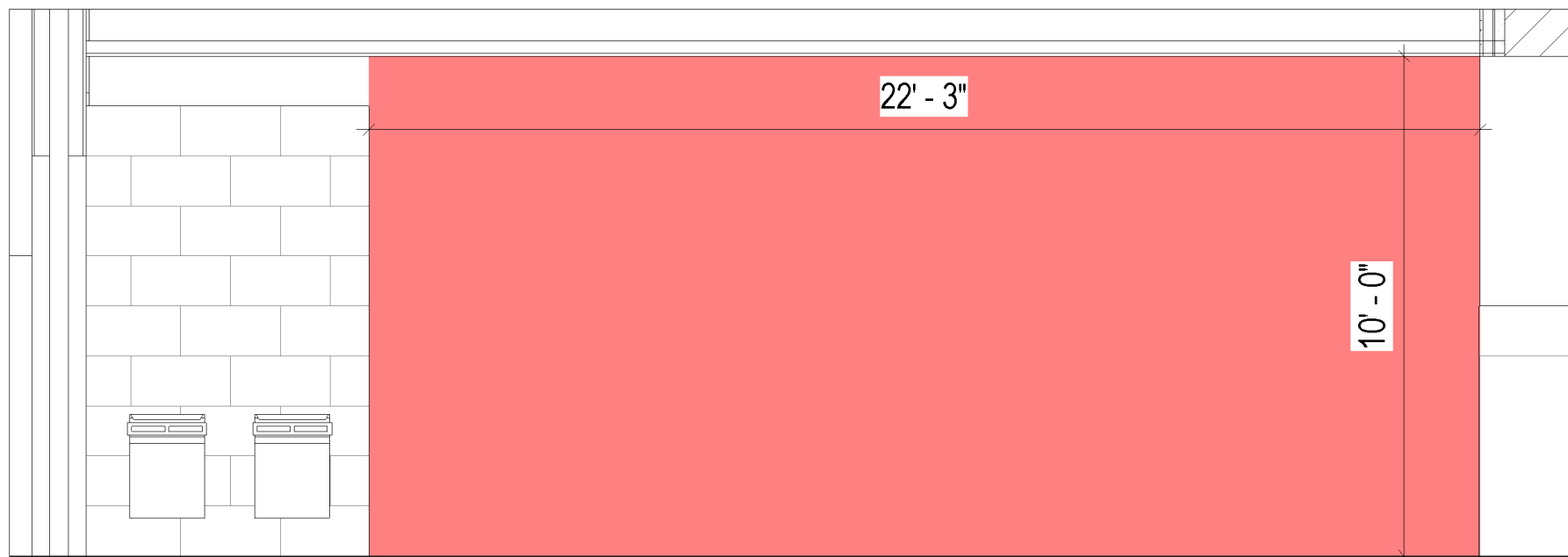
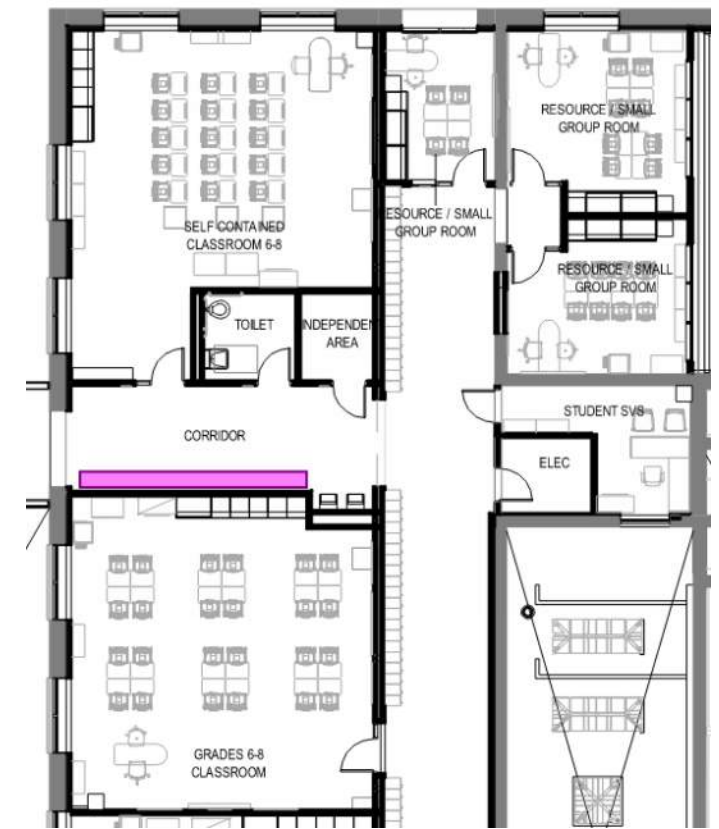


FLOOR 03



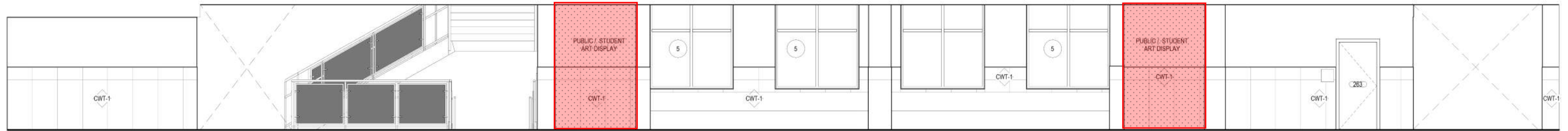
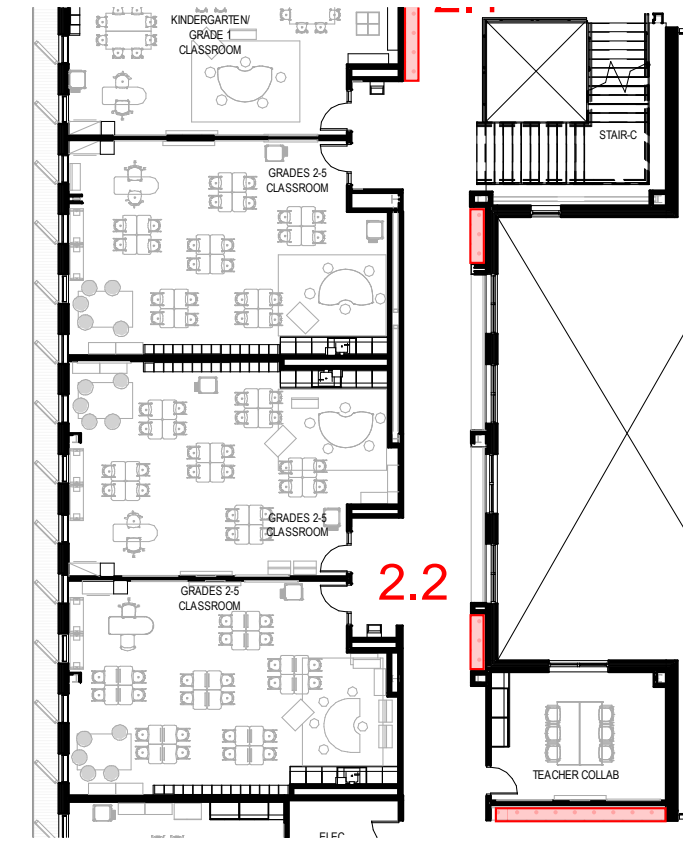
3.1 LINK HALLWAY

- VINYL WALL GRAPHIC
- APPROPRIATE FOR 6TH GRADE TO 8TH GRADE LEVEL
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, LEARNING, AFFIRMATION

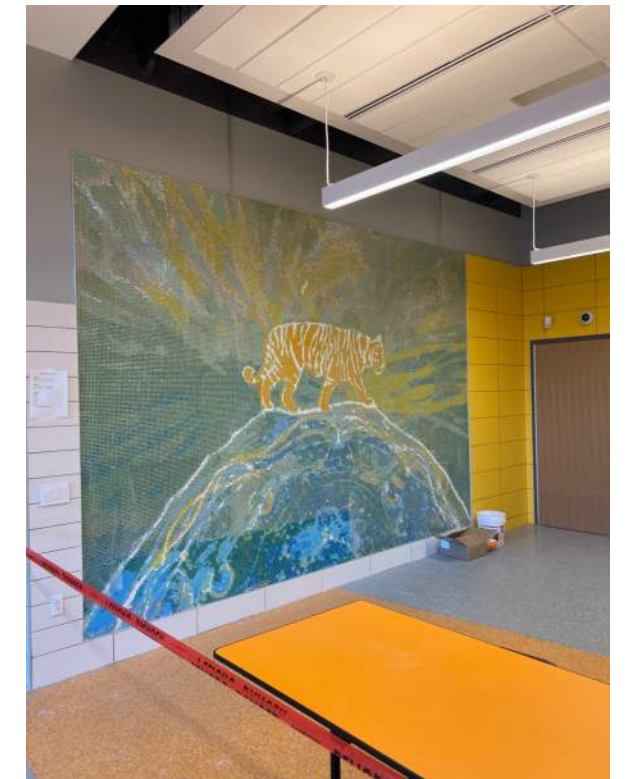
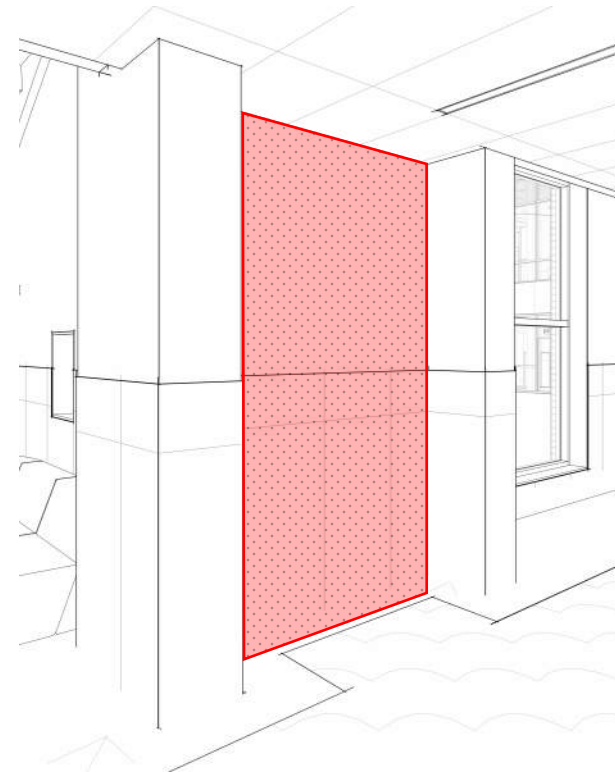
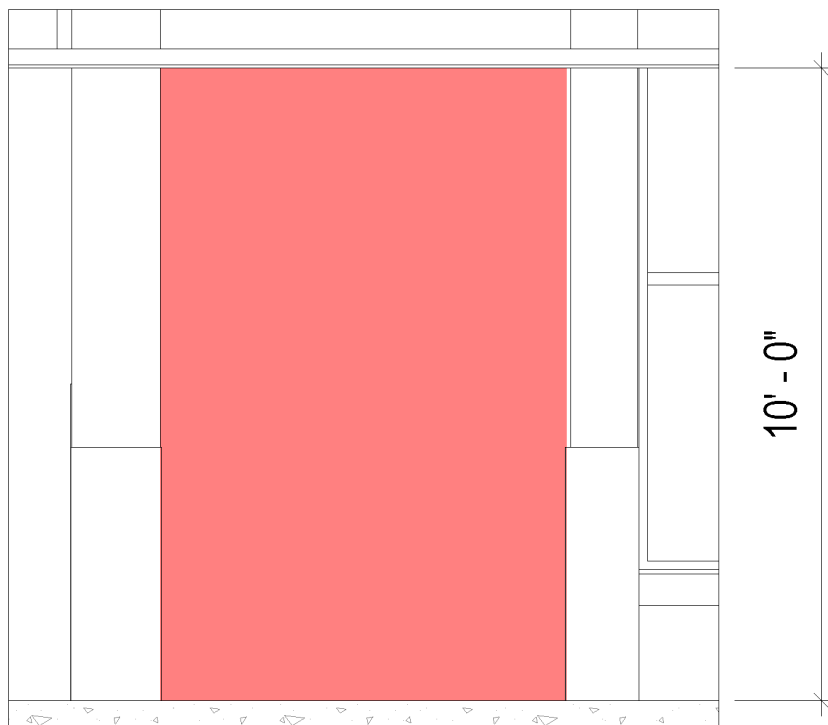


3.2 HALLWAY NOOKS

- 2 RELATED NOOKS
- 3D RELIEF DURABLE MATERIAL: MOSAIC, WOOD, ACRYLIC, ETC.
- FOUND OBJECTS TO INCLUDE STUDENT INPUT
- GC TO PROVIDE BLOCKING
- APPROPRIATE FOR 6TH TO 8TH GRADE LEVEL
- DESIGN INSPIRATION: LEARNING, PLAY, COMMUNITY, NATURE, HUMAN SCALE



6' - 6"





SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS @ FRANCIS STEVENS

THANK YOU