

# TORRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



WHAT YOU DO, DO WELL...

TPS SECONDARY AD HOC COMMITTEE | MARCH 19, 2020

## **TORRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT**

COMPLETED TO DATE:

- ✓ **DEFINE NEEDS** – Student retention, aging building with maintenance concerns, provide programs and spaces appropriate for current and future learning opportunities
- ✓ **DETERMINE EDUCATION GOALS** – Visioning Day; Interviews with students, faculty, staff, and administrators; development of pathways
- ✓ **ASSESS CONDITION OF CURRENT FACILITY AND SITE** – Existing Facility Assessment
- ✓ **STUDY ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS** - Demographic Study and Enrollment Projections
- ✓ **COMMUNICATE WITH THE STATE** – Meeting with the Office of School Construction Grants & Review



# EDUCATIONAL GOALS - VISIONING

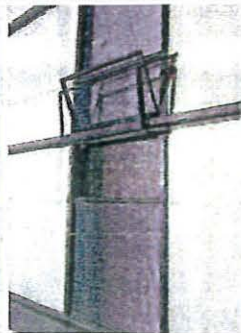
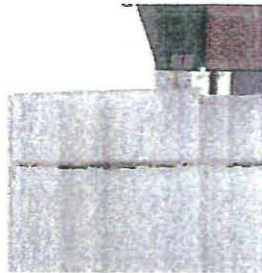
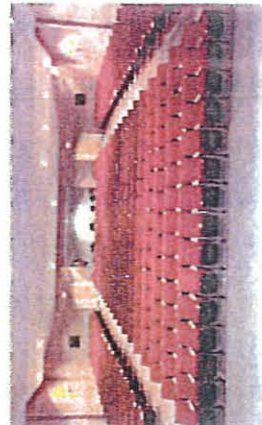
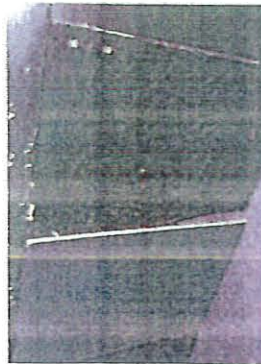
SEPTEMBER 2019

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ✓ Prepare students for success in the 21st century, an emerging world of global competition, uncertain employment prospects simultaneous with unheralded workplace opportunities, infinite access to information, and rapid change in technology
- ✓ Teach 21st century skills at the same time as traditional content
- ✓ Build relationships with students, families, and communities through school structure and program



# **CONDITION OF CURRENT FACILITY AND SITE** **FALL 2019**





## PROJECTED ENROLLMENT

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

- School construction grants require the District to study enrollment projections.
- A Demographic Study and Enrollment Projections was completed by New England School Development Council.
- The Office of School Construction Grants & Review (OSCG&R) and the State Department of Education base reimbursement on the highest projected enrollment in the next 8 years.
- The study shows that the highest enrollment for grades 7 through 12 in the next 8 years is estimated to be 1,571 students in School Year 2020-2021.
- Enrollment is declining throughout many Connecticut schools.
- Increased retention of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students could offset declining enrollment.

## OFFICE OF SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS & REVIEW MEETING

FEBRUARY 2020

- The state encourages the district to study 3 options:
  1. Renovation (all-inclusive: repairs and educational program needs)
  2. New Construction
  3. Repair (rarely best option)
- Projected / Design Population = 1,571 students in grades 7 through 12
- Target building size is based on population.
- OSCG&R will allow demolition and new construction if appropriate.
- OSCG&R supports plans to move 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the high school campus.
- OSCG&R supports providing additional space for Central Offices.
- Requires Educational Specifications to be submitted with the Grant Application.



## STATE GUIDELINES & STATUTES IMPACT DESIGN & PLANNING

- Recommended space allowances based on grade and function of the room
- Requirements for High Performance Buildings
- School Safety and Security Criteria
- Reimbursement
  - Partial reimbursement is provided for auditoriums, athletic fields, gymnasium seating, and pools (natatoriums).
  - Reimbursement is directly related to the projected population and the grade levels served. The state will support a building that is right-sized to support education. They are making an investment and help fund many construction projects, including improvements to existing buildings. If the building is built larger than appropriate, it will likely require higher costs for maintenance and future improvements.



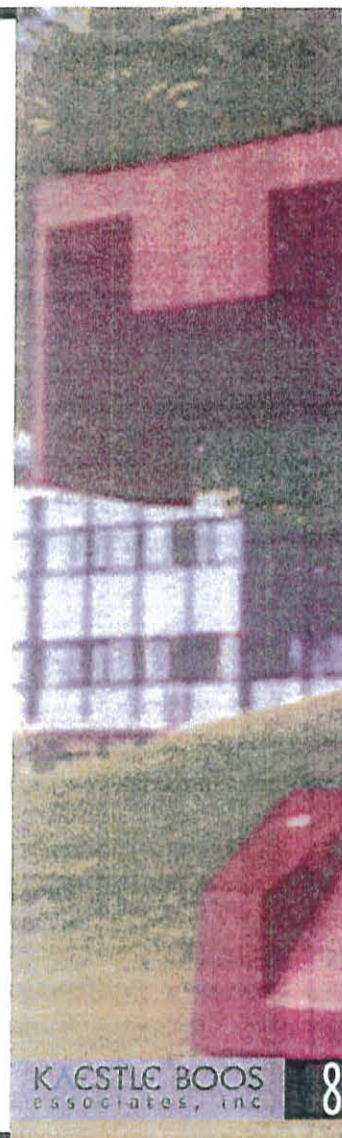
## STATE STATUTES IMPACT PROCEDURES

Statutes define timeline and require local approvals and authorizations:

- The City Council must authorize Board of Education to apply for a school construction grant.
- Educational Specifications must be approved by the Board of Education.
- The City Council must establish a Building Committee.

The Building Committee works with the architect, stakeholders, OSCG&R, and the State Department of Education as needed. They are responsible for implementing the educational specifications approved by the Board of Education.

- The City Council must authorize the preparation of drawings and specifications.
- For Torrington, the City Council must provide the notice of a referendum prior to the District applying for a grant. The OSCG&R allows the referendum to occur after the application is submitted, prior to December 2020.

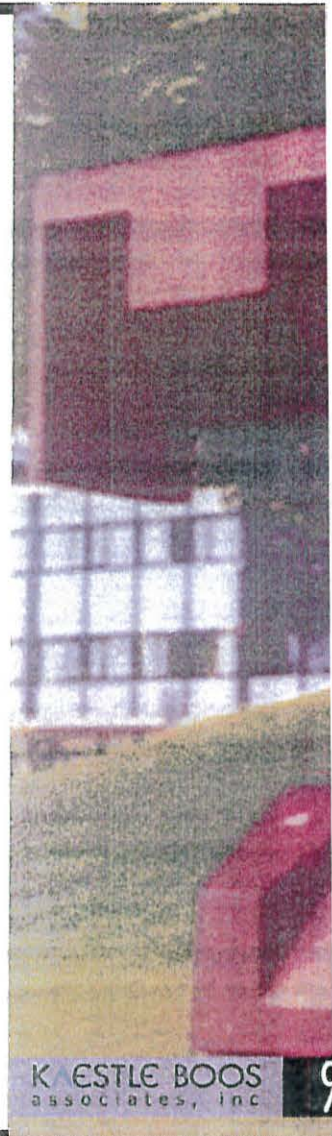




## EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

### ONGOING

- Process involves vetting information received from faculty, staff, students, and stakeholders
- Should align with:
  - Educational goals, the nature and organization of the educational program
  - Projected enrollment and proposed project capacity
  - Allowable reimbursable square footage
- Should include:
  - Long-range plan
  - Rationale
  - Compilation of all interior and exterior school program areas, with sizes
  - Description of building systems and other features important to the project
  - Specialized equipment and educational technology needs



## MEETINGS WITH LEADERSHIP TEAM & SECONDARY AD HOC

ONGOING

- The architect has been meeting with a Leadership Team comprised of city leadership, administrators, teachers, and community leaders – all stakeholders in the project. The Team provides feedback regarding:
  - Opportunities in the school design for community connections
  - Organization of middle school and high school programs / spaces
  - Plans for shared school and community resources
- The architect will continue to meet with the TPS Secondary Ad Hoc Committee to provide information, answer questions, and welcome feedback. The TPS Secondary Ad Hoc Committee will be important part of outreach and communicating the importance of the project to the school and community.



## DESIGN OPTIONS AND COSTS

### ONGOING

KBA is currently working on the design and documentation of 3 options:

1. Renovation, grades 7-12

All-inclusive: repairs and educational program needs

2. New Construction, grades 7-12

3. Repair, grades 9-12

Addresses physical plant/site features, code, and accessibility, not educational program changes

Cost estimates will be provided for each option.



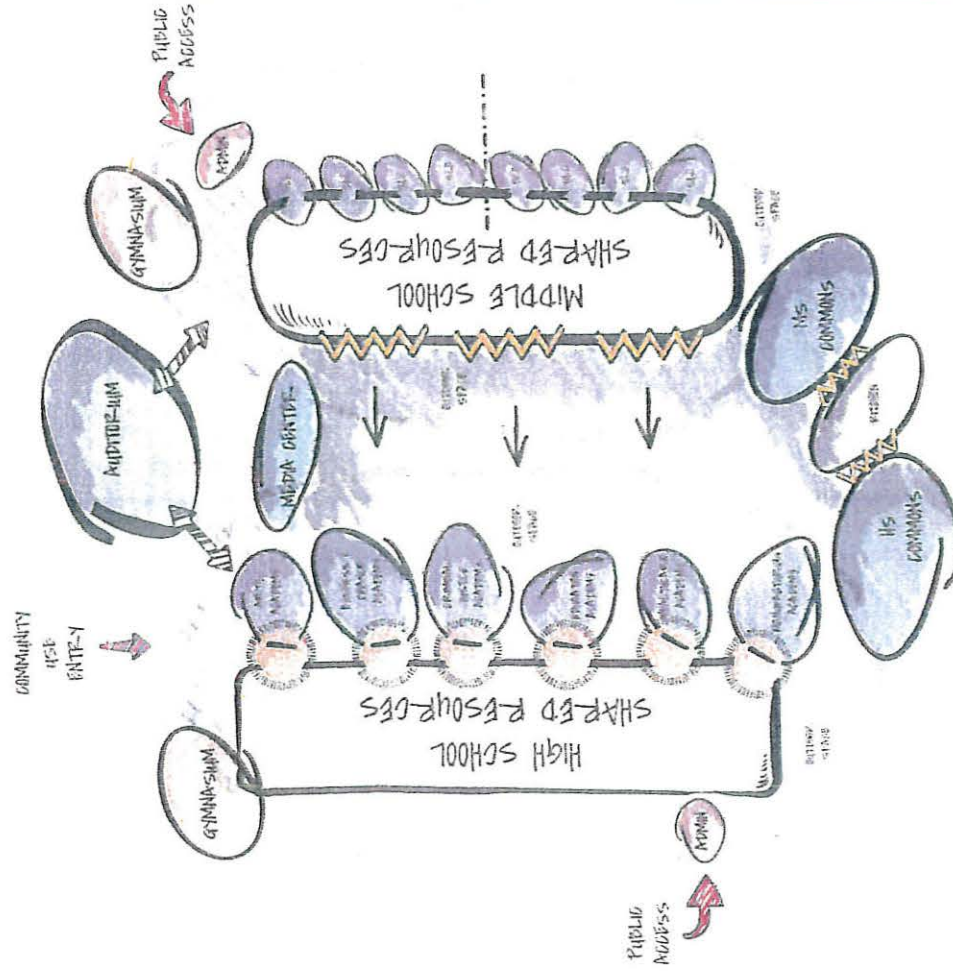
# WHAT IS THE RIGHT SOLUTION FOR TORRINGTON?

## CONCEPTUAL DIAGRAM

BASED ON EDUCATIONAL VISIONING

SEPTEMBER 2019

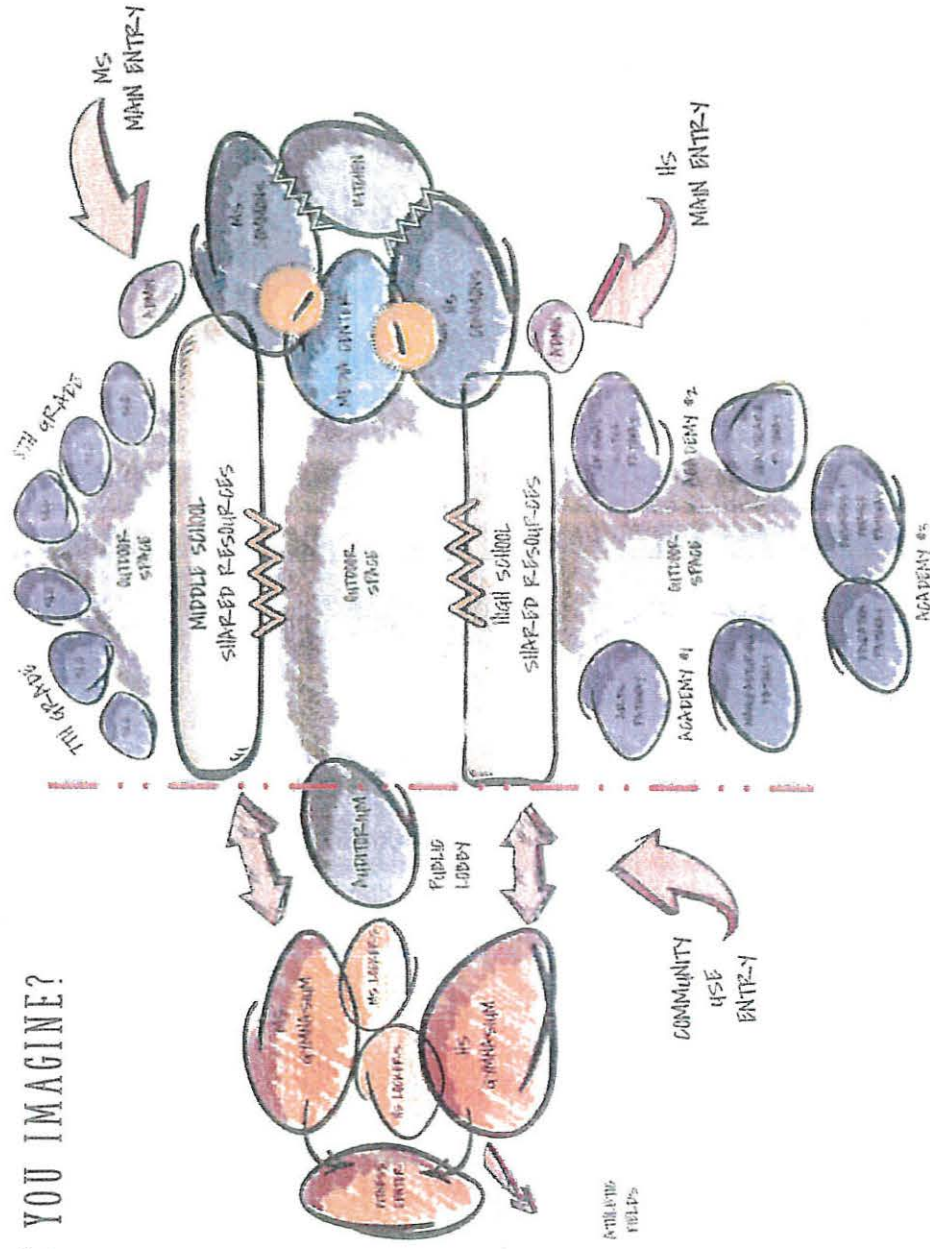
INTERVIEWS WITH FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND ADMINISTRATORS





# SPATIAL ADJACENCIES

CAN YOU IMAGINE?



## TIMELINE

- April 2020: City Council to Approve Local Resolutions
- April 2020: Board of Education to Finalize & Approve Educational Specifications
- May 2020: Present Options & Costs, Approve Preferred Solution
- June 30, 2020: Deadline for School Construction Grant Application
- Summer 2020: Outreach, Public Meetings / Forums
- September 2020: Referendum
- Fall 2020 – Summer 2021: Architect Prepares Detailed Drawings & Specifications
- Spring/Summer 2021: General Assembly authorizes Commissioner of Education to enter into Grant Commitments
- Summer 2021: Local and State Final Review and Approval of Project
- Summer 2021: Public Bidding
- Summer/Fall 2021: Start Construction

