

For English I decided to look at a bunch of sources that talk about key elements that go into the design of a 21st century school design. With these elements I used the perspective of both architects and students to analyze the elements and how both sides would feel about this design element. I based these perspectives off researching architects'/engineers' ideas on the topics and using the survey I made for the students' perspective.

“Being able to move” (multiple working spaces):

Being able to move is giving the students more options when it comes to places to work.

Architect: As an architect, this is a tough task to do because it takes up space that could be used for better things. It is fun on the other hand to do because you can make each workspace different from the last as long as you stay to building codes and it's what the client wants. As an architect you hate to add walls especially when they are mostly unnecessary. Some of these working zones are being made for safety reasons too so in case of a threat the students stay safe in a protective zone.

(Weziak-Bialowolska, Vukovic, McCoy, Gonzalez)

Student: As a student, being able to work in a different spot each day is amazing! Your mind will continue to become stagnant and less creative each day if you are stuck in the same classroom everyday. Having the ability to work in different areas gives us the chance to get new ideas and possibly have some fun with our work. The only thing that I worry about these working zones is how safe are they if an intruder were to just walk in? The thing about a classroom is that you are prepared and ready in the classroom, but in a possible open work space? There is nothing to defend yourself other than to possibly run to the nearest classroom or safe zone. Overall having multiple working environments is still a very good thing and something fun to that all students enjoy.

Open environment:

An open environment is all about having a welcoming feeling when you walk into the room. For example the use of floor to ceiling windows, open concept floor plans, and limiting of walls.

Architect: An open environment or open concept is something that any person can easily enjoy because of its simplistic nature and convenience. Having an open concept can be very appealing in something like residential homes and office construction but in a school it can become a safety concern for students and teachers alike. With more natural light from large windows and open viewing pathways for teachers to keep an eye on students comes also come more lines of sight for intruders to use. An open concept is also an idea that has been around for a while and proven to be successful. There are also many safe options to use or do to still have an open concept. For example very thick large windows and collapsible doors/walls.(Weziak-Bialowolska, Vukovic, Lange, Krueger)

Student: An open environment is very cool and something that I know I enjoy. It makes the building feel super big and is an interesting place to work. I know it's an obvious safety risk but there has to be some kind of safe area very close around or precautions that could be taken right? I also know that the teachers have to love the open environment because they are able to see us working at all times and make sure we're not getting distracted either. Overall an open environment is something that is enjoyable and productive to our working process. There are safety concerns but there are also safety concerns with just about every other area.

Few Points of entry:

Few points of entry is pretty basic and means that there are few locations around the building that students and teachers can enter. This is to make sure that no one who shouldn't enter the building does enter.

Architect: Having a few points of entry in a building has its pros and cons but to an architect whose job it is to design buildings as pieces of art, it can be very difficult to make one or two entry points. It can depend on the type of building that your designing. For example if your designing a residential home or condo one or two points of entry is quite normal but if your designing a large building like an office or a school having one or two entry points just doesn't look good and sit well with the artistic side of architects. There are requirements to an exist every couple of feet in a large building for safety reasons but an exit is not the same as an entrance. At the end of the day however it is all about what the client wants and that may be a few entrances for safety which is always a priority. (Weziak-Bialowolska, Vukovic, Krueger)

Student: As far as locations you can enter the school goes only having one or maybe even two isn't too bad as long as you don't park super far away from them in the morning. I know it makes it a lot easier for the entry points to be watched carefully if there are only one or two which makes me feel safe when I'm in school. One of my main concerns when it comes to school is all about my safety and one spot to enter the school is perfect because everyone going in and out is seen and checked to make sure that they do not pose a threat to us at school. It can be annoying at times when your running late and you have to walk or run far to get to the entrance but for the price of safety it's well worth it.

The use of Bright colors:

Bright colors are in the building for multiple reasons. A few are to show possible safe zones, landmarkings, and even to help mentally for some students.

Architect: Bright colors and patterns as long as they work well together are amazing. They can make a small space feel bigger and better. They also reflect light really well and make people have better moods depending on the color. Being able to use a variety of bright colors when designing a building truly feels like your creating an art piece. Bright colors have been proven to make people have better attitudes

towards working and being productive. You can also use colors to signify certain zones like safe zone, working zones, or any other kind of zone that you would find in an office or school building. Bright colors could be painted on the ceiling/walls, carpets/flooring, or furniture in the building. (Weziak-Bialowolska, Vukovic, Gonzalez)

Student: No matter what they are used for bright colors on the walls, floors, or chairs and sofas are super cool. They make our work environment a fun spot to be everytime. It's also very useful for me too because they make feel creative and help inspire ideas too. Also with certain areas the colors are used to show safe zones where we can hide from intruders. The markings on the floors show lines of sight that we need to stay out of for our safety. The only down side of bright colors is that it can be too much if they don't match or don't fit well together. The design has to be thought out and not thrown together.

Also on a side note: through my research I found a very interesting paragraph on design and perspective that I thought was very interesting. It is from HCM Architects and is called Designing Safe School Collaboratively.

"No one knows a school like its administrators and faculty, which is why we put a strong focus on collaboration throughout the design process. Whether we are engaged to design a new high school or renovate an existing one, we discuss concerns with administrators as well as their teaching, maintenance, operations, and security staff. We also take into account the concerns and perspectives of parents and students, and share the insights we've gathered from our work on similar projects. Finally, we talk to local police and fire departments to understand their needs regarding emergency access and response. By approaching a project from all perspectives, we can arrive at the best solution for designing safe and secure school (Krueger)."