



## Capital Program: AAPS Staff FAQs

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### Major Construction Projects (Dicken, Logan, Mitchell, Thurston)

Q1. Will classrooms include: built-in storage or closets?

Current designs include both built-in casework and mobile storage solutions in each Classroom, plus additional Teacher resource storage in each grade level pod (aka Flexible Learning Environment).

Q2. What classroom furniture is planned (student desks, flexible seating, teacher furniture)?

Roughly 80% of existing classroom furniture will be re-used in the new facility, augmented by new Classroom furniture which supports flexible furniture configurations.

Q3. Will classrooms include sinks in each classroom?

Generally, in-room lavatories and sinks are provided for lower EL classrooms. Lavatories are provided within Classroom restrooms and separate project sinks are provided in Classrooms. Generally, upper EL classrooms are not equipped with lavatories or sinks in the classrooms. Instead, upper EL Learning Commons spaces are equipped with project sinks, which are connected directly to the adjacent classrooms.

Q4. Will specials rooms (e.g., PLTW) include a sink?

All Specials Rooms include in-room sinks.

Q5. Will there be assigned OSE spaces (Speech, OT, Resource Room, etc.)?

OSE programs which exist at schools prior to design / construction are provided in new buildings, configured, located, and equipped to meet current standards. Each school Principal will be responsible to assign spaces to staff from among several types of available spaces.

Q6. Will OSE spaces include adequate storage?

During design, storage needs were studied with school and District participation to ensure that storage size, depth, lockability, and durability align with the needs of each program. Special attention has been given to the complex nature of the student support team.

Q7. Will there be dedicated staff workspaces separate from classrooms?

Yes, Staff-only workspaces have been provided for planning, small-group work, and storage of personal & professional materials.

Q8. Will there be a designated meeting or conference space equipped with projection and space for team meetings, IEPs and family conferences?

Yes, new designs are equipped with multiple spaces that can serve this purpose.



#### Q9. Will there be dedicated staff parking?

Dedicated staff parking has been provided for all staff in the building on a typical day.

#### Q10. Will there be a fence around the playground?

Fences enclosing the district's preschool playgrounds are required by code, but lower and upper elementary playgrounds are not scheduled to be fenced in.

#### Q11. How will doors be secured?

Each major project involves professional safety consultants that develop a layered security approach. Best practice safety measures, including features such as secure entry vestibules, lock off points, etc. will be included in all new buildings.

#### Q12. How does the entry way vestibule work?

Secure vestibules are indoor spaces at main entries which visitors have access to during regular school hours. They do not provide access to any other part of the building unless visitors have first cleared security checks and have been buzzed in by office staff.

After hours, if there are no scheduled events in the building, secure vestibules are locked to the outside.

#### Q13. Will the music room have sound proof paneling available/integrated in music rooms?

All occupiable spaces in new buildings are engineered acoustically for their intended purpose by qualified professionals. Sound isolation, reverberation, and background noise levels are engineered to meet or exceed industry best-practice acoustic standards.

#### Q14. What are the different collaborative spaces for varying sized groups?

Collaboration can occur in many ways in the new designs, but the primary types of additional collaboration spaces in new buildings include learning commons spaces, small group rooms, and educator workshops within grade-level cohort learning environments (pods / houses). Where these spaces are intended for student collaboration, they are designed to be supervisable from surrounding classrooms and other adult-occupied spaces.

Learning commons spaces are designed to be used by groups as small as 2 to 4 students and as large as 8 to 12. Small group rooms are designed for 2 to 6 students.

#### Q15. What is the size of the classrooms?

New elementary school buildings are designed with classrooms averaging 840 SF in size.

#### Q16. Will each first-floor classroom have an exterior door?

In current projects, each ground floor learning commons (classroom) will have direct access to the exterior and each upper floor learning commons will have direct access to a stair which leads to the exterior.



Q17. Will classrooms have dimmable LED lighting?

Yes, each classroom will be equipped with two-zone dimmable LED lighting. One zone will be for the front of the classroom (teaching wall), the other for the remainder of the classroom.

Q18. Where will students store their belongings?

Storage for coats, boots, and backpacks is provided for all students within their respective learning commons, in dedicated mudrooms equipped with cubbies for each student.

Q19. Will the school have a clothes washer and dryer?

Yes. A washer / dryer will be provided in the general office area, either within or nearby to the clinic.

Q20. Will the new building allow for cell signals (no dead zones)?

Code requires that new projects comply with radio signal coverage minimums for emergency responders, however this system is not designed to limit cell phone coverage.

Q21. How many EV chargers will be available for staff in the parking lot?

New projects are EV-ready, but the district does not anticipate charging infrastructure to be in place and operational for start of school.

Q22. Can the student toilets have actual handles? How about hand dryers rather than paper towel?

Toilet handles are difficult-to-clean high-touch surfaces. Touchless sensors reduce hand contact and cross contamination risk. Hand dryers are known to aerosolize airborne contaminants common in restrooms. Paper towel use reduces the spread of these contaminants.

Q23. Has the building design been finalized or is there an opportunity to provide requests/input?

The design teams may be bringing some opportunities to staff to provide feedback. However, the buildings are currently being constructed.

Q24. Will classrooms have both a whiteboard and a smartboard?

New learning studios are designed with infrastructure to allow for various technologies which include smartboards and white boards where feasible.

Q25. Will the cafeteria have options for students needing a more sensory-accommodating area (quieter)?

Furniture selection can assist in creating a solution; and in this case options will be investigated.

Q26. How will items be moved from one building to the other and does it include both district issued and personal items?

To review the district's packing policy, please [click here](#).



Last Updated: 5/27/2026