



Welcome to this tour of Groves Academy's exciting new building project. We hope you will enjoy learning more about our plans.

On a tour of the new site, students and parents will first notice a change in the parking lot, drop-off and pick-up areas, and the sports field and playground. Students will have a new soccer field and a new playground area for recess and after school activities. The parking lot will improve traffic flow, and the drop-off and pick-up area will handle more cars more efficiently.



Visitors will also notice an addition on the south and east faces of the gym. The south end will house a multi-purpose room for student activities and outreach programs.

The eastside addition will hold offices as some current offices will be replaced by additional classrooms.

Parents and students will observe more significant changes as they walk throughout the building. As students enter the cafeteria, they will find a completely renovated space, the new dining hall and student center. A warm, friendly place with abundant natural light, students will gather there for meals and to socialize both before and after school, and parents and members of the community will enjoy its meeting space. The updated kitchen will allow us to prepare our own healthy (and tasty!) meals.



As students leave the new dining hall and walk down the back hallway, they will find a brand new woodshop where the boiler room used to be. This new space will have more room for tools, projects, and storage. Students will enjoy natural light and the benefits of better ventilation and dust collecting systems. The new woodshop will allow students to develop



more fully their skills and talents in woodworking and will foster skills in planning and organization through Project Based Learning.

Lower and Upper School students will also benefit from a new HVAC system that will deliver consistently comfortable temperatures year round.

This will result in a less distracting environment for everyone, especially during season changes when the temperature can fluctuate greatly.

As students continue their walk up the back stairway, they will find the northwest end of the building is the site of a new two-story addition (approximately 1,700 square feet). This will house a new program, the Groves Post Secondary (GPS) Program. When the GPS Program has outgrown this space, the addition will become another classroom upstairs and a garage for vehicles and storage downstairs.

The journey continues with students entering the upstairs gymnasium. In its place, they will find a modern multi-media center and library. On the old gym floor, students will notice study areas, appropriately divided by carefully spaced bookshelves, study carrels, and large tables where they



can connect to our server and internet with their wireless laptops. (All Middle and Upper School students will have their own laptops.) An interactive white board

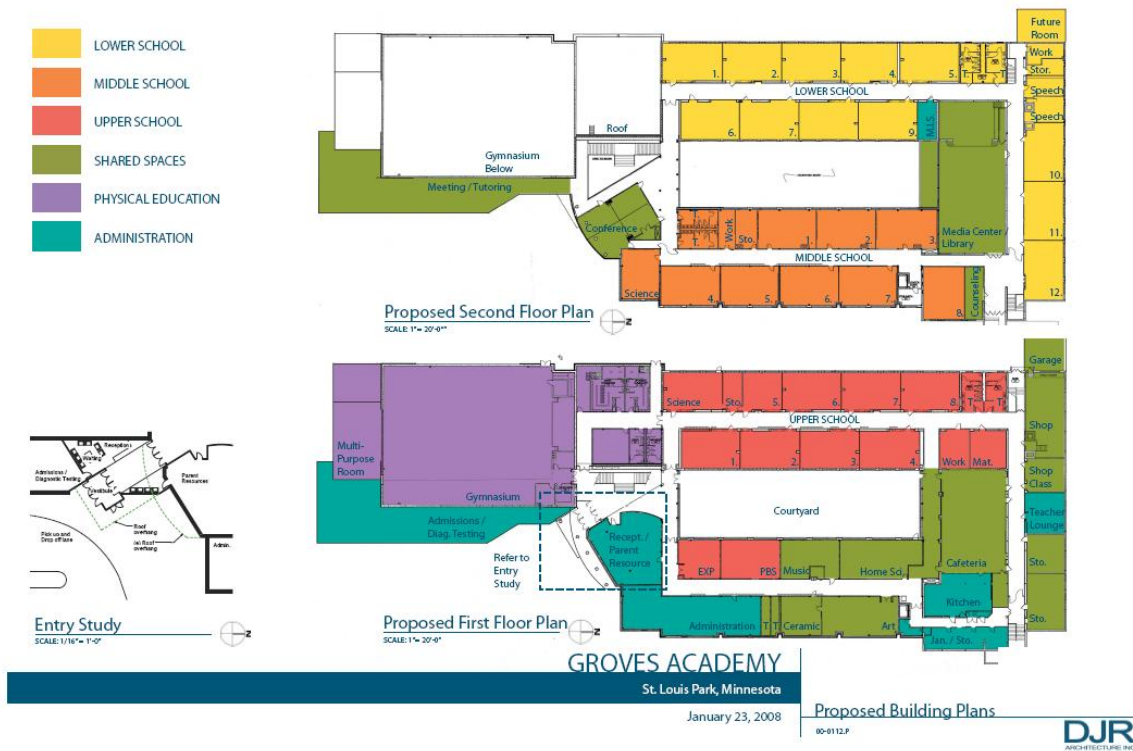


will be available for students and teachers conducting research or collaborating on a project. The stage of the gymnasium will hold a audio and video recording studio and computers for audio, video, and photo editing. This new technology will be used throughout the school day and for after school activities.

Students will also be impressed with a wall of windows on the south side of the multi-media center. The windows will allow natural light to flood the entire space, creating a very comfortable environment, even in the middle of the winter. As students look upward, they will see a mezzanine area, the school's new library. This mezzanine will more than double the size of the current library and will provide ample space for students to find a comfortable chair or nook in which to read.



More technology will also improve the student experience. As mentioned, each Middle and Upper School student will have his/her own laptop for use in class and for homework, and Lower School students will have access to laptop carts. Most classrooms will be equipped with interactive white boards, and students will have even greater access to text-to-speech and speech-to-text hardware and software. And the new recording studios and computers for graphic design are sure to be student favorites.



The last part of our tour asks you to imagine new classrooms where the current library, media center, woodshop, and business offices are now. New classrooms mean more students will be able to attend Groves, yet we can enroll new students while still maintaining our average class size of eight.