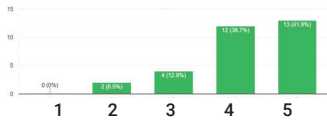
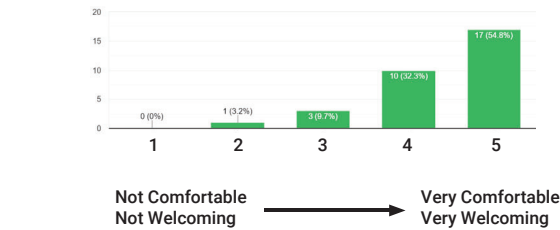
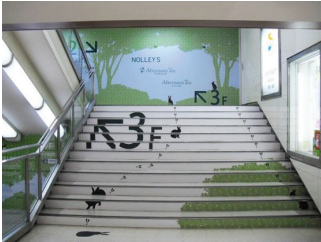


COMFORTING/ WELCOMING SPACE - Final

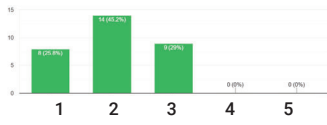
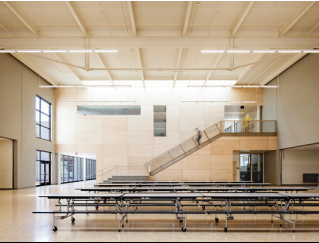
We received 31 replies to the Google Survey! - Here are the summaries of what we heard.



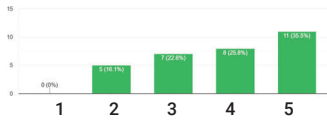
1.1
This space tended to resonate with people; daylight, the warmth of the materials, the colorful artwork, the large windows and the visual connection to the exterior space made the space feel inviting.



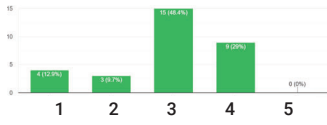
3.3
Although people express that they like color and art, few people liked this specific graphic. Generally, it was felt that this graphic does not feel appropriate for IBW, the artwork feels juvenile or trendy and the lighting harsh.



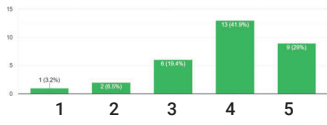
1.2
This space was generally preceived as uncomfortable due to its boxy shape, its stark color palette, and the lack of artwork and color. The seating was preceived as uncomfortable and the lack of windows and views outside were noted.



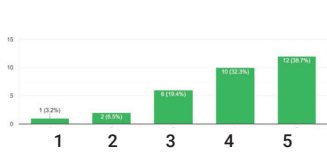
3.4
In general this space is really loved. People find the use of wood and large windows with a view to make a really comfortable space. People find the space underutilized and would like to see more seating and more art.



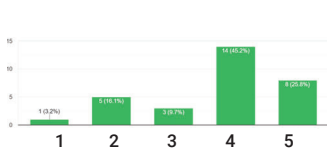
1.3
Sentiment was split on this space: people generally liked this space for its daylight, views, and lively feeling, it was disliked for feeling too large/ vast, too crowded, and potentially overwhelming.



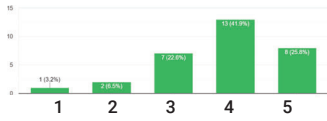
3.5
A lot of people like this space for its scale, it feels big but also cozy. The circulation wrapping around the space feels natural to people and helps the cozy feeling by breaking up the volume of the space. A few people find it dark or potentially noisy.



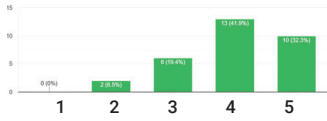
1.4
This space is appreciated for its brightness and flexibility. There are concerns about accessibility, and to some the space feels confusing. A few people felt that there is too much white/gray without enough warm natural tones.



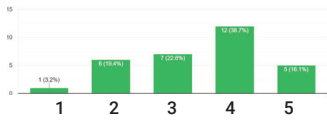
4.1
This space feels exclusive to some, due to the long table and narrow walkways, it does not feel like a place where many different groups could feel comfortable. The idea of outdoor learning spaces and outdoor covered space resonates with many.



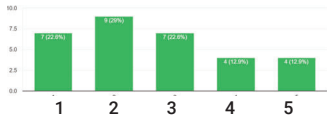
1.5
Many felt that the warmth, variety of seating, and texture were welcoming in this space. The connection between the two levels feels confusing and disjointed to some. It's criticized for feeling darker, inaccessible, and too corporate.



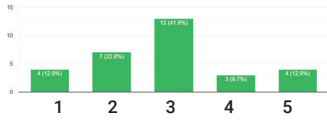
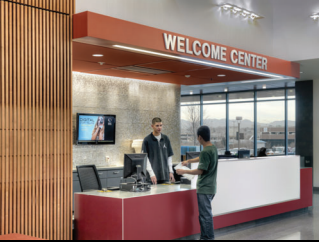
4.2
Generally seen as welcoming, people like the balance between plant life, seating, and walkways. The space feels open, organic, and functional to most people. There is some desire for more covered area and more seating.



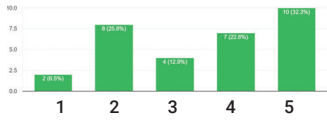
1.6
This space feels very warm, inviting, comfortable, and cozy while still being open. Some find it too open, the space too tall/narrow, or the quality too serious. More playfulness in the space is wanted.



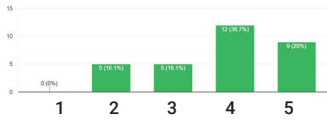
4.3
Although some like the dynamic and natural look of this, it is generally deemed unwelcoming, it looks difficult to use, uncomfortable, and may be more appropriate as a play structure or in a different climate.



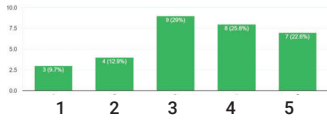
2.1
This space invoked ambivalent feelings. Some felt like it was accessible, open, and functional, featuring clear signage. Many felt like it is too impersonal, sterile, and businesslike for a school.



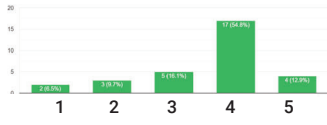
4.4
People find this space tranquil and an important connection to nature but also find the idea of sitting in it uncomfortable from the perspective of being watched. There are concerns about maintenance and usability.



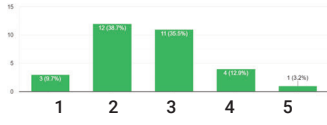
2.2
Generally people liked this space for its warmth, use of wood, daylight, and approachability. Many noted that the reception desk is off to the side, making it more informal. Some were worried that it's not straightforward and obvious enough for the reception.



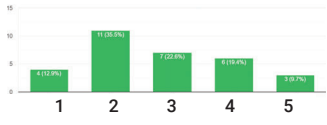
4.5
Generally people like the wide, well lit pathways and well lit entrance and windows for night use. Many people wish to see more places to rest/ sit in this area to encourage casual gathering or make it more comfortable for waiting.



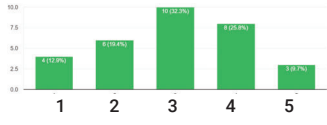
3.1
A lot of people love the color and playfulness of this space. The different scales of stairs, alcoves, playful lighting design all contribute to a fun space. Some feel like the contrast is too harsh, the colors too juvenile, and the surfaces too hard.



4.6
Generally this space feels stark and uncomfortable. The ground material looks inaccessible and people feel like it is not supposed to be occupied. The lack of covered areas and lack of color are noted.



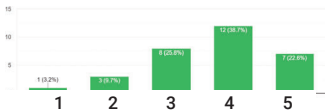
3.2
This space is generally regarded as less welcoming, it is seen as vast with little that is human scale, the concrete columns are intimidating and the space feels lonely. The warmer wood and brick walls are liked, as well as the daylighting.



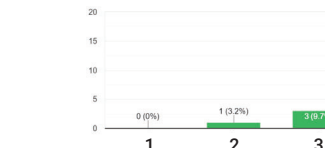
4.7
Many are drawn to the curvy, fun, and unique forms of this seating option. Others find the position to lay down awkward and uncomfortable and worry about pooling water.

COMFORTING/ WELCOMING SPACE - IN PROGRESS

Google Form Survey was sent out last week. Results presented here are in progress with select quotes!

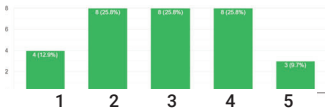


4.8
Generally this space resonates as a warm, inviting, informal gathering space. The wood, plenty of benches and tables, and green surroundings are favored. Concerns include potential vandalism and wanting it to be covered from the rain.

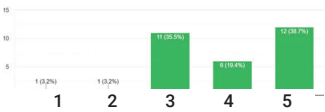


Not Comfortable Not Welcoming → Very Comfortable Very Welcoming

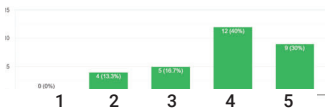
5.9
The space is seen as visually interesting but somewhat impractical. The use of vibrant colors and unconventional seating adds a playful element, but many find it uncomfortable, unfunctional, trendy, and stark.



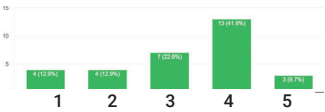
5.1
Generally the light/shadows here were seen as distracting, especially where students may be trying to work on a screen. The small hallway seating was generally seen as positive only if there are other options as well for larger groups.



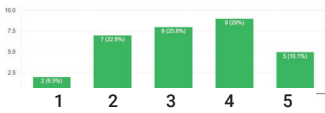
5.10
Generally, the scale, ample daylighting, and variety of seating in this space are liked. The color scheme is a bit cool for some, the ceiling and many of the furniture choices are criticized as uncomfortable.



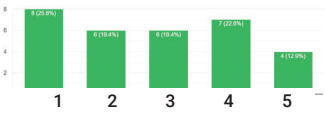
5.2
The wood material, natural light, and cozy places to sit resonate as comfortable. There is some concern that the window seats aren't comfortable or that the scale of the space might feel overwhelming.



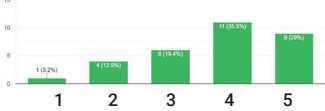
6.1
The signage here is appreciated for being bold and easily readable but is criticized for being mono-lingual. The other wayfinding elements including colored tiles in the floor and ceiling treatment is found helpful but dated.



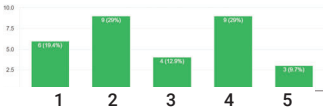
5.3
The creative use of the under stair space being utilized as a cozy seating nook feels very comfortable to some. A few find the space too enclosed, the exposed ceiling feels dark and unfinished.



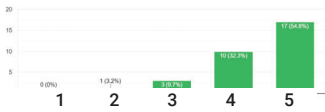
6.2
Some really like the warm, fun energy of this signage and how it aligns with the region's timber history. Some find the style confusing or dated. Generally they want the design/words to be focused on a message that is central to the school.



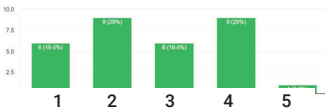
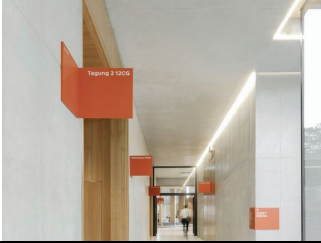
5.4
Overall, this space offers a casual, inviting atmosphere that many appreciate due to the light, flexible seating, and little tables. Others find it impractical or uncomfortable, giving the feeling of sitting on the floor.



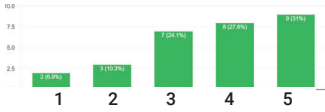
6.3
This signage is found to be generally overbearing in scale and color contrast. Some people like the fun, creative design but generally think it misses the point and feels binary, exclusionary, and dark.



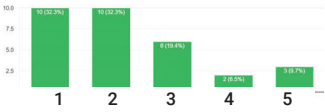
5.5
This is the most loved space, feeling inviting and open. The combination of wood structure, varied and accessible seating, and high windows with a lot of natural light and views to nature and trees makes people feel very good comfortable in this space.



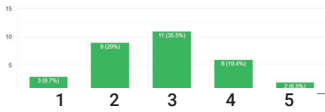
6.4
Overall, this space feels a bit clinical and sparse to people due to a lot of white surfaces. The signage is liked for its colorful and playful nature but generally the words are too small for people to read easily.



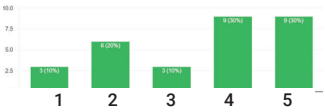
5.6
This space feels inviting to many with the use of wood, playful features like curved seating and artful ceiling treatments, but also feels uncomfortable and odd to others with the ceiling treatment feeling too large for the space.



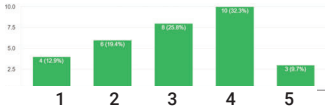
6.5
The idea of a school medallion on the floor is liked by many people feeling it is aligned with school spirit. Most people feel overall that this particular space is dated, confusing, cold, and lacks utility.



5.7
The materials and feeling of this space are not generally inspiring, they feel heavy and generic to people. The built-in bench seating is praised though many wish it looked more comfortable. The wide hallway felt good.



6.6
A lot of people like the color and texture of this art wall and think it brings a lot to the space. Some people find it too busy, confusing, or generic and think that it detracts from a more relaxing environment.



5.8
This space feels welcoming to most with the daylight, views to nature, and use of wood. Some find the dark floor, lack of art on the wall, and the ceiling finish to be boring and plain. Bench seating along with wall was liked.

Key Takeaways for Creating Welcoming and Comfortable Spaces:

- Incorporate Warm and Natural Elements:** Use warm tones and natural materials like wood to create a comforting and inviting atmosphere. These elements help make spaces feel more organic and less sterile.
- Emphasize Natural Light:** Ensure that spaces have plenty of natural light. This not only brightens the environment but also enhances the mood and makes the space feel more open and welcoming.
- Use Varied Seating Options:** Provide a mix of seating types, including both hard and soft options, to cater to different needs and preferences. This variety supports both individual and group activities.
- Prioritize Human Scale and Proportions:** Design spaces that feel appropriately scaled to individuals, avoiding overly large or imposing features. This helps people feel comfortable and not overwhelmed.
- Ensure Accessibility:** Design with accessibility in mind, making sure pathways and seating arrangements accommodate all users, including those in wheelchairs. Incorporate ramps where necessary and ensure clear access to essential areas.
- Integrate Art and Color Thoughtfully:** Use bold colors and art strategically to add vibrancy and interest without overwhelming the space. Art and graphics should connect to the values of the school.
- Focus on Practicality and Durability:** Choose materials and furnishings that are durable and easy to maintain. This not only keeps the space looking good but also supports long-term usability.
- Include Inclusivity in Signage and Communication:** Ensure signage is multilingual and accessible, considering the needs of diverse users. This fosters an inclusive environment where everyone feels represented.
- Create Flexible Spaces:** Design spaces that can adapt to various uses and needs over time. This flexibility ensures the space remains relevant and useful as requirements change.
- Balance Aesthetics with Function:** While aesthetics are important, functionality should not be compromised. Design spaces that are both visually pleasing and practical for everyday use.

Full Comments and Analysis Notes from Welcoming/Comforting Space Activity

1. Comfortable & Welcoming Spaces - Large Commons

The following are all direct quotes - gathered as comments associated with each image. In a very few cases, typos that could be confusing or distracting have been adjusted, an adjustment is marked with [].

1.1

- Natural light, open and not cluttered. Places to sit and stand.
- Open; spacious; warm tones w/industrial; soft surfaces
- large windows are inviting
- space is open and permeable. seating looks like it would be nice to sit in. lots of natural light would make you want to linger.
- Windows Libby art
- The flooring and institutional feeling of the space.
- Natural light, wood panels, bright art
- Great daylight, a clear orientation, nice, light materials, color accents through art and good scaling elements such as the back wood wall. The furniture feels a little sterile.
- I really like the warmth the wood wall brings - without it the space could feel a little sterile or less inviting if the purpose is a gathering place. I like the high ceilings and the amount + size of windows, but with the windows, it may cause some big glare and temperature changes. Also, if there is an armed person within the school, a lot of times all windows must be closed and covered, so I am not sure about safety when it comes to that aspect. I would suggest materials that can be wiped down for easy cleaning - lice and other things could stay in different materials. The art wall bring some fun and color and could also be a place to showcase art on a rotating schedule or post important things! I guess I am not sure what the purpose would be of the space but I generally like the design.
- open airy lots of different places to have small groups; wheelchair accessible; views of nature, different colors and textures
- The multi-level option gives a view into lots of things happening. Open spaces and natural light are great. The furniture does not seem comfortable though, or a place that people would really sit (and do what? in this instance).
- large and open space. comfortable furniture. use of bright colors and warm wood.
- Natural materials like stone and wood help to make it welcoming. Color from artwork is good.
- Good Natural light/wall of windows, combo of high and low ceilings, some use of natural building materials (wood on walls, could have more)
- The view to a courtyard with trees makes this welcoming to me.
- colors, small groups, comfortable seating
- A lot of natural light. Colorful art and blend of materials (tile floors, metal in windows, and wood panels on walls). Open space without feeling ominously open.
- It has some color, but it could use some more. The furniture looks nice and like it would make you want to sit on it. The windows make the room feel bigger and they give a nice view outside the building.
- Furniture is ugly and not practical. Should use pattern fabrics to hide stains. Not sure I like windows facing a multi-story building (shooter potential).
- Nice use of materials wood/concrete and steel. Lower ceiling adjacent seating makes that double height space feel more inviting. Mural is playful and expressive.
- Natural lighting, open, could stay all day
- It's open and light, high ceilings give a sense of space. There's a variety of seating options that aren't too crowded, allowing for a sense of some privacy for conversation.
- It looks like a waiting room in a doctors office
- Open space with both tables and couches/chairs so that it's useful as well as comfortable. Also love the big windows.
- I like all the color and windows. The space is large and feels inviting with some of the wood detailing. The seating/furniture doesn't looks the most comfortable for connecting. Looks somewhat cheap too. Wouldn't hold up in the long term.
- Public but still able to have private conversations. The large windows and the artwork enhance the space to remove the institutional nature.
- i love the open space / big windows / loads of natural light. But the seating (esp the couches) don't look that comfortable. I like the use of the wood on the wall. I feel like the artwork could feel outdated quickly, but love the use of art (and think that could be very welcoming / inviting / fun if we used local artists or student art - Jackson MS has done a great job with incorporating art into their hallways & commons spaces)
- It looks physically comfortable but it feels a little small.

1.2

- I like the wood but it's way too dark. Not enough natural light for me.

- Open space; warm tones; loft vibes...but sterile; mechanical/institutional tables
- it looks like a large box of reverberating sound
- lighting looks a little harsh. seating / tables don't look particularly comfortable. hard surfaces lead me to believe it would be kinda echo-y
- Jail
- Lack of color and natural views
- Looks like a basement / bunker
- I like the wash of light on the back wall but this space feels overly sterile and neutral.
- I like the large openings to get into the space and the variety of sizes and shapes of windows but it looks like a fancy jail cafeteria. It's really stark and a little depressing. There is promise for adding some warmth and texture to the space. A stairwell down could entice throwing of items or jumping down - but if it is needed, I like that it looks like it has space for many kids to move up and down it. I like the high ceilings.
- very austere, cold; closed in; tables not accessible
- Very boxy. Although "open" in the sense of a lot of room, it is very drab and not welcoming. There is just too much solid giant unbroken wall space. I would foresee the ASB spending a LOT of time on posters and banners to change up the wall, but even that would be hard.
- I like clean and simple but this is TOO clean and simple. Needs color and to be less linear with seating. More natural light.
- Needs more access to green space. Good natural light and natural materials.
- Too enclosed, three walls with no windows, too stark
- Looks like a fairly average school cafeteria
- tables look very industrial, but allow for flexibility
- Lack of natural lighting, monotonous color scheme, and a cavernous feel because of the unbroken open space combined with the lighting.
- It is extremely bland and unexpressive. The room looks uncomfortable to exist in as the only sitting spots are cafeteria benches and the rest is blank open space.
- Seems like an after-thought. Too confining. Needs more light. Ugly institutional tables (although practical).
- The repeated post and beam framing element with exposed joists is strong architecturally but loses the human scale in it's expansiveness. Lack of natural light.
- Limited, not a place you would stay for a while
- Very sterile, monochromatic, linear. Windows are far away from seating, so most direct light is artificial. Tables are very close together without much sense of space, and it looks like it could be hard to squeeze in and find a seat at the middle tables.
- Looks like a prison
- Looks uncomfortable
- It's hard to tell from the picture if this is supposed to be a cafeteria? Is so, it seems alright, but not very bright or inviting. I wouldn't want cafeteria style seating for common area.
- Seems really blah/meh
- Too bare, too uniform to be comfortable.
- needs more color and better natural light. Good for lunch, but otherwise not a good general gathering space. High ceilings could get VERY loud when this room is crowded.
- I associate those tables with being social, but this picture in particular is very uninviting.

1.3

- Way too many people squeezed into the space. I love the windows, though.
- Open; bright; warm tones; student led activities...but crowded
- too many people! I would turn around and go the other way
- this space feels welcoming in that it's alive and diverse. you would immediately be enveloped in sound and energy the second you walk in. Might be overwhelming for timid / shy / introverted people, but personally I think it would feel energetic. The hard surfaces and folding furniture definitely feels a less 'comfortable' or 'cozy' than the first image, but the sense of alive-ness is nice.
- Crowded
- The tables with individual seats
- Again, it is a good neutral environment. The presence of the students create the welcoming feeling. Good daylight. Feels [like] a school cafeteria.
- I like that there are high ceilings and lots of light. The windows are nice but I worry about glare, temperatures and if there is an armed person in the school when windows usually have to be covered. I think there is a catwalk or walkway along the upper windows and though that is cool, I worry about kids throwing things down or that it's an easy target for an armed person who could be up there and harm kids below really easily.
- giant space; loud; noisy; crowded; no room to get through; more accessible seating at tables
- Large, open room with natural light and space for lots of students to interact. The second floor balcony or walkway gives an additional way to interact with the environment and the room. Not sure about that oddly shaped Fresh Express in there though (unless it connects with other style elements not pictured).

- I like the windows and light and rounded tables. Feels big and too packed in.
- Space feels super big and could be loud. I like the area that McDaniel has better than this one, but I like how much this one looks out into a green space.
- Good natural light/ wall of windows but too vast/ boxy
- The view to a courtyard with trees makes this welcoming to me.
- People sitting at the end of the oval tables have less space. Individual seats don't allow for flexibility. The seats are very narrow and cramped.
- I like the large windows, but the space could use some layering or other features to make it less expansively open. This space looks like it could use a less stimulating area for some students to retreat within it.
- It feels like a cafeteria but it also incorporates comfortable furniture and a lot of open view if the outside.
- Like the openness. Tables are not practical due to the size of the seats. Fixed seating is not welcoming. Would move the food cart (?) away from entrance due to potential fire hazard.
- Lighting is good
- I like the wall of windows letting in natural light, and the high ceilings. The tables give space for groups but could make it challenging for individuals or small groups of 2-3 people to find a comfortable space. Tables are spaced pretty close together, so it could feel claustrophobic in the very middle if all the tables are packed with people.
- It looks fine
- There's so many people in this picture, it's feels very crowded. But I do like the light and the style of individual seats at the tables, make it easier to get in and out of.
- Just a big cafeteria
- For some, it might be uncomfortable to have to walk past all of the people to get to friends in the middle or on the far side.
- lots of natural light, which is welcoming and comfortable! High ceilings makes me feel like it could be very loud. only one seating option (although those tables look moveable/flexible)
- I see people talking, hanging out, and having fun all together.

1.4

- It feels a bit jumbled to me, but I like the seating options and the overall feel of the space. I like the wide staircase.
- Bright; open; varied seating; open-beam decor/loft feel; glossy
- I love the little groupings available
- This is a tough one. The space feels somewhat welcoming in that it's open and has casual elements like the bleacher sitting area and the couches, but it also feels a little stuffy and corporate...maybe because of the lighting and the linoleum floor. There are pops of color, but the linoleum and white and grey and the lighting somehow makes the space feel a little cold and clinical.
- Open space
- Variety of seating, visibility and lighting.
- The rafters and beams, wide stairs with seating, lots of visual interest
- I like the diversity of seating options, the use of higher contrast accent colors, and human scaled elements to break down the size of the space. At the same time, the illumination of ceiling keeps [the] space light and vibrant and compliments the use of daylight from the windows. There is a good diversity of space to allow for introverts and extroverts to be accommodated.
- I like the high ceilings and the decorative beams - I wonder if they could be wood or if there is a way to incorporate some wood aspects to “warm” up the space. I really like the gig stairwells / bleacher stairs and the variety of work spaces and gathering areas. I like the windows that bring in light and that this seems like a hub - where kids can study and chat and hold after school or lunchtime meetings. I would suggest that if there are classrooms off this space, that there are not windows looking onto it - that would be distracting for teaching and the students. The walls could also have a mural or some cool graffiti art or student art within it as well.
- lots of stairs (not accessible friendly); cozy feeling with different colors and ceiling windows letting light in; looks like furniture can be easily moved if a large open space is needed
- This feels very artsy, but not really natural or open. It seems like it doesn't know what it wants to do. Are the stairs for sitting or walking on? Are they to watch something, but where would that be directed to? The green couches close off a third of the room, and the colors and styles feel busy.
- I love an open beam ceiling. I like the diversity of seating areas and types and gathering places with color and the white reflects to make the space bright. Bright is better than dark, but I like some warmth in color too.
- Too modern. Nice and bright with natural light, but seems a little sterile/hospital-like with cold colors.
- Visually broken up, good artificial lighting, needs more windows
- Seems kind of over designed to me, too much going on.
- colors, looks playful, organic
- I like the mix of color schemes to make this space bright. It's open, but has enough variety in levels to make sure it doesn't feel too voluminous. I don't love the exposed rafters, but it's not too bad. Nice use of natural lighting and a variety of window shapes/styles.
- It could use some more color, and maybe cushions on the chairs, but other than that it looks like a more exciting office building.
- Like the openness. Stair seating should NOT be allowed due to safety concerns. Patterned fabrics should be used to hide stains. Use chairs with sturdier legs but no rollers.
- Truss work is playful and has almost a barn vernacular feeling. Love the pops of color and the stair feature.

- Lighting, space to be in smaller groups
- Light & bright, colorful. Space for "work" and more relaxed sitting. No space for larger groups, but tables could probably be pushed together. The chairs don't look super comfortable, but it looks like a great place to study alone or in small groups without being too close to others.
- It's kind of wonky and the multiple different staircases are a little weird
- Bright and open, tables and chairs, multiple places to hang out in the same overall space.
- I like all the different options for places to sit and connect [it] seems comfortable and inviting.
- Varied type of seating seems much more relaxed. In reality the stairs would not be a good place to sit.
- I like the flexible seating - the "stadium" style could be multipurpose (used for seating for a presentation and also for chatting, like it is in the photo). Would like to see less plastic furniture. Good natural light.
- This looks like a space where anyone could find their place to sit, talk, work etc.

1.5

- This feels too dark and enclosed for me.
- See above, but add warm tones
- it seems a bit disjointed but i could still feel comfortable in here
- causal seating, carpeting, natural light (possibly from a big sky-light), warmer color palette. That all makes this a space that feels more comfortable.
- Open space
- Seating, open yet separated, and lighting.
- Good use of daylight and the scale is very humanistic. There is something nice about classrooms and activity spaces opening up into this space.
- This seems like a cool space and looks like it could provide less traffic jams since there are wide staircases and possible other ways to access it. I would lose the carpet because that is a whole northern beast for those that have to clean and maintain it. I am guessing there are skylights above and that's cool along with the other windows on the upper level. If there are classrooms off of these spaces, I am assuming there will be extra sound buffering and minimal windows from the classroom into those spaces so there are less distractions. It still feels a little sterile so maybe some wood added in or in the floor? The railing will be a pain to clean, but I kinda like it, but I wonder if wood or metal could be brought in there more?
- combines cozy and open with color and texture; still has stairs but can imagine an alternate version with ramps or an elevator nearby; but if hangouts on stairs are encouraged no way to get there for wheeled friends; multiple seating styles
- Feels too split - with mirrored furniture and layouts on the two levels. The top area cannot connect with the bottom area. Makes sense for a library or study area, but not for a commons. The picture from the opposite direction would feel even worse, as you wouldn't see the other half of the room and would also not see half the stairs, further 'shrinking' the space in perspective.
- I like the openness. It feels a little dark. I like the use of color and the seating looks comfortable.
- Places to sit look comfortable. Good natural light.
- Not good for high schools.
- I like how you can sit on the steps and how there is a good view from the second to first floor.
- colors, a bit chaotic and organic looking is inviting
- I like that the windows extend to both levels to keep it well-lit and create a sense of openness with the natural space outside. I like the variety of gathering/collaboration spaces in this photo.
- There is color, comfortable seating, good lighting, and windows.
- Like the openness. Stair seating should NOT be allowed due to safety concerns. It's hard to tell but the furniture positioning is more flexible. Pattern fabrics to hide stains.
- Upper and lower common areas
- It looks like it's meant to be comfortable. I don't see any work spaces like tables, which could be challenging for eating or studying. I like the two levels with options for where to sit, and that the stairs are wide enough to use as seating while not crowding the way for others to go up/down.
- It looks nice, but sitting on the staircase is kind of weird
- The downstairs doesn't feel as connected to the upstairs and the upper space looks unused and maybe wasted space?
- This reminds me of a business building
- Allows for large and small groups comfortably.
- hard to tell on this photo - the students on the stairs are blocking much of the seating. The seating options look comfortable, I like the big open stairway. It's a nice open space with plenty of natural light.
- It feels almost too big? Like maybe people wouldn't want to use it.

1.6

- I really like the wood paneling and the seating options. I really love the idea of some sort of light centerpiece, too.
- Same as prior

- this is very similar to the atrium of a nearby office building that i like to hang out in. i feel both cozy and not squeezed in at the same time
- carpet. warm tones. wood panels. people hanging out casually.
- Comfy open space
- Seems a little busy yet has warm elements and comfy seating.
- I like the wood panels, but it looks like the entrance to a hospital
- This feels [like] a corporate lobby. The inclusion of art is nice, but there is a heaviness to the copious amount of medium value wood on the walls. The [splash] of bold color in the background is nice.
- I like this space - the openness, the warm and cool feelings and the possibilities for lighting and stuff that could hang down. I would suggest materials on the seating that can be wiped off easily and maybe 1 solid floor material, but put in a cool pattern so that gives the “carpet’ effect. This space seems to incorporate in more textures and materials and I like that but still keeping it neural and almost a college campus feel.
- this feels more like a hallway with couches then an intentional commons area; more hotel lobby than a place to study/hang with friends. The textures and color are nice but doesn't give the right feeling; it does look accessible; only one style of seating
- This seems to be a good use of a large space that is half gathering space and half corridor to get around. Open, natural feel, with space to either hang out or interact. However, as a go-to destination common space, this is lacking. The left side of the room seems like it is built for foot traffic and not interactions or welcoming people to stay.
- I like the use of wood and the openness but it feels narrow and the seating is a pretty color but does not look inviting/ comfortable.
- Seating looks very uncomfortable but great use of natural materials and nice light. I like the hanging public art.
- Good use of natural products to break up white walls. Is visually heterogeneous. Good use of tile vs carpet. Too narrow
- Looks like an office building or an airport to me.
- looks comfortable, but very like a conference center for adults, maybe a little more playfulness would be good for students/young adults
- This space looks comfortable and I really like the mix of construction materials. The use of various materials prevents this from having too much white space. The lighting on the rear wall looks creative and I like the hanging art piece.
- Good color but it could use some wall decorations. The sitting area looks nice. The shape of the interior isn't bland.
- Looks like a glorified hallway. Wood panels create closed-in feeling. Needs more light. Furniture arrangement not flexible. Pattern fabric to hide stains. Needs artwork to dress up the walls.
- Open air
- Those right-angled couches with zero back padding look extremely uncomfortable. [They're] also facing the main walkway, which [is] awkward for everybody.
- This looks like a hospital
- I like that you can see the upstairs from the downstairs, really comfortable looking couches, part of the busy hall, yet on the outskirts, kind of like a cafe table along a busy sidewalk.
- this one looks like a business building too. like a lobby waiting room. not comfortable
- An easy break space with privacy if needed.
- I like the use of wood to add some color/texture that feels more classic. I like the pod seating options as well. Also, nice to see a mix of carpet and linoleum on the floor - will help with sound and also different textures. The seating seems to pair well with the walkway.
- I would say it's too open, and tables feel more inviting than benches.

2. Comfortable & Welcoming Spaces - Reception Desks

2.1

- This feels like the check-in desk at a vet or dentist's office. I really would not like this in our school.
- Effective, but nothing stands out
- no real thoughts
- clearly sign-posts (in writing) that this is a place to be 'welcomed'. Unambiguous. It doesn't feel particularly comfortable though. Feels a little sterile, maybe as a result of the material choices and color palette
- Needs more windows light
- Seems like a medical space.
- I like the wood and clear signage
- The use of color and the proportions of [the] reception desk are incongruent and not harmonious.
- This is okay - you could paint it to invoke the school colors and culture, but it is a little sterile. Is this the main office? I worry some people could just walk right past this. I do like the wood design by the bench!
- seems more businesslike than welcoming; isn't connected to anything else; i imagine this sitting empty
- Feels open, organized, easy to identify, and the natural colors and window help make it inviting.
- Its nice and open but feels clinical. the wood and the bench are nice.
- Looks like a car rental counter.

- Too hotel
- a little business/hotel like, but still welcoming
- The large signage is very [helpful]
- This reminds me of a medical office reception. It doesn't appear to be a large space to work either. I do like the view to the windows so reception can see visitors approaching before they are in the building.
- It looks kind of out of place, like it was thrown in there because they needed it. It looks very officey.
- If the "receptionist" role is to provide info only, then the lower workstation is okay. Most likely, the receptionist might be working on confidential tasks, and the exposed work area is not okay. Need to provide writing space for visitors. Will there be others working at this workstation? The wood slats: decorative or functional? Digital signage should be to the sides and not behind the desk (if there are a lot of people in this area, would be hard to read).
- Hotel lobby
- Looks like a hospital, very angular and sterile. I do like that one end of the counter is lowered for accessibility, but there could be other efforts made (such as a cut-out under that section to allow for a person in a wheelchair to access the desk area without having to lean over.)
- Looks like a car dealership/An auto repair shop
- The space appears small and other than the little bit of wood, it feels like a doctor's office.
- Too much like a fast food restaurant
- like the use of wood on the wall. Like the different desk heights to accommodate different people (short / tall / using wheelchairs / little kids /etc)
- Everything is clear and looks professional but still inviting.

2.2

- This is better than the first option but feels like the gym check-in at my college. It doesn't feel obvious/clear enough for visitors to spot.
- Warm tones, open and central, accessible
- I do like how it's obvious where it is but off to the side and not right at the entry
- wood and natural light make this feel like the type of place you'd want to be.
- Too much wood needs windows light
- Warm elements with wood structure, openness and lighting.
- All the wood and architectural beams
- The trifecta of good daylight, strong integrated materiality and great proportions make the space feel fantastic. The detailing in the rhythm of wood slats, stairs and wood structure are great in this [space.]
- The wood and metal aspects are pretty cool here - I also like that there are some textures incorporated in with the wood. The stools are a good idea and easy to clean and do not take up a ton of space and can move. Is this the main office - once again, not sure if someone could walk right in and head up those stairs - so I guess I need more clarification of what exactly this will be for.
- not signed well; if this is front reception then easy to bypass; different colors and woods textures with concrete is nice.
- Feels off to the side. Not something that you start at, but more the feel of an information desk or library help desk. Doesn't draw you in, but there as you pass by without thinking about it. Also, can't easily tell where I should go or where the desk person is actually normally at.
- I like the warmth and design of the wood elements. It is open, yet contained. I like the mixed materials of warm wood, colorful stairs and polished concrete.
- I love the natural materials and light.
- Less hotel but warmer with the natural materials.
- wood, warm, open
- No signage, otherwise ok
- I like the mixed materials. The natural lighting is inviting. I also like the light fixtures used here.
- The place looks more natural with the wood, the room is brightly lit.
- If the "receptionist" role is to provide info only, then the lower workstation is okay. Most likely, the receptionist might be working on confidential tasks, and the exposed work area is not okay. Need to provide writing space for visitors. Digital signage or window? Hard to tell. If digital signage, put one on each side of the desk, not behind. If it's a window, from a safety standpoint. should not have a window facing a parking lot.
- Gorgeous wood detailing, adds warmth and texture
- It's obvious what this is but it's informal and casual, easy to approach. Nice lighting.
- Looks like an office building, not a school
- Open and warm, natural light and elements of wood.
- The wood and varied textures make the space welcoming.
- I can see the sun streaming in, which is great! Love the wood accents all around. Hard to tell if the different desk heights would accommodate in the same way the first image would. Overall, this is really nice!
- It is well marked but I prefer the desk to be closer to the door as it feels like it really marks the entry into the school.

3. Comfortable & Welcoming Spaces - Large Stairs

3.1

- This is pretty cool. The colors and seating under the stairs make it look a lot more fun than traditional/basic concrete stairs.
- Seating + transit; open...but short-term color trendy and juvenile
- i like the structure and colors but the white color is harsh
- bold pop of color draws attention and invites engagement. seating off to the side of the stairs creates vibe and energy. surfaces maybe feel a little hard from a sitting perspective, so not the type of place you would stay for a LONG time.
- Needs windows light open spaces
- Seems like a fun space, based on color, and for small group informal gathering.
- The built in nooks and seating
- I love the use of color. The contrast between the color accents and the light, neutral background, makes the space feel very vibrant and welcoming.
- I really like the idea of this with some fun colors or different wood materials. The alcoves under the stairs are cool if not too deep and I like that the surfaces can be cleaned easily. I am glad there are hand rails and i like the high ceilings, but there is something sterile about this or basement feeling. I like that this space could be used for lunch or hangout out / studying. This space could serve as a canvas for some community expression or Wells wise words!
- I like the color; I like the small stairs and the big stairs for hanging. still has two handrails while being open
- The colors are horrible, but the layout with a transversing staircase next to the wall and a sitting staircase near more open space is a nice concept. If this was wood or more natural in material and color, it would be much more welcoming and comfortable.
- I do really like the whole block of this stair way. How you can sit on the big steps and walk on the others. I like how the last block wraps around to create more seating around the corner. I like the colorfulness, but personally like warmer materials (wood) and warmer colors.
- Bright colors make it look like a kids' science museum, too juvenile.
- Too plasticity, feels like legoland
- I like how the stairs encourage sitting.
- looks young and playful, but the stair seats look uncomfortable and gym-like
- I like the color variety here, as well as the word art put on the stairs. The lights look cool with the zigzag design. The table area built into the stairs is a nice touch.
- Color is always good, painted and colors stairs is ideal. (Rainbow ADA ramp sounds amazing too)
- Is there seating to the side of the stairs? Hard to tell. Due to safety concerns, students should not be sitting on stairs. Handrails should be on the sides as well.
- I like the [use of] color and celebrating the stairs... that said it is pretty one note, and the lighting seems gimmicky
- Common area at bottom, if stairs are going to be mixed use, they need to be clearly defined.
- I like the extension of the bottom of the stairway to create a seating area, and the cut-out under the top to make another. That said, the whole thing just looks weird, with the bright colors so stark and almost childish against the bright white of everything else.
- The parts where kids are sitting on the stairs I think that kids would just use those as stairs or jump down them or around people.
- Colorful, but easily dated and maybe needs to be painted on a regular basis.
- Clinical feeling and too childish
- I love the big seating areas next to the staircase. I dislike the blue. I also wonder how the paint would wear with thousands of steps on it each day. I like the alcove under the stairs.
- I love the wide, shallow stairs, and I could imagine the little social areas being used for a multitude of reasons.

3.2:

- I really like how open this is and love the wood look.
- Warm toned, open, central...but buried by very penal looking columns
- reverberating echo box. ugh.
- might just be how far away the image is, but something about the columns and the perspective makes the staircase feel kinda cramped and uninviting.
- Too dark needs color lights windows
- Seems stark and cold because of the concrete floor and size of the space, but the wood wall warms up the space and the stair seems welcoming.
- The space feels lonely. I'm not sure if it is the undersized staircase Or lack of human scaled elements in the giant volume, but the space does not feel welcoming.
- I like the idea of this space with less white and more warm or dark wood, brick or other natural materials incorporated in. The poles are kinda fun and the stair well is wide with rails so that is cool. I am neutral on the curved wall, but I like that there is space under the stairwell for studying or hanging out and also enough room to move around. I like the floor color (I think)!

- feels big and cold even with wood and brick textures; the columns maybe?; handrail situation good but these stairs are just made for transit
- This feels too functional. Although it has the natural materials, it is heavily overshadowed by the jail-like concrete pillars dominating the look and feel.
- I like this ok. Not jumping out as very aesthetic. Looks like there is nice comfortable seating around the bottom of stairs. Feels a little dark. Like the openness.
- Pillars are kind of dominating. Nice natural wood and light.
- Good that placement is more central. Columns isolate it a bit much
- looks a little colorless and boring
- I like the wooden pieces in this photo. The stairway itself feels a little imposing with the large pillars flanking it and how narrow it appears.
- I like [how] they added the wood so it isn't just boring metal stairs.
- Like the wood. Stairs should be wider to keep flow moving.
- seems a little freeway underpass with the giant columns. Some very attractive elements and material combinations here with the curved wood wall feature and stair. The accent wall of brick is also attractive
- Open sides
- The tall, thick columns make the stairway look really imposing and almost menacing. The closed-off top gives little visibility. This stairway feels intimidating.
- The staircase seems out of place
- open, timeless design that would still look nice in 10 years.
- Too much concrete
- The seating looks inviting. Plenty of space between the doors and the seating.
- It's fine - feels more like an office / government building than a school. And I wonder if its too open - I see kids dropping things over the railing to people below.
- The stairs take up too little of the space, and it is too gray and simple.

3.3

- This feels like a subway entrance to me. I don't love the lighting and the artwork is a bit busy/confusing vs other options presented.
- Comfortable, but super juvenile
- cute
- hard to get a sense of this one, especially since there are no people. I have meh reactions to the fluorescent lighting. the idea of colorful graphics either for vibe or for way finding, seems helpful.
- More art the better
- This might be better for and elementary school but does have a playful sense.
- It feels like this image would be better used for a way finding survey. Since it is just a piece of a larger spatial experience, it's hard to determine if it would truly be welcoming. The natural light is nice.
- I do like that there are wide windowsills so maybe kids could sit there and that the stairs are wide and there is a space for murals, but that is all.
- like the paint makes the space more laidback and also gives a really nice wayfinding aspect (at least on the ascent!); no handrail on one side
- Cutesy, but could get tiring quickly. Also, the large numbers / arrows painted over the images (especially the 2 and the downward arrows) feels like this is an airport or subway directing lots of people to move through (and spend as little time in this building as possible).
- I like a more open feel. I do not like fluorescent lighting. I do enjoy murals and creative use of paint.
- Feels like a back hallway emergency exit like at Providence park, not the main stairs
- I like how the stairwell has a window in it.
- welcoming, but probably more for an elementary school than a high school
- I like the signage/markings, but the space is not connected to the lobby area as the others.
- I like the art and color here.
- I see what they were trying to do but it isn't too visual appealing to me. It's kind of ugly, but you do what you gotta do.
- Safety issue: no center or right side handrails. Not a fan of the window placements.
- Super fun graphic on the stairs.
- Artwork is not needed on steps. Over time too hard to maintain.
- Nice and wide, giving space for everybody who needs to go up & down. Glass walls help keep it open. Shallow stairs make the multi-level staircase feel less intimidating. Colorful painting is fun (though, again, a little childish for a highschool).
- This makes me feel like I'm at a hospital or a doctors office
- I like the painting and it reminds me of a museum/interactive exhibit, but still think it would be dated so quickly.
- Metal and glass look like a corporate office building. Mural is babyish.
- feels like what is in Wells now, but with some silly artwork on the stairs... and maybe one extra window. Feels very blah and not welcoming.

- These are the ideal baseline for stairs. No frills, but wide and easy to use with abundant light.

3.4

- I love how light and open this is. I think people would stop and look at these stairs as if they were art.
- Open, flowy, warm tones, spacious
- love this space! so light and bright and approachable
- warm lighting, natural materials and natural light all really work. though I do think the metal, concrete and hard surface of the wood bench under the stairs, doesn't feel the most comfortable. Maybe that's why no-one is sitting / lingering in this picture.
- Much nicer light windows architecture
- Open and warm despite concrete floor, nice view to exterior courtyard.
- Wood used correctly malls spaces feel warm and welcoming. Combine that with superb daylight and you have a winning formula. The inclusion of more art into this space would be a nice addition.
- I like that the stairs look like they are floating and that they are wide and have rails, but I wish the space underneath it was used as a gathering and seating space. The windows are fun but I worry about the glare and temperature changes that could occur. I really like the wood beams but not the smaller wood crossbeams in the ceiling. It's like there is too much going on with lines on the ceiling and then down the windows with the panes.
- same as 3.2; these stairs are made for walking; no wayfinding and no stopping
- This feels very open and light (both in the sense of the light through the windows and light in being almost weightless). While still very functional, it doesn't take away from the space around it or close things off in moving between floors.
- Like the warmth, light and openness of this. There could be more seating areas with comfortable seating around the bottom. I do like the wood platform to sit but cushiony chairs would be better.
- Warm wood, good light. I like that the ceiling isn't so flat, unlike image 3.2.
- Open, central location, materials are too industrial but surrounding natural materials do compensate. Natural lighting key
- I like the simple and open design.
- light and open, wood beams make it look warm
- ok, but more seating would be more welcoming
- This looks bright, which I like, and I like the wooden pieces within it. This area feels a little sterile though and I'm not sure how well-used the wooden seat platform under the stairs would be, though I could picture art sculptures being put here.
- Boring, add some color!
- Like the windows (looks open). Stairs aren't wide enough for traffic flow. Chance for bottlenecks.
- Gorgeous! Woodwork/architectural elements, light, stair this is a work of art. Our high school student would be lucky to call this their campus
- Open lighting. Open air stairs
- If the stairway were made of wood to match the rest of the interior, I would like it a lot better. It looks out of place as it is. It also feels narrow, compared with how expansive the rest of the downstairs space is - it seems like there's plenty of room to widen it, or have it fan out at the bottom to give more of a sense of spaciousness.
- It looks weird that the staircase just comes out of nowhere
- Open, full of wood and light.
- wood is really warm and inviting to me personally. Nice connection to nature too which is inviting.
- The varied lines of the windows, ceiling, and stairs gives this an inviting feel.
- Love all the windows, but feels like a lot of wasted space around the stairs and again, its just too open.
- The huge windows are gorgeous but I feel there is way too much unused space, it reminds me of a museum.

3.5

- I like this option but it feels like it would be very, very loud in this space.
- Warm tones, part of the space...but narrow
- everything feels connected
- feels maybe a little dark, but other than that, I really like this setup. The hard surface helps you define moving paths vs hangout space. the furniture seems comfortable. the double high ceiling gives it a grand sense. if it had a big skylight or something like that, I think this would be a perfect common space.
- Still needs more windows light art color
- Nice transition area with circulation path that has seating in area demarcated by different flooring.
- It feels like an atrium
- The space feels a little cavelike. Having the staircase along one edge and forcing people to also circulate through the center of the space through the seating areas feels a little awkward. The contrast between the daylight and the interior lighting is a little bit high, which could be because of some of the darker materials. I could see this as being or feeling intimate, but from a welcoming standpoint, it is not firing on all cylinders .

- I like the open feeling and the ceiling is a little different than most presented! I kinda like the dark gray wall and it could provide some warmth or texture there and the railing I think is wood and I like that. The space below is okay - it works, but I would lose any materials that are not easily wiped down, but I like that you can change up the configuration of the seating. I am not sure if that is carpet, but I would suggest using tile or wood material and not anything that makes it harder to clean and holds smells and stains.
- stairs are not the focal point as they are pushed against the wall; instead seating area with various types of seating and some lamps (tripod floor lamps seem impractical!); no wayfinding and one true handrail and one that seems more decorative
- Incorporating the stairs into a very comfortable, open, welcoming room gives form and function to it. It feels like people could get to where they need to be, but it also feels like there could be connections / friendships / interactions between the first floor, the stairs, and the second floor. The natural material selections also really helps with the warmth of this room and stairs.
- All around I like this one with the open plan and the variety of seating areas with comfortable seating. I wish there was more natural light.
- Nice seating areas and natural light.
- Seems like stairs were an after thought
- I think this space is a unique mix of big and cozy.
- colors, small group seating invite interaction
- This seems much darker of a space than others. The stairway seems to be unnecessarily long by wrapping around the walls. I do like the community gathering spaces.
- The shape is good but they stretch over a long distance. Maybe if the length was shortened without making the stairs too steep it would be better.
- Staircase takes up a lot of real estate. Wood handrail is not practical. Sitting on stairs should be discouraged--safety issue.
- Very functional and centralized space, has a bit of an atrium effect but a little bit dark.
- Multi level
- Even though the staircase itself is narrower than some others, I don't actually think it's that bad because it feels like a continuation of the open railing on the upper floor - it naturally flows down to the stairs. Having the landing in the middle breaks it up nicely and makes it more approachable. It's nice that it's on the side of the room so the lounge area below can be mostly uninterrupted by the staircase.
- This seems comfortable
- open, can see from lower floor to upper floor, variety of spaces to hang out in.
- This a a great blend of form and function, wood and concrete. The lamps also give it that home livingroom or bedroom vibe which is comfortable.
- cozy. The varied chairs and the easy walk through make it comfortable.
- I like the stairwell off to the side and not in the middle. Love the seating areas on the side of the stairs.

4. Comfortable & Welcoming Spaces - Outdoor Gathering Spaces

4.1

- Comfortable, useful academically, warm...but enclosed
- covered outdoor space is useful all year in the PNW. cool that it's got an indoor outdoor vibe. I can see students hanging out on free periods, even when the weather isn't ideal
- Great idea for classrooms more windows and rooms like this
- Nice outdoor learning space.
- Good shade, good places to sit, versatility, all the winning Combination.
- This is a cool idea with the planter boxes around it and a few windows - i'd worry what kids would write on them so maybe lose those or choose something else or a different surface. I like the concrete and wood together and maybe the concrete in the inside of the space could be big enough to sit on as a long bench? I like that it proves a some shade.
- love this idea but outdoor furniture, really? the chairs are going to walk off and PPS doesn't have a good track record being able to provide maintenance for any planter boxes;
- Feels very hidden and closed off.
- This is aesthetically pleasing. Durability and maintainence will be a factor.
- Natural products, year round (assuming it is covered/sheltered, needs plant life
- open, provides seating, provides shade
- I could see students enjoying this area, assuming it's on an upper level of the school. It seems a little dark in this picture, but I could see it being a good combination of shaded space and sunlit space. I like the work area the student is writing on.
- It has a good view of the surrounding outside area, but it could use some more plants.
- Furniture is not practical. Vandalism (graffiti, carving) and theft issues.
- This could be a great outdoor workspace for students. Currently a little corporate in feeling, could benefit some playfulness and experimentation... zeitgeist
- Nice idea, but who cleans the wall

- Very few options for sitting. It feels like it would be easy for one small group of people to dominate this space because the table is contiguous and the rest of the space around it is narrow. It also feels weird to have a bench right behind the table, so people sitting at the table have someone right behind them facing in the same direction.
- This looks like something that would be on top of an apartment building.
- Open, light, plants, looks like you would have a view
- The person on the board seems to be on display and the table is so long that it would be uncomfortable to get into a middle seat. Smaller tables would make this great.
- Cool for a rooftop type "outdoor classroom", but i don't see this as a natural gathering space / outside area. Also, the window whiteboards don't seem like they would hold up in the long term. And in Oregon, we would likely want more of a rain cover than a shade provider.

4.2

- Open, organic, natural...but little utility
- seems like the type of place you'd want to sit a while when the weather is nice.
- Green beauty of Portland
- It is a good combination of soft seating, water, and green things. Makes for a nice entry sequence.
- I like the incorporation of greenery and textures here with the brick/stone and some wood. For the bench, maybe put the beams the other way cause that way does not feel good! But I like that the bench is wide - maybe add some flow to it or movement in the shape too. I think the ground cover is hearty and easy to maintain but I would make sure that was the case so it stays nice and green as much as possible.
- once again I worry about plant maintenance; this is welcoming through with places to sit and wait (a common occurrence at school) and paths leading to the front
- Feels connected, open, welcoming, and a great balance of nature and functional walking / sitting spaces.
- love planters, plants, trees, places to sit. This is good in that it is low maintenance and durable.
- Plant life good! Needs tables and more trees and some shelter
- The big trees make the space feel very welcoming to me.
- open, seating, looks natural
- Very nice mix of greenery and spots to enjoy that greenery. The building facade looks nice.
- It is pretty solid all around with plants, sitting areas, and walkways. It could use a variety of plants though, maybe some flowers.
- Wooden bench feature is attractive and a unifying element with what appears to be stormwater planters... Old mature trees celebrated and spared from removal. Combination/good balance of what looks like grassy areas to sit on and structured.
- Green space
- Not much effort has been put into making this a welcoming space, but there's plenty of room to sit with friends and eat or chat. The skateboard deterrent tabs on the concrete bench can be kind of nice as a divider between groups of people. I like the bioswale and bits of landscaping/trees.
- It's nice. I just don't see it getting maintained or being used properly
- I like how much seating there is near the landscaping, and potentially shaded with trees.
- Being outside on a comfortable wooden bench with lots of space.
- love the use of wood for the benches and all the greenery (that's not just grass!)

4.3

- I worry about how this would look after years of rain...is it meant to be a place for people to sit?
- Warm tones, lots of seating...but messy, and lacks utility
- too many corners to avoid as i sit down
- love the look. love the natural elements woven in. not sure it's giving me welcoming vibes one way or the other.
- Too much wood
- Dynamic seating and playful landscape, might be more suited for a middle school.
- Seems like it would fit well into a high school environment. I like the elevation changes and the integration of some natural elements into an otherwise synthetic seeding element.
- No thank you. Lots of calling and bruises and awkward to sit and gather.
- Very high style but doesn't look like it would be great for sitting and the planters wouldn't be maintained so just a pile of lumber with weeds in the end... (sorry for the harsh)
- I feel like this is going to be the skateboarder's paradise and be of little use to anyone else.
- too haphazard to me.
- Hurt to sit on, maintenance nightmare
- How the wood is offset makes the bench seem more approachable to me.
- lots of seating, natural looking, warm material

- This looks incomplete and not very inviting as a space to use. I don't really understand the board going through the middle of the plants.
- It kind of just looks dead, like something you would find at a school in the desert where they were trying to add some plant life.
- Gives off a "hey, let's go sit in the bioswale" vibe. Not appealing...
- Too many corners! This looks really uncomfortable to sit on, especially if you're in a group of people trying to sit together. Everybody would be facing away from each other rather than toward each other, and the people on the edges would be sitting on uneven boards. It looks unfinished, like someone dumped a pile of lumber and never came back to it.
- Confusing it just looks like a fire pit
- a little confusing, not sure where/or if you're supposed to sit on it.
- Only one person can comfortably sit on each side. I would hate to see a friend and then have to awkwardly sit here.
- I can't imagine how this space would be used for seating (is that even the intention?). It feels like a climbing structure at a kids playground, not for a high school.

4.4

- Organic, green...but very confined
- how do i get there? no obvious entrance. makes me feel like a watcher or a watchee
- Beautiful and serene and tranquil and restorative, but not super welcoming or comfortable. few chairs. no clear way to get in. etc.
- More colorful trees
- Outdoor quite space within nature, yet connected/contained for enjoyment by interior passerbys.
- This feels like a serenity garden. High school can be chaotic, it would be nice to have moments of retreat into the natural world like this available.
- I like the dark window surrounds and the greenery but this space would take some upkeep and limits the small amount of people that could access it.
- All of the windows make being outside seem like you might be the zoo exhibit to people inside the building
- Internal wood areas feel closed off. It seems that this area would take effort to get to which makes it less welcoming and a natural draw, but be too "fish bowl" public to be utilized as a private escape area either.
- Love all the green. low maintenance is plus. more seating would be nice.
- Yes, trees for shade, space is close to inside to look out upon. Need to be bigger, could use shelter
- I like the very dense and shady nature area
- Individual chairs don't look comfortable, little space to gather and communicate
- This space looks very serene and like a quiet, pleasant place to study or work. I really like the large trees in this space. It does look like it could use more comfortable permanent seating options.
- This is the kind of ideal quiet nature space you would want to find at a school. Basically if you took a square of forest and transplanted it to the school.
- Area won't accommodate more people. Who will take care of the vegetation?
- Wouldn't it be amazing if these views to green Spaces could be a curated and repeating element throughout the architecture, interior and exterior...
- Green space and glass
- Love the trees and plants, feels very peaceful. Doesn't seem like a place that a lot of students could utilize, though - it could be hard to find a spot if there are already people there.
- This just looks out of place
- Looks too closed in for me. Too few places to sit.
- Excellent! Trees, outside, space between others and comfortable chairs.
- Great green space - not realistic for gathering. Those tables/chairs are not great for HS students.

4.5

- Open, bright, green
- where do we sit?
- nicely lit for an outdoor space at a school. not sure how much time kids spend at school in the dark (I guess maybe coming / going from after school activities. love the bistro lights.
- Great windows more plants colors needed
- Seems stark and a place that you wouldn't hang out during the day.
- Good ability to see destinations and the lighting helps by creating a little bit higher contrast it entries. The sidewalk seem a little bit over lit, but that could just be photography. Overall, it feels good.
- I love the trees, the warm light and the hanging lights! I like the details in the wide walkway a lot and I am not sure what the silver circular thing on the ground is but I like it. The school in the background looks inviting and welcoming from here.
- [plenty] of lighting. open but can't tell where I might want to go
- Nice for an entrance or side area, but no draw welcoming me to be there and stay there.
- Love the outdoor lighting. Love the green. Love the low maintenance. Open and spacious. Seating options would be good.

- Reminds me of the current IBW courtyard which I like.
- wide and direct walkway
- I like the variety in this space. There's a lot of shapes and mix of green space and paved areas. I like all the windows here.
- This is better for meeting and walking through, but at certain times it could be good for being alone. The lights, trees, walkway, and sitting area are all good.
- Good meeting place for the fire alarm drills. Not much of a seating area.
- I see a repeating element of curved façades... which definitely add interest to both the exterior and interior. But that is the only element that is appealing in this image to me otherwise it feels a little overwhelming.
- Great lighting for night
- There's nowhere to sit or actually gather, unless you just want to stand around in the middle of the path.
- The fire pit cylinder thing looks out of place
- Open, wide sidewalk, well lit
- Well lit, plants look healthier than grass, nice trees.
- It's okay. Nothing is jumping out as great or terrible... The string lights do provide a nice element of lighting. Love the trees.

4.6

- Bland, monochromatic, sterile
- the picture shows harsh differences in lighting
- open. natural light. seems like a courtyard, so still has a protected space feeling. like the windows all around the space beckoning kids to get outside. I wonder in a place like Portland though, if a lot of outdoor chillin spaces would be underutilized because they're wet and you don't want to sit on them so much of the year.
- Needs more windows and color
- Seems a little stark but could be a nice place to gathering depending on where the sun hits the space throughout the day.
- Feels like an afterthought and not very well integrated into the building. Seems like it would be more of an abandoned space than something that is integrated into daily student life.
- I like this vibe with big organic seating areas with greenery and the decorative metal and wood on the outside with windows to see inside on the ground level.
- this doesn't look like a place you are supposed to sit; it look like teenagers need to be shoo'ed off; and the the material on the ground doesn't look good for wheelchair access
- Feels harsh and barren, like a granite plateau without the views.
- Little bit stark
- Building looms, need more trees to obscure structure. No shelter
- sitting looks uncomfortable and almost like a sign is missing say "don't sit here"
- I'd like to see some grass in this space. The building siding makes the building seem a little closed off.
- They put a tree. That's it.
- Seating area is more practical, but have concerns for vandalism (skateboarding, graffiti).
- We're really interesting screening effect with the windows. Good human scale and approachable. I like the use of DG and small scale seating features.
- Dislike ground
- Feels enclosed, like they just put a couple of benches up anywhere they could find the space rather than intentionally designing space around gathering. Very little life in the space.
- This is nice, but the tree looks weird
- with the wall on the left, it looks too small and not enough seating.
- Bench looks cold to sit on, rocks look uncomfortable to walk on, not enough green.
- not great seating, unsure about the material on the ground.

4.7

- Social, flowy, comfortable...but little green
- it looks really cool but i never would actually sit here
- definitely welcoming and comfortable.
- Cool more seating options
- Unique. Good at an urban context. I'm not sure how that would translate into a high school environment.
- Though this is fun, there will be lots of standing water and one more thing to keep clean that will not be easy. I kind of like the cobblestone ground surface but this is too sterile and urban. This area would get so hot in the summer - especially without any shade.
- Just nope.
- Feels like you got to make an effort to utilize and doesn't seem comfortable... especially in Portland weather most of the year.
- love the creative forms! Kids would really like those.
- Great stonework! Need that. But need plants. These structures could be a part of a larger area but not the whole.
- looks uncomfortable, students lying close to each other screams complications.

- These seem fun and like a good space to relax or gather, but I do wonder how easy it would be to keep clean and whether it would cause water to pool on the seat areas.
- It looks unnecessary. There isn't any natural things in the image besides a toothpick sized tree trunk.
- No. Just no.
- Fun and gorgeous materials... but part of what makes this so beautiful is the amazing stonework/paving underneath these curvy seating features.
- Interesting design
- Fun! Invites curiosity and play. I could totally see these scattered here and there on a school lawn, but probably not as a primary gathering space to the exclusion of more functional seating areas.
- I feel like this would just not be comfortable and get filled up with water
- a little weird. I don't think I would ever lay down like that at school.
- These looks really fun for connecting with friends! and comfy!
- Great as long as there are many other spaces to sit.
- the seating is definitely unique - would like to know what a current HS student thinks of them. I don't love the rock around it... needs more green. But maybe if we zoomed out, that could be happening in a wider view of the space that I'm just not seeing in this photo. If there is a brick element outside, these can be great fundraisers for PTA to have them engraved.

4.8

- Warm, organic, green, social...could use curves and flow
- love all the separation of heights but still feel connected
- like the range of different types of seating and gathering spaces, all in one package and one form factor. though, from a comfort standpoint, I wonder how comfortable big flat hard wooden surfaces would be.
- Looks painful laying or sitting on wood
- Has potential for informal gathering.
- Spaces like this that are off main walking paths, but give you a sense of reprieve and are bordered by green areas tend to feel very nice. A little bit of shade and shelter would go along way to making the seating zones feel even better and more welcoming.
- I like the greenery areas and that wood is incorporated, but possibly incorporate some stone so it's not all wood that can spinster and things can fall down between. It's a lot of just wood the same color and hard and blah.
- lack of cover (for sun or rain) raised area not accessible, like the permanent furniture though
- Feels boxy, locked in place, and not generally functional.
- Like the diversity of forms. Would like a little more mix of materials.
- Looks like a stage to a performing arts production. No shelter
- I could see myself using these benches often.
- sitting area looks a little uncomfortable, but seems to invite interactions and communications
- I like the design of this, but it doesn't seem like a comfortable place to sit with it being bare wood. I like the trees lining the space.
- It is attractive just because of the shapes, if the seating area. There is plants but it is very contained and rigid.
- Nice gathering area, but concerns about vandalism (skateboarding, graffiti).
- Nice common area outside
- I really like the variety of options in this one - the space can be used in lots of different ways by various types of individuals or groups.
- This looks comfortable
- Open to the rest of the campus, variety of seating and lot of it, near plants
- I like the way some seats are like chairs and others are for people to sit cross legged.
- interesting use of table and seating areas. Probably would want greenery that provides more shade than what I'm seeing. I do like the water run off greenery around the trees.

5. Comfortable & Welcoming Spaces - Seating Areas

5.1

- Some warmth...but bland color, penal light breakup
- harsh lighting differences
- like the diffuse sunlight and the mix of materials
- Uneven light needs shade or full light
- could be nice for individual studying and views to outside and over railing.
- It is great as a circulation space but I feel sorry for the students that are trying to do work on laptops in a space like this. The contrast on their screens is probably killing them.
- I like the railing made of wood and the floor but that is a lot of shadows and would trip me out and distract me. I like the seating along the window through, but it could get pretty hot there in the warmer months.

- shadows would make it difficult to see your screen or your page; very narrow so can only have two at a table the third would block the hallway
- The workspace element (having tables) is busied with the light/shadows. Feels like it should be small couches for interactions here, but not tables and loud chairs.
- Like seating in a hallway dual use space. Open. Lighting from the cutouts could be annoying for people read/working.
- Two people tables in a school don't make sense
- I like the window designs and the effect it creates with the shadows. I hope there are some larger tables to gather at on the far side to allow for larger groups to gather. I like the ceiling light design.
- The lighting is definitely throwing me off with the shadows and fragments of light scatter
- Nice for for one or two people. But more than that grouped around a table would impede traffic flow.
- This looks like it could be the upper area of the atrium space in a previous image... Beautiful light pouring in and useful seating areas.
- Could be quieter than larger area
- I like small tables/chairs like this as an option along wide hallways, and I think they would be used a lot. I don't like the extreme light/shade play of this particular example.
- This looks like a mall food court. The things on the wall are weird and confusing
- Open, well lit, lots of places to sit
- Good for working on a computer. The tables and chairs next to the windows are nice.
- whatever that metal is on the windows would be annoying if you were trying to study or use a computer at those tables.

5.2

- Open, vertical, soft seating, very warm tones
- scale of ceiling height to width of walkway is weird
- looks comfy...like a place you'd perch with a book and a cup of tea in the winter. great that there's natural light.
- Great windows ceiling to floor whole high school would be great
- Nice connection to outside but volume seems a little overwhelming and could be very bright in the space.
- Again, Wood, beautiful daylight, and human scaled elements with a hint of color make for a great combination. The space feels great.
- I like this with the wood and dark metal and lighting - I would hope there would be some sun shades that could come down when needed - but I would not like this if there were no possible shades or window covers when needed. I love the seating it provides and how open it is.
- like the seating options but the scale seems off with so high ceilings
- The window-sill benches are a nice idea, with the pillars creating some simple and comfortable separation. However, the tallness of the wall/windows makes it feel uncomfortable and a waste opportunity for something else (like a second floor with additional sitting / reading areas).
- like the color and light. A little narrow for seating.
- lots of light, comfortable seating
- This looks like a comfortable space to read or work and I like the large natural lighting from the windows.
- Everything looks good, there is seating, windows, natural light. The only issue I see is the benches along the window don't look that comfortable.
- Might be okay for reading only, but lacks writing spaces.
- Love the woodwork and window seats! Great library space with lots of light.
- Looks like a great space for studying quietly.
- I like the idea of having comfy chairs in a library, but these benches under the windows look really uncomfortable. And having the benches directly opposite the chairs feels too close and awkward to me.
- This looks comfortable
- open, well lit, comfortable places to sit
- The window seats are ideal.
- love the window seating and HUGE windows!

5.3

- Warm tones, cozy nooks, loft vibe...could use softness in line or seating
- what a cute safe discussion space
- love using a space that often gets tucked away and disused under the stairs. it maybe feels like a little meeting room. would also really depend on what type of activity is going on around it. like if that's a super active stairway / corridor, it wouldn't be the most welcoming place to sit when there are tons of people flowing around.
- Painful needs soft seating
- Welcoming seating area and nice use of material/space under stair.
- I really like the integration of a seating element into the volume of the stair. Everything feels proportionally like it fits, and the sloped angle on the back of the seating element is a nice touch.

- The only things I like about this are the gray flooring, the big ongoing bench and the fun angled alcove under the stairs - lose the rest!
- this is a cozy nook; needs more tables and seating; and likely power! the change in flooring helps define the space.
- This space is making me dizzy to look at. Potentially inviting from the other direction, this space just seems weird or off.
- needs more small tables and maybe some cozy chairs opposite the hard bench.
- Looks like a cozy cabin.
- I could very much see myself using benches along a hallway because I and many I other people often just sit on the floor in the hallway.
- seating seems uncomfortable, the open black ceiling makes it look like a basement, makes it dark
- This space seems sort of "wedged in" to the building and like it would be difficult to actually work out of. The exposed ceiling makes the space look too industrial or unfinished.
- It's kind of like a cave the way it is situated under the stairs. I think seating areas should be more open.
- Looks like an afterthought.
- Fun under stair alcove... not sure it is worth the expense in what looks like a fairly dim basement? Should be prioritized in a area with better real estate.
- Looks like a hideout
- I like the creative use of space that would otherwise just be wasted. There is enough overhead room that it doesn't feel crowded, and enough angle to the back that it could be comfortable to sit against.
- This feels OK
- it's cozy, I like seating along the hallway, I like that there's a table as well for usefulness.
- The white blank walls feel clinical.
- Great use of space under stairs - like the bench style seating and options for little tables and additional seating (would maybe recommend more of it)

5.4

- Solves much of the above...but could use more warm tones
- too much face to face with strangers
- love the materials, laid back quality, the light.
- More cushions soft seating
- Great potential for informal gathering, teaching space and connection to views with nice daylighting.
- This has a very 1960s sunken living room sort of feel. It would be nice in the right context, but in this case, the execution feels a little bit forced
- I really like the idea of this as long as the material is easy to clean - you know food and drink will show up there and this would suck for custodians to maintain if not easily cleanable! It provides a ton of space and options and the fun orange things in the middle is more seating.
- this looks like a comfortable space but if you scaled it up to hold a large amount of people it would lose that feeling and just become an auditorium
- This looks comfortable with the fabric and layouts. It seems like it could be used for a lot of things - a group discussion, a single person reading, or a chat. The combination with the corner and natural light make this feel welcoming and a place I would walk through another area to get to.
- I like the space. Round is good. Levels is good. some color and some soft items also good. little tables to work at or put a drink/food is also good.
- Doesn't seem very practical to me.
- looks comfy, allows for small groups and large groups to interact
- This looks fun and functional, with enough space that it could be used by one large group or many small groups. I like the little tables. Good mix of lighting, greenery, and functional space.
- It is visually appealing and looks comfortable. The shape might be a little impractical though.
- Not accommodating for someone with mobility issues or short legs.
- Casual and comfortable seating area perfect for high school students. Also good for circle time in classes.
- Could be a cool classroom idea
- Cozy, looks like a quiet space. Nice to have small tables but I'd be worried about people on lower tiers bumping their heads. Round the edges a bit and make the benches cushioned rather than hard, and I think you'd get a lot of kids hanging out here.
- It's just kind of wonky and uncomfortable
- doesn't feel very useful or comfortable
- I'm not sure I'd want to be laying where many other people have been walking.
- not sure I love the tables here, but this "stadium style", deep seating would be nice in a library. And for group gathering/presentations.

5.5

- Open w/natural light, soft lines, super social
- everything feels right - sizing, light, surfaces
- natural wood. tall ceilings, natural light. nature coming in through the windows. lighting is a warm color temperature.
- Great lighting
- The abundance of wood and view of nature makes the space seem welcoming even with the polished concrete floor.
- The space feels like a nice continuation of the forest inside. Great use of wood accent materials and natural light. The scale feels very good.
- This is one of my favs! I love the black metal and wood with the flooring and variety of seating. I like the high ceilings and the greenery outside. If there are not going to be trees to provide shade outside, I would suggest some shades.
- the scale of this space feels right but I imagine that when it is occupied that it would be hard to traverse in a wheelchair because the aisles between the tables is so small
- Great design for a cafeteria / eating area. The light and largeness feel like this space would be loud. The repetition in structure / design, especially combine with the multi-shadows, makes this room feel very busy.
- Love the warmth in this space. Love the mix of wood and polished concrete with the soft and hard seating. Durable! And plenty of seating.
- I love the warm natural materials and light, concrete floors, mix of bench seating and chairs.
- lots of light, different tables, configuration can be changed
- I like the wood. The furniture seems a little bland, but it's functional. I like the windows and that they look out into green space.
- It's kind of boring, like a starbucks or a food court.
- Open area. Some tables and chairs can be moved to seat larger groups. Concerns though for traffic flow.
- Lovely, but perhaps the wood is a bit overbearing and the scale/materials reads as a restaurant/lodge more than a school
- Tall windows , good lights
- Nice natural light & natural materials, some variety in seating options for groups, and tables aren't so big that I'd feel bad taking one for myself if I were alone.
- This looks like an up class mall food court, but I like it
- open and full of nice light and wood elements, lots of seating
- The dappled shade and regular comfortable tables are inviting.
- love the windows, the greenery outside providing some reprieve from direct sun. Love the wood. Like the mix of booth and individual seating.

5.6

- Warm, color, curves...but lots of sharp corners
- is the umbrella going to suck me up to an alien colony?
- Looks welcoming
- The space is so cool. I love oversized luminous elements above seating and study areas. This is a space. I would spend a lot of time in if I was a student here..
- I like the space this provides for working and reading and gathering along with the light and the lattice wood ceiling design (i think) but I DO NOT like the weird circular overgrown lampshade thing. Too much in the space and kinda random and intrusive to the space.
- i can see that this brings the ceiling down to make it more cozy but nope! the built in furniture might work for some but seems limited for (and I don't see any power)
- Odd desk - is it a seat or a desk. the roundness and size feels like it closes things off, which is also what the large overhang makes it feel like.
- Aesthetically beautiful! Not super comfortable. I worry about maintaining a space like this in a high school.
- open concept, seating students across each other can have positive (working together) or negative aspects (distraction)
- Interesting ceiling piece. This looks like a fun space to do work and collaborate or work individually. I don't like that the windows look frosted.
- The color is good, as is the furniture. I like how it is kind of isolated from everything but still in the middle of the room.
- Nap time.
- Fun and playful! I like the way the giant light feature resolves the double height space and makes it more humanized
- Great quiet space
- When I want to work in a library, I don't want to work at a big long table with a bunch of other people, so this isn't super attractive to me.
- This space seems really comfortable
- open, a fair amount of seating
- A little busy with all the things on the ceiling.

5.7

- Warm tones...but all lines and horizontal
- Flooring needs work
- Feels like a typical high school hallway.
- The only thing I like about this is the long wood bench by the windows. The random colored tiles, 2 different bricks, old school ceiling and other wood cases is A LOT!
- feels like a hallway seen in every high school everywhere. seems nice and wide; gives some views into classrooms so not a constrictive space; not a fan of the brick but the built in bench is nice
- What am I evaluating on this picture? A hard bench attached to a wall. the perpendicular green lines to the flow of the traffic make this feel off and unbalanced.
- Bench seating built into a hallway is a plus! color is good and nice bright light.
- Great bench seating and natural light.
- I could very much see myself using benches along a hallway because I and many I other people often just sit on the floor in the hallway.
- nice wide hallway, the white ceiling tiles look cheap and old.
- While I like the use of color here, it seems to be lacking creativity and is very generic. The brick seating doesn't look comfortable.
- It looks more like the seating was an addition or an after thought. It is kind of uncomfortable looking.
- More nap time. Needs tables and some chairs.
- Looks retro
- Maybe as a place to stop momentarily to get something out of my backpack, but not as a place to sit down and hang out. Uncomfortably straight back, at the edge of probably a busy corridor with people walking by. It could easily be a functional area, but it doesn't look like a comfortable one.
- This feels like a school
- it's open, I like the hallway seating and glass wall into another room
- This seems like every other school just blah not welcoming or comfortable
- Nice but standard high school. The bench is good.
- I like the bench seating. Not sure how I feel about the color blocks on the floor. The mix of wood and brick is interesting and appealing. I worry a bit that brick could feel less modern.

5.8

- Warm tones, varied color scheme, social
- Good windows floor is bad no color at all
- Nice hallway with seating and views to outside.
- Overall this is pretty good - love the wood, windows, big window benches and dark floor - but I DO NOT like the ceiling.
- i like the floor, benches and windows but the inside wall is not welcoming; closed off;
- This simple, natural, well-light area seems very, very inviting and welcoming. I get a warm feeling from the colors and light that would be there during a passing time period or during a period when people are just hanging out. There is great form and function here.
- Inviting. Modern. Love seating in a hallway. Nice wood and windows contrasted with the dark floor.
- Great bench seating and natural light.
- I could very much see myself using benches along a hallway because I and many I other people often just sit on the floor in the hallway.
- nice hallway, seating against the window might not be comfortable and hard to keep clean (fingerprints, dirt on the window)
- This looks too empty and bland. The lighting is nice, but otherwise this lacks enough character.
- Looks like an office or doctors office.
- Like the light airy feeling. Space needs to be bigger to provide tables and chairs.
- Not a place I would stay long
- I like the light, but the bench feels pretty angular and hard. Could do with something else to make it comfortable and inviting, especially since this isn't a super wide hallway and people sitting on the bench are pretty close to anybody walking by.
- This feels like a school
- I do like seating in the hallway, although this seating doesn't look as comfortable for some reason.
- Too plain. It might be nice if there was a place for student work on the walls.

5.9

- Mostly plastic, and short term trendy/odd
- takes up too much real estate in the hallway
- Cool but not comfortable
- Nice hallway with fun seating, not sure about the color in the space.
- Although I don't like the color, having a vibrant color accent is really nice in such a neutral environment. Great daylight..

- The green sitting area is okay and I like the wood benches, but the rest is too sterile. Ceilings are high and good window light but this is not inviting and really stark.
- Plastic green river running along the edge of the hallway? doesn't look comfortable or welcoming
- This space doesn't indicate how it is to be used, creates a bottleneck (and potentially an eddie in the other direction). The colors, style, and large piece of green slime-looking area just feel off-putting.
- This is fun and creative. Durable! Not my favorite color and seating is all hard.
- Skateboard city!
- seating looks a little uncomfortable, but it looks natural, interesting, and friendly
- This seating looks interesting, but the color is weird. It sort of looks like walking through an art gallery. The slanted seat does make it feel a little narrow to walk through.
- I don't even know what's going on in this image.
- Great for an indoor skateboard park.
- This seems a little tight On space for what it is
- Difficult to clean
- Fun! Playful, colorful. Gives a moment of whimsy while still offering space to sit and talk or eat or study.
- This looks really uncomfortable
- Weird. I don't really like the modern furniture.
- This give a sense of playfulness which I think (in certain ways) can be very welcoming
- Looks like a Nickelodeon show. Too bright.
- Like the unique seating, dislike that green color.

5.10

- Open, vertical, warm tones, varied colors, social
- Great lighting and spaces
- This is like a 3.5. Good daylight, but the space feels a little bit large without enough human scale elements in it to bring it down. It feels like the light fixtures are trying to be the scale elements in the space but are just too small to have the effect of bringing the spatial scale
- Lose the ceiling but the rest is okay. I like the windows as long as there are shades for it if there is no shade nearby - the glare and temperature changes could make this room really warm or cold. I like the variety of working areas as long as most of the material can be wiped down. The lights are okay - but not my fav.
-
- the view of Providence Park is nice. I also like the variety of seating that can be rearranged
- The openness, simplicity, and choices of colors and style make this area feel very welcoming and inviting. The range of furniture from desks to work at to couches to talk at add to this. The high ceiling are nice, but it does allow more of the room to be taken in which might feel a little busy with the amount of furniture as it is laid out.
- Good combo of seating options, open, lots of windows! Creative and warmer than flourescent lighting is good! I would make the color scheme less gray.
- mixture of table seating and lounge seating
- Cool light fixtures and good natural lighting with the windows. This looks like a comfortable and functional space to work in.
- The chairs look comfortable, there are tables for people who want tables, the decorations are cool but not over the top, and there is good lighting.
- Like the openness. Good area to provide reading, writing and gathering opportunities. Need better furniture. Pattern fabrics to hide stains.
- Cool multi-use
- I like the variety of seating options (tables & chairs vs. big chairs). I like the small pods of chairs that can be close enough to work in a group but far enough apart to work individually, but I hate the chairs themselves.
- This looks very comfortable. This is great
- open and light and a lot of seating choice variety.
- All the seating looks comfortable. Plenty of space for all different endeavors.
- I like the seating and use of windows. But all the books are really low - great for a children's library, would be annoying for a HS library.

6. Comfortable & Welcoming Spaces - Wayfinding & Graphic Design

6.1

- Warm tones, good color story, travel path implied...but harsh font
- big bold letters are easy to see and guide from a way finding standpoint. but this feels a little 1980s to me.
- Ugly no art or color flooring sucks
- Seems too busy with interior finishes.
- The space feels chaotic and can't figure out what it wants to be. Too much visual complexity.

- I like the big plain bold wording - it stands out on the wood. Could we put it in different languages and in braille over to the side by the door? I think Lincoln HS has something like that.
- welcoming if English is your first language; don't see a disabled door opener; looks great
- The Media Center sign is too dominating - probably reduce the size by a third. The strips on the floor and walls give the Star Trek warping sensation, but feel overdone especially when I figured out that also appeared to be the goal with the ceiling and rows of holes. Tone it down a bit. This feels like it would be great at a techy science academy.
- Can't miss it.
- good looking hallway, looks like the science wing
- I like the mix of materials and the variety of tiles to add color.
- It is a little boring, but it gets the job done. If we took this sign and added some color or made it a more exciting but still readable don't it would.b3 perfect.
- Highly visible if you are in front of the area, but not to the side. Would be an expensive fix if the room gets changed.
- Good wording on wood. Very clear.
- I like the clear, bold signage that makes the entrance to a new space visually distinct from everything around it. It's easy to find!
- This looks nice
- I like the media center treatment, but not the floor and wall treatment.
- The different colors makes it seem as if your in the matrix.
- Good for far away, but might be TOO big when you are up close.

6.2

- Warm color palette, local font, singular aesthetic
- taps into the rich wood / timber history of the PNW. also gives a warm / organic vibe, while still looking nice and new.
- To much wood needs lights windows color
- The space seems fun.
- Great scale, great graphics, feels great
- This one is okay - provides options - could be cool outside or in an area that needs some “warmth” or that lacks wood materials.
- love the way it looks but once again everything is english and chosen words might get stale really fast;
- Engraved wood / burned wood seems like it would fit, but the words / times / messaging feel out of place. Maybe simple images that tie into the school or source (such as the scales of justice, etc) might be a better fit as a background.
- I'm wondering if words and sayings might seem dated, unless they are something like an Ida B Wells quote.
- Not my personal style.
- just not a fun
- This wooden art doesn't seem like it fits for a school.
- This looks good, especially if the wood was stained different colors.
- Susceptible to vandalism.
- How does that board work?
- Understated school spirit? Subliminal messaging? It's fun.
- This looks confusing
- I like the wood elements, feel more timeless.
- The artwork feels like a bar and the table is not sturdy.
- Would be neat to use for school spirit. Could be hard to read at certain angles or for those with vision issues.

6.3

- Some warmth in tone...but cool color scheme and overbearing scale
- not sure what to react to here. I think it's a little confusing.
- Need fun bathroom logos or different languages on bathrooms
- Feels like a sorting machine. A little scary. Way too Much contrast.
- Not my fav - I can see kids drawing on these!
- welcoming if you are clearly male or female; no language barrier with this one
- Feels like the people are sliced in half. I can't tell if this is supposed to indicate both a male bathroom and a female bathroom, or if this is a single bathroom dedicated to mix-gender individuals.
- creative!
- Oof, lots of kids will get riled up about these binary symbols.
- I like the signs, that is innovative and new. I like it
- I like the symbols, but this space looks very dark.
- The part where it is signage for gendered restrooms/locker rooms kind of ruins it for me. It would be better if it was a colorful sign marking a non-gendered restroom anyone can use.
- Sets up a non-inclusive binary male/female dynamic.
- Too dark. Like walking down an alley. But good visual
- Weird and dark and imposing. Also, very gendered.

- This looks weird and confusing
- Pretty darn dark and I imagined the bathroom being unisex.
- Needs more lighting otherwise this works well.
- images are too big.

6.4

- Clean, warm and simple color scheme...but a bit spare and sterile
- I like the little pops of color that catch your eye, especially if they're used sparingly.
- Needs more light and color
- Seems stark, but the glimpse of wood and lighting are interesting.
- The space is clean, bright, simple and does a good job of accentuating way finding in signage.
- I get the idea and like it but I can see kids jumping and hitting them or hanging on them. The writing is a bit small for those that need a little help seeing.
- everything labeled seems nice. color makes it easy to see. just don't think this space is very welcoming
- The signage at different heights make this feel like a inside-out tabbed notebook, not a school.
- It is very clear where signs are located and clean looking. But words are too small.
- more office and business center vibe, a school could/should be more colorful
- This space lacks color and seems very sterile.
- The signs are too small and would be hard to read for some people.
- Good intentions with front and side facing verbiage. Font needs to be bigger. Might be hard for some people to read white on a light colored background.
- Feels like a medical clinic. Signage is so small it's impossible to read from a distance.
- It's not visible from far away
- nice and bright and clean feeling.
- Too clinical. Feels like a hospital.
- I like that you can see the sign when you are walk by and when you are facing the door.

6.5

- Open and curvy...but no warm tones, and old-glossy
- meh.
- Needs more light art color looks cold
- A space like this might be good for a stadium, but feels a little hard and sterile for high school.
- I like the idea or something embedded in the flooring to welcome you to walk with the rest of the school - It might not have to be that bold like the one in the pic, but the center emblem is cool.
- traditional school floor medallion; what I expect to find in a school somewhere;
- A dedicated school image / mascot on the main entry area feels appropriate and a strong time to school spirit, radiating the colors out. This assumes that the mascot and school colors are more natural (like this dark blue / gold) rather than something like purple and light green.
- Dark. Can't see any directions or labeling.
- Meh. Looks like it was remodeled in the 90s.
- I like how many places you can access from the one central area.
- not a fun, can't really say why. looks a little like a gym
- This seems like a cool entry area and could display achievement banners or student art.
- The floor would look better with a tile mosaic or something exciting like that.
- Not a fan.
- Feels like a school, get that school spirit as soon as you walk in the door.
- The space looks useless
- The floor is alright, doesn't really inspire me.
- Too many colors, shapes. Feels like a circus.
- feels like the 1990s... not in a good way. No one is going to see what is on that floor when people are in the building.

6.6

- Warm tones, soft surfaces, varied color scheme, vibrant art piece as an accent piece, open and vertical
- like the idea of murals that are tastefully created / curated and bring life to big blank walls and spaces.
- Gear color and light
- Space is nice but the volume/sizing seems off.
- I love the contrast of the color on the wall as a relates to the darker wood background. What a great way to break down the scale of a tall narrow space.
- This is my fav because you could do a few - especially if they all had a different message. I like the color and texture it brings!

- too graphic; doesn't look like a space to hang out in; looks like a spot to take an Instagram photo
- The wall is too busy. if they were brown, white, and gray with multiple quotes and images, it would feel better. I just feel that I need to stay away from that area.
- too many mixed materials that don't blend well together. My 16 yo says that kids will make fun of cheesy quotes.
- Not my personal style.
- Very nice looking space, mixture of tables and chairs
- This looks really neat and adds a lot of color to the space. There's a variety of seating types. I might recommend something other than grey seats and the grey wall for something brighter.
- The color and shapes are good, as well as the inspirational quote.
- Too busy.
- Bright and colorful, positive messaging. Not something everybody has to notice, but if they're using that seating area they're probably going to get curious and read some of what's on that wall.
- The space looks confusing
- I like the real "art" feeling of this space. And the variety of seating.
- The wood, varied seating, and artwork make this space comfortable.
- I don't love the color blocks, but like the idea of a large wall like this with inspirational quotes.

Final Thoughts:

If you have any general thoughts or observations that you'd like to share, we're all ears. Thank you for participating! (8 responses)

- Generally what I'm finding is that curves, softness, verticality, natural light, social seating, natural and warm tones, and some color variation to break up the eye line bring a comfortable vibe to my eyes
- I think, the common theme for me, as I was going through all of the images, is That I respond really well too spaces with clean wood structures, simple background materials, great daylight, good human scale proportions, and the inclusion of bold color and art. Those are the kind of spaces that, as I look back to when I was a teenager, I felt the most comfortable in. And still due to this day.
- I teach in a high school where there has been an active shooter and I would just keep in mind designs that provide protection for all and that safety should overrule aesthetics. I would also keep custodians/groundskeepers in mind in the same way. How to support them in maintaining a beautiful environment inside and out without making their job way more difficult. Thank you for incorporating lots of natural materials and example spaces to explore. Please keep teachers and support staff at the forefront of your thinking - without them the students miss out and though a lot of people want a student centered approach, the teachers are the ones showing up to teach those students so whatever we can do to make their job easier and more enjoyable goes a long way!
- Many of these particular spaces shows hallways/aisles that would feel too narrow to go by the occupied seating with a wheelchair. Allowances need to be made for full ADA access with the chairs pulled out of the tables (etc) or we can't get through there comfortably. If you choose to have a staircase as a major design focus, know that mobility impaired users won't be able to use that for small group hangs or transit connection (if you are connecting two high use spaces with stairs don't put the elevator in the other end of the building). Have you seen the stairs that go down to the Willamette River in George Rogers Park in Lake Oswego? The scale might not be right but they are a great example of combining ramps and stairs to make the whole thing accessible with some benches thrown in.
- All of the graphic design examples only had English; even at Ida B Wells that seems exclusionary. Outdoor surfaces had lots of uneven surfaces, or surfaces that contained a lot of grooves. Not great for mobility impaired or wheeled users. Outdoor spaces that had cover from either sun or rain would be great.
- There should be a natural feel and a timelessness about the structure, not making it a period piece or an artsy piece. Focus on simple elegance that allows the students to shape it and reshape it over time as different students approach the space with different considerations / concerns / foci . I feel like this would reflect the Ida B Wells character into the future.
- Leave open spaces for murals to be put on the school, we need students to be able to make the school look like what they want it to look like also!
- Need to keep inclusivity and safety in mind. Need to be practical to save on costs (sturdy furniture, patterned fabrics, flexibility/adaptability to keep future needs in mind). One of the schools I visited had open spaces that could be converted to classrooms in the future. Don't fall for fad designs that won't hold up in the future.
- this was a fun exercise!