

Planning Our Future

Sub-committee 9

High School Zone 1

October 14, 2023

SCOT Analysis

Strengths:

- Thriving arts community
 - More incoming freshman year after year (program continues to grow)
- Dance studio
- Location of Zone 1 (slightly separated)
 - Proximity of English department to theater
- Student parking (close to theater)
- All classrooms have windows
- Technology
- Layout of band/orchestra rooms
 - Keeping instruments separate allows both band and orchestra to play at the same time; having band away from where students are singing
 - Having practice rooms is a strength
 - Band room having own exit that goes toward stadium, storage area
- Auditorium area is on outside of the building

Challenges:

- Ability of band to get to the stadium
 - Stairs, small sidewalk
- General access
 - Band
 - Modular to currently hold materials
 - Costumes are in a non-functional bathroom
- Storage
 - ALL of ZONE 1
- Auditorium
 - feels it was not designed for theater (more presentations)

- No dressing rooms (privacy for students)
- Inadequate lighting
- Inadequate technology
- Multi-use
- Stage safety and size
- Steepness of stairs
- No ramp
- No pit
- Set building space for all arts
- Limited curricular options due to size
- Time availability (many organizations using space)
- No practice facilities
- Lack of flexibility for space
- Lack of other spaces to hold other meetings or groups
- Overall aesthetics
- Lobby area (no area for tickets, foods, crowd gathering)
- Seating is outdated in theater, broken chairs, not enough seats
- Lacks balcony
- No fly space
- Lack of common space for study hall or other needed matters
- Theater is only in the auditorium
- HVAC issues
- Classrooms
 - Not space to move around; no flexible seating options
 - Lack of collaboration opportunities for both teachers and students
 - HVAC issues
 - Vents in classrooms (noise, temperature)
 - Size of hallways are narrow
 - Drop ceilings
 - Lighting (poor lighting, flickers, harsh light)
 - Not a space for standardized testing
- Band/Orchestra/Chorus
 - Practice rooms (lack of)
 - Separation of arts and athletics (physical space)
 - Spaces are too small (classes are on top of each other)
 - Acoustics are poor
 - Lack of technology
 - Storage of band and orchestra materials

Opportunities

- Expansion of educational opportunities
 - Connections of arts with curriculum (cross-curricular opportunities)
- Connecting related arts and athletics together (bridging gap)
- More community opportunities
- Expansion of spaces for other opportunities
 - Groups would not have to cancel if another group needs space
- Opportunities for student and staff collaboration
- More positive climate/look to the building
 - Feeling of openness
 - High ceilings
- Ability to move around
- Student-driven opportunities
- Opportunities for engagement outside of school (recognition outside of just Methacton space)
- Opportunity to design clusters to leverage staff and space
- Opportunity to be forward thinking in design
- Opportunity for a welcoming space for all
- Opportunities for less unwanted behaviors due to feelings of engagement and being a part of the school community
- Reduced transit time
- Increase opportunity for safety
- Elevator access and general ADA accessibility
- Opportunities for outside performances because of updated facilities
- Opportunity for thriving related arts
- Opportunity to create inspiration
- Opportunity for Methacton to be a destination school district
- Opportunity to bring in revenue
- Opportunity to build a sense of pride within school community

Threats

- Feeling of being left behind in educational/related arts model
- Does the physical campus itself limit the opportunity for a new space
- Threat of loss of community to other communities/districts based on our facilities
- Public perception (perception is reality)
- Threat of limiting student dreams, lack of growth mindset
- Threat of lawsuits and fines due to emergency exits, dressing rooms

Big Ideas

- 1. Recommendation: Build a state of the art facility that will prepare our student body for their current interests and desired careers, inspire our faculty and staff and engage our community**
 - a. What is it? Arts Center**
 - i. Auditorium**
 - ii. Music Room**
 - iii. Practice Room**
 - iv. Dance Studio**
 - v. Lobby**
 - vi. TV Studio**
 - vii. Athletics**
 - viii. Photography**
 - ix. Human Services Consumer Science**
 - 1. Woodshop, Sewing, Cooking**
 - x. Ticketing**
 - xi. School Store**
 - b. Why is it important?**
 - i. Opportunities it allows for students and community (post for paper)**
 - c. Impact when complete:**
 - i. Community involvement, student involvement**
 - ii. Established brand**
 - iii. Premier destination school in region**
 - iv. Accommodate the current and growing student needs**
 - v. Produce top tiered talent**
- 2. Creation of collaborative classrooms/hallway spaces/accessibility**
 - a. What is it?**
 - i. Space that allows for flexible classroom configurations, lighting, proximity, technology, natural light, open space, larger hallways**
 - b. Why Important:**
 - i. Addresses mental health and builds community**

- ii. **Ownership/pride in school**
 - iii. **Prepares students for work force**
 - iv. **Allows for choice and independence**
 - c. **Impact when complete**
 - i. **Happier students, staff and community**
 - ii. **Greater flexible spaces**
 - iii. **Greater ability for students to have access to experts in their field**
 - iv. **Greater ability for cross-curricular conversations**
 - v. **Positive impact for property values**
 - d. **New Construction**
 - 3. **Large multi-use meeting spaces that can accommodate flexible groups**
 - a. **What is it? Spaces that can accommodate various sizes of groups (20-200)**
 - b. **Why important?**
 - i. **Currently do not have enough meeting spaces**
 - c. **Impact when complete**
 - i. **Allow for groups not to be bumped (multiple meetings at the same time)**
 - ii. **Allow for more outside groups to utilize spaces**
 - d. **Renovate (there will be tradeoffs) or New Construction**