

Medically Fragile Special Education Classrooms

Gary Johnson, Director of Special Education February 1, 2018



Need for Specialized Classrooms

Resource Stewardship

- June 2015
 - Board approved recommendation of District
 Facilities Committee to create specific facilities for special education
 - This addressed parent concerns about special education classes moving each year and not allowing students and families to establish school and community connectedness

Resource Stewardship

 Goal: Create a state of the art, permanent classroom for medically fragile class

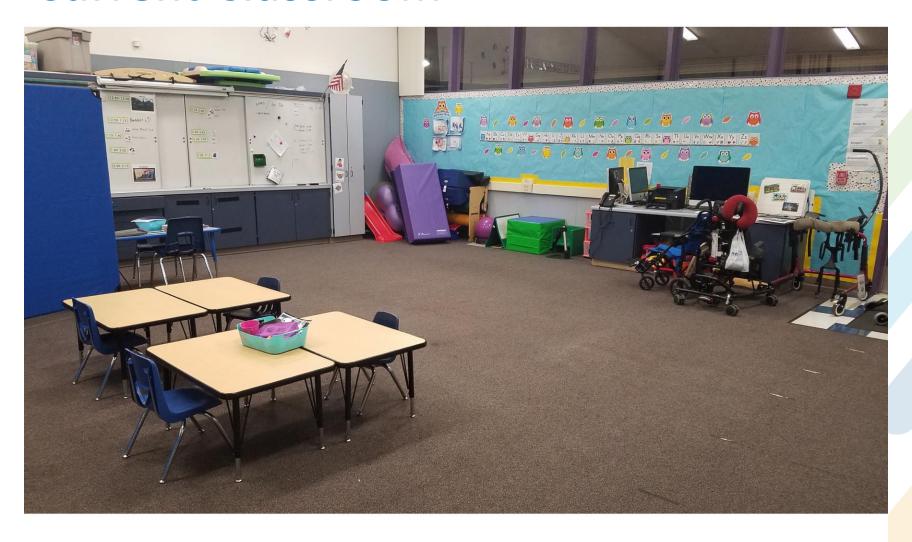


Background

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- Medically Fragile Class provides intensive services in a self-contained classroom
- Curriculum is focused on life skills and functional, age appropriate academics
- Students often require physical, occupational, and speech therapy
- Students often have multiple disabilities, including deaf/hard of hearing, vision impairment, and/or orthopedic impairment

Current Classroom



Current Classroom

- Previously located at Graham
- Re-located to Theuerkauf when previous group of students left and new, younger students entered
- Space is not adequate for both instruction and therapy needs

Staff

- Teacher
- 2 Instructional Assistants
- Physical Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Therapist
- Vision Specialist
- Adaptive Physical Education Specialist
- Assistive Technology Specialist
- Augmentative and Alternate Communication Specialist
- Orientation and Mobility Specialist



Plan

Plan of Action

- Create two facilities in order to always have a dedicated space
 - Landels
 - Graham

Plan of Action

- Design facilities with:
 - Adequate space for instruction
 - Appropriate space for physical/occupational therapy
 - Break out room for speech therapy & other needs
 - Appropriate restrooms

Impact

- Adds to current scope of construction, i.e. specifications for plan at Landels different than Bubb & Huff
 - Remove walls separating two classroom spaces
 - Potentially different finishes, e.g. tile instead of carpet
- Relocates students
- Plan to move students August 2019, same time as opening of Slater
- Provides plenty of time for communication to families



Next Steps

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- Work with architects to ensure appropriate design of classroom
- Develop room needs including furniture, equipment, materials and curriculum with input from staff
- Develop a communication plan