
MVWSD BOARD PACKET – PRIORITIES

DATE: Tuesday, April 23, 2024
PROJECT NAME: MVWUSD Outdoor Learning and Greening Standards
PROJECT NUMBER: MVW20-01

Site Greening Priorities Per School

AMY IMAI

Physical Comfort:

- More tree placement on interior of campus
- Tables/seats outside classrooms
- Paint blacktop to alleviate heat
- Seating behind portables
- Shade/seating around play areas

Mental Well-Being:

- Sensory paths/peace paths in between classrooms for breaks

Exploration And Discovery:

- Monarch butterfly garden/habitat garden (tie-in w/Science curriculum)
- Greater diversity of plants: seasonal, natives
- Nature walking path around the fields w/areas of engagement along path
- Herb garden to show full life cycle/uses of plants
- Zen garden
- More trees w/edible fruit, connect to District nutrition goals

Outdoor Learning:

- Outdoor amphitheater useful for presentations
- Shaded outdoor spaces/seating for reading during breaks
- Shaded reading space outside of library
- Outdoor classroom for STEAM w/natural elements for exploration
- More educational / playful striping to activate blacktop
- Designated classroom raised garden boxes that students can tend to

- Rain barrel planters for discussing water resources
- Clear planters for viewing root development

Operations & Sustainability:

Student Safety & Experience:

- Enhance pickup area near kinder classrooms (for parents of all ages)
- Change planting adjacent to classrooms that will alleviate pests



BUBB

Physical Comfort:

- Tables/seating between classrooms
- Expand existing teacher patio

Mental Well-Being:

- Tactile play area
- Labyrinth
- Stage for presentations and drama
- Spaces for emotional regulation
- Art table or maker space doubles as a social opportunity/work space

Exploration And Discovery:

- Discovery zone next to solar with digging opportunities and mounding
- Introduce native plants & succulents

Outdoor Learning:

- Add signage to stormwater area
- Teaching amphitheater - white board, seating
- Expanded classroom opportunity behind living classroom garden / teacher lunch area
- Reading/drawing areas near play areas
- Library yard enhancement for reading/gathering/instruction
- Outdoor classroom/shade garden under solar

Operations & Sustainability:

- Provide storage near the instruction spaces

Student Safety & Experience:

- Focus play opportunities closer to school
- Navigational dots or spaces on blacktop for lineup
- Lawn areas in the front can be enhanced for pick-up/drop-off/parent socializing
- Improve screening at school frontage
- Spaces for individuals as well as small groups (i.e. if a child needs alone time)



CASTRO

Physical Comfort:

- More trees and seating in interior of campus, especially k-yard & pickup/dropoff
- More shade near playground structures
- Entrance between kinder and office needs more shade

Mental Well-Being:

- Spaces between classrooms are used for conflict resolution
- More spaces for quiet time/play

Exploration And Discovery:

- Make green spaces that area available to students during recess

Outdoor Learning:

- More amenities for outdoor learning garden (seating/shade/teaching tools)
- Signage at stormwater planters

Operations & Sustainability:

- Living classroom gets damaged by students--provide fence around it; enhance other nearby areas for ball play/active recreation
- Lower maintenance plants



CRITTENDEN

Physical Comfort:

- More shaded seating in quad / along buildings
- Quad is very bright -- add shade and/or make ground less reflective, esp. bigger trees
- Add shaded areas for instruction before P.E. activities next to lawn/fields
- Seating for pickup/dropoff area
- Seating around living classroom
- Next to basketball courts, take advantage of existing mature trees

Mental Well-Being:

- Discuss mural/mosaic program with maintenance staff
- Patio next to art classroom could be used for art classes

Exploration And Discovery:

- Activate small space next to living classroom

Outdoor Learning:

- Create spaces for outdoor student clubs
- Increase shade in existing amphitheater
- More tables/flat surfaces for outdoor classrooms (picnic tables in amphitheater were requested to be moved to the shaded lunch area)
- More tables outside classrooms within eyesight of teachers

Operations & Sustainability:

- Activate lawn in front of school
- Choose plants that can be maintained without intense manicuring--district approaches spreading grasses/shrubs & fallen leaves aggressively
- Use recycled materials where possible
- Pickup/dropoff/PE area mostly used for attendance -- more planting/trees might be useful to deter active play
- Rejuvenate and maintain raised beds



GRAHAM

Physical Comfort:

- More tree canopy within school interior
- More diverse & shaded seating opportunities
- Paint asphalt to alleviate heat
- Convert asphalt/concrete spaces to softscape/natural spaces
- Shade and *backed seating are key elements for outdoor classroom
- Convert 1 basketball court to natural shaded area
- Move bike lockers next to Admin building (clears path from playground to field)
- More space, shade & natural materials in lunch area

Mental Well-Being:

- Therapeutic interventions
 - Contemplation Spaces
 - Sensory Planting
- Potential for 'reset' areas in corridors for students taking a short break -- more seating in shaded areas
- "Reflective" or "thinking" classroom adjacent to Library

Exploration And Discovery:

- More natural materials and spaces on campus
- More diverse trees & plants

Outdoor Learning:

- More opportunities for outdoor learning
- Make learning garden more accessible to classrooms
- Improve ecological literacy (signage, etc.)
- Aesthetic planting & enclosed teaching board
- Outdoor classroom adjacent to science classroom

Operations & Sustainability:

- Improve/update/replace planting
- Place for a bulletin board for schedule to use the outdoor classroom



LANDELS

Physical Comfort:

- Seating areas are mostly under the solar panels
- Staff eating space outdoors (in frontage next to admin building)
- More trees in the school interior

Mental Well-Being:

- Enhance existing outdoor classroom to make it useful for quiet time during lunch

Exploration And Discovery:

- Accessible path around field
- Nature play in frontage next to k-classroom
- Fort / rope climbing area with natural materials

Outdoor Learning:

- Add reading garden outside library under plum tree
- Small student planter box outside every classroom (that they would help maintain)
- Amphitheater-style seating with mini stage/central area for 'Reader Theater' and other events (potentially viable area next to MUR where music performances already happen; alternatively next to portables)
- More outdoor teaching/instructional tools-- chalkboard/cupboard (existing shed can store other items)
- ADA upgrades for existing outdoor classroom

Operations & Sustainability:

Student Safety & Experience:

- Replace dead trees in school interior
- Accessible path around field would increase accessibility for fire drills (where students gather on field)
- Smooth out field
- Repair/replace k-playground
- Create lineup area between asphalt & lawn w/trees



MISTRAL

Physical Comfort:

- Wind/rain shelters and improved accessibility at redwood garden
- Redesign whole k-yard to serve more diverse purposes/more active recreation (ex: nature play, obstacle course, sensory elements), and utilize the space more efficiently
- Add some type of awning/shade and seating between classrooms (in aisles) for outdoor classroom/eating areas/calming areas (weather resistant)
- Seating area next to plants along fire lane (might need a fence/divider from vehicle area)
- Shade for rain and hot weather next to entrances
- More shade near playground structures

Mental Well-Being:

- Area for messy play
- Bright/colorful elements for sensory stimulation
- Water element for sound

Exploration And Discovery:

- Would love a butterfly garden
- Extend redwood garden into adjacent asphalt area
- Make green spaces that area available to students during recess

Outdoor Learning:

- Amenities for learning garden: water, secured storage, and/or raised beds
- Signage is great but there is opportunity for more
- Outdoor reading space next to library that doubles as classroom

Operations & Sustainability:

- Enhance seating area outside of library to make more appealing
- Lower maintenance plants

Student Safety & Experience:

- More amenities for pickup/drop-off
- Avoid spiky plant choices (like in kinder yard)



- Differentiated pavement/stripping in the fire lane for pedestrians (used frequently by both schools)
- Level field to make it more practical for lawn games/active rec



MONTA LOMA

Physical Comfort:

- Outdoor lunch space needs shade (children currently eat in MUR space)
- More seating in outdoor spaces to encourage their use/exploration
- Add shade/seating outside library

Mental Well-Being:

- Adding musical elements to fences
- Wiggle/reset space or therapeutic space in front of 1st grade classroom

Exploration And Discovery:

- Extend k-yard with soft materials (lawn, planting, etc)

Outdoor Learning:

- Pick-up/drop-off area could also double as an outdoor classroom as it's more remote than other courtyard spaces
- Would be nice to expand the learning garden into the asphalt and enclosure with a low fence for protection
- More outdoor teaching tools would encourage outdoor learning
- Enhance yards next to SPED classrooms
- Interior lawn used for casual gathering, assembly, etc.
- Amphitheater space in the green center space next to library

Operations & Sustainability:

Student Safety & Experience:

- Improve/repair gates/fencing and locking/panic hardware
- Improve visibility to/through play areas
- Alleviate tree root tripping hazards



STEVENSON

Physical Comfort:

- More seating areas, especially for individuals/smaller groups, esp. in pickup/dropoff
- Increase tree canopy in the interior of campus (solar panels do not provide shade year-round)
- More windbreaks/wind and shade consideration for outdoor learning areas
- Upgrade staff outdoor eating area (could also be used for families)
- Add greening around solar panels
- Minimize blacktop and/or add more tree shade to blacktop area

Mental Well-Being:

- Therapeutic interventions are not accessible during recess/lunch time.
- Striping for Social Emotional Learning activities (conflict shield, peace path, Stevenson values)
- More areas for reading/quiet time away a small distance from active rec areas
- Incorporating student art into campuses

Exploration & Discovery:

- Nature / sensory area with outdoor hand-washing station
- Nature areas in between sport areas
- Add small ball play area (tetherball/ball wall)
- Potentially a grove or exploration area next to YMCA bldg
- Sensory play with herbs/fragrant plants
- Space for digging in the garden (spray bottles, shovels)
- Create a more natural/winding space/path between blacktop and fields

Outdoor Learning:

- Educational signage about green infrastructure (bioretention areas)
- Trees/plants next to k-yard -- could be multi-use space (for teacher lunch, for library reading) -- (would need to be laid out in a way that avoids circulation lines/other distractions)
- More thoughtful planting + outdoor classroom next to district office (increase shade on paved area)



- More teaching tools & outdoor storage unit

Operations & Sustainability:

- Plant bigger trees (small trees planted in the past have been broken by students); plant trees outside of ball play areas

Student Safety & Experience:

- Avoid creating muddy areas, amend existing muddy areas (even when tree wells get wet, students will go in them)
- Add some color to the blacktop



THEUERKAUF

Physical Comfort:

- Add seating in learning garden, in courtyards
- More tree canopy near playgrounds
- Better utilize spaces under large shade trees

Mental Well-Being:

- Add break spaces outside classrooms
- Add play walls with gears, ropes, pulleys, switches
- Social Emotional Learning activities via striping (striping along covered walkways)

Exploration & Discovery:

- More diversity of places/types of things to do in the blacktop (solar & PE areas do take up a lot of space and are sometimes shared w/Stevenson)--esp. kickball wall/more four square
- Add color to the blacktop, and some different activity lines besides basketball courts
- Expand area next to largest DG playground/living classroom with more nature play

Outdoor Learning:

- More outdoor storage for outdoor teaching/play activities
- Mini library storage
- Add amenities to courtyard w/bridge (not boulders but tables, seating, storage, blackboard)
- Reading 'rooms' around campus, esp. near blacktop for reading during recess
- Amphitheater space for events in courtyard

Operations & Sustainability:

- More ball storage outside near play areas
- More direct path from classrooms to MUR for lunch (need a walking path so grass doesn't get trampled)

Student Safety & Experience:

- More welcoming entry



- Add compliance at gates
- Remove tripping hazards at non-maintained DG and planting areas/tree wells
- Restripe basketball area so halfcourt and full court aren't intersecting

