Designing an Art Education Learning Environment

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We are located in a small suburban township in Northwest Bergen County, New Jersey. It is a college preparatory school founded by the Archdiocese of Newark in 1960, which has its purpose the complete education of young women. Our students come from more than eighty towns in New Jersey and eighteen in New York. The total enrollment this year is 769 students. Presently we have 181 seniors.
Recent School Renovations

- Information Commons
Recent School Renovations

- TV Studio
The Art Room Built in 1994
A Growing Program

• By 2008, it became apparent that we were outgrowing the art room.
• We began to brainstorm the best solutions for our growing program.
“Let Us Go Forward” Capital Campaign

- A three million dollar facility campaign done through both large and small private donations and naming opportunities. The addition to the school included two new art studios and four classrooms.
Stakeholders in this project:

- Administration
- Art Faculty
- Current Students
- Alumnae
- Parents
Administration Wish List

• One large area where the school community could gather to hold events

• Good utilization of limited existing space on the property

• Facility to meet the needs of anticipated curriculum changes and a growing program

• Visually appealing that fits the look of the school and other recent renovations

Art Faculty/ Student Wish List

• Two separate studios
• Ample storage for student work
• A large storage room with a lock
• A technology center
• SINKS!
• Outdoor learning space
• Enough electrical outlets for our one-to-one laptop community
• Individual drawing tables in one studio
• Large tables in the other studio.
A Helpful Resource
The Third Teacher
97 Ways to Use Design to Transform Teaching and Learning
Addressing Multiple Intelligences in the design of the learning environment

“Allow student time and space to choose what they want to do. Their choices will illuminate their individual learning styles.”

The Third Teacher
Make Classrooms Agile

“
A learning space that can be reconfigured on a dime will engage different kinds of learners and teachers.”

The Third Teacher
Display Learning

“Posting student work, both current and past, up on the wall tracks progress in a visible way”

The Third Teacher

• Displaying work for the school community outside the room.
• Hanging work around the room
• Posting student work for critique in the room.
Bringing the Outside In

• Creating an outdoor learning space.
• Designing a courtyard allowing us to change up the locations of regular activities.

The Third Teacher
Let the Sunshine In

• “Increasing daylight in classrooms has been shown to cut down on absenteeism and improve test scores.”

• The Third Teacher
Designing a Studio for the 21st Century Learner

• Floor outlets for laptops (36 outlets per studio)
• Smart Boards
• Mounted projectors and speakers for audio visual presentations
Being a part of the planning process - Meeting with Architects and Administrators
Preliminary Floor Plans
The Construction Begins
Implementing all of our ideas....
Addressing Multiple Intelligences in the design of the learning environment

Our kinesthetic learners loves the versatility of the desks.
Klopfenstein AA300 Tilt-Top Art Table, Melamine Top Telescopes & Pivots 180
Atrium Allows Students to work on the floor
Make Classrooms Agile

- Opening the Retractable wall
Make Classrooms Agile
Make Classrooms Agile
Make Classrooms Agile

Flipping the Classrooms
Storage for Student Work
Storage for Student Work
Large Storage Closet
Large Butcher Block Tables Essential for Large work
Bringing the Outside In

- Creating an outdoor learning space.
Bringing the Outside In

• Designing a courtyard allowed us to change up the locations of regular activities.
Bringing the Outside In

- Picnic tables were added for students to be immersed in the landscape.
Easels for Plein Air Painting
Klopfenstein Collegiate Studio Easel, Welded Steel A Frame, Ext Ht 96 inches
Outdoor Events on the Courtyard

Cosmos on the Courtyard – Alumnae Event
Room can quickly be converted to Gallery Space
Display Learning

Posting student work for critique in the room on magnetized white boards on retractable wall.
Display Learning
Gallery Space in the Lobby and Stairwell Outside the Art Studio
Artwork in the Main Lobby
Artwork in the Main Lobby
A Safe Place for the Kiln

- Kiln Room with Enviro-vent
Lighting Specific for An Art Studio

• Track lights to light a model for portraits or to light a still-life.

• Specific light bulbs to avoid a yellow cast on subjects.

• Energy conservation automatic shut-off for classroom lights.
Designing a Studio for the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century Learner

- Floor outlets for laptops (36 outlets per studio)
- Smart Boards
- Mounted projectors and speakers for audio visual presentations
Floor Outlets
Smart Boards
Some of the Challenges We Encountered....
Let the Sunshine In- but not too much

Window tint was added to address the sun glare issues as well as security concerns.
The Technology Center
Redesigning the Technology center
Phase 1
New Redesigned Technology Center

Higher computer station allows for easier instruction
Tinted Glass for Security Purposes
Location, Location, Location!

- We are located right next to the cafeteria. This was a concern in the beginning stages of planning but it has turned out to be a community building location.
The Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Celebration!
Klopfenstein AA300 Tilt-Top Art Table, Melamine Top Telescopes & Pivots 180
MP Code #MP-51621-001 · See more at: http://www.utrechtart.com/Klopfenstein-AA300-Tilt-Top-Art-Table--Melamine-Top-Telescopes---Pivots-180-MP-51621-001-i1014809.utrecht#sthash.kG770oTT.dpuf

Now $369.99 - $399.99

The AA300 Art Tables are sturdy 3/4" solid core with tough 30” x 36” Melamine surface. A spring assisted top telescopes from 32” to 45” and pivots 180 °. It’s pivot bracket locks at any tilt angle with dual locking handles for non-slip positioning. The base and center upright are 2”square tubing. The upright securely attaches to welded base.
Weight 25 lbs., Base is 17” x 28”. Solid and Wobble-free!
- See more at: http://www.utrechtart.com/Klopfenstein-AA300-Tilt-Top-Art-Table--Melamine-Top-Telescopes---Pivots-180-MP-51621-001-i1014809.utrecht#sthash.kG770oTT.dpuf

Klopfenstein Collegiate Studio Easel, Welded Steel A Frame, Ext Ht 96 inches

Traditional a-frame design for extra stability and rigidity. Features include:
● Canvas tray quickly adjusts to any position and easily locks into place.
● 1-1/4” and 1” square tubing for lasting strength and durability
● Folds flat for compact storage
● Holds canvases up to 96”
● 58” h with a 24” x 29” base

Envirovent Kiln Ventilation System
http://skutt.com/ceramic-kilns/kiln-accessories/venting/
Works Cited

- The Third Teacher- 97 Ways You Can Use Design to Transform Teaching and Learning
- Cannon Design
- VS Furniture
- Bruce Mau Design
- Abrams, New York
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