

Reimagining the Academic Ecosystem

CTE as Campus Infrastructure

A4LE - LearningSCAPES 2026

Session Speakers



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Part I: Session Introduction

This session explores how Career Technical Education (CTE) can serve as a catalytic framework to transform traditional campuses into dynamic learning ecosystems.

What You Will Learn

- **Strategic Programming:** Organizing a campus around diverse learning environments using Inglewood High School as a case study.
- **Designing for Synergy:** Linking general education, legacy programs, and CTE spaces to support formal and informal collaboration.

What Your Takeaways Will Be

- Insight into how integrating CTE as connective infrastructure can transform constraints into opportunities by linking heritage and innovation, academics and industry, and campus and community.
- How the resulting learning environments inspire creativity, collaboration, and future-ready thinking.

Reimagining the Academic Ecosystem: CTE as Campus Infrastructure



Welcome to Inglewood, California

ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT



LANDMARKS



MUSIC & PERFORMANCE ARTS

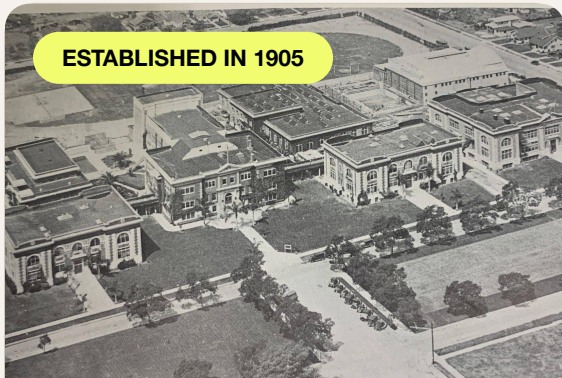


CULTURE & ARTS



A Look into Inglewood High School

ESTABLISHED IN 1905



AN AEROPLANE VIEW

Campus History

Honoring over a century of history while transitioning from traditional models to a forward-thinking unified campus ecosystem.

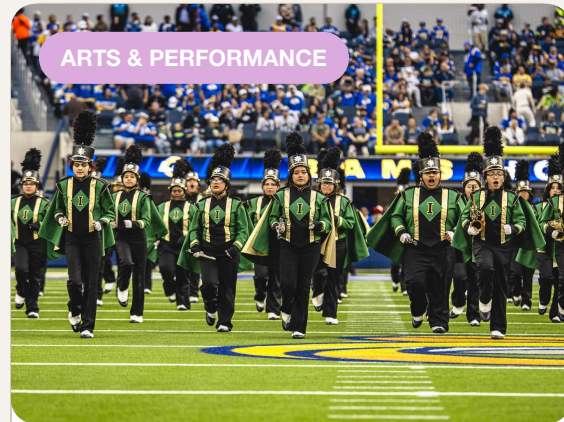
ACADEMICS & CTE



Programs & Curriculum

Comprehensive academic programs and hands-on career technical pathways.

ARTS & PERFORMANCE



Nationally-Recognized Band

A nationally celebrated ensemble that drives campus culture and deep community pride.

Funding Sources: The Catalyst for Modernization

Inglewood voters approve school bond measure for \$240 million

Inglewood constituents voted to approve a school bond measure that would grant \$240 million to the school district for repairs and renovations.



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By [Ashley Mackey](#) 

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

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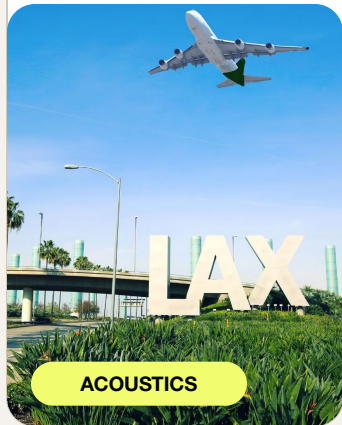
District Enrollment & School Consolidations



Site Constraints & Modernization-Drivers for Inglewood High

Environmental Noise

Severe LAX flight noise impacts outdoor campus life, driving the need for comprehensive building acoustic upgrades.



ACOUSTICS

Aging Infrastructure

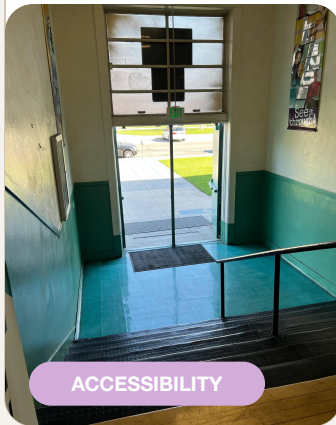
Century-old architecture unable to support the heavy technological demands of modern CTE.



FACILITIES

Accessibility Challenges

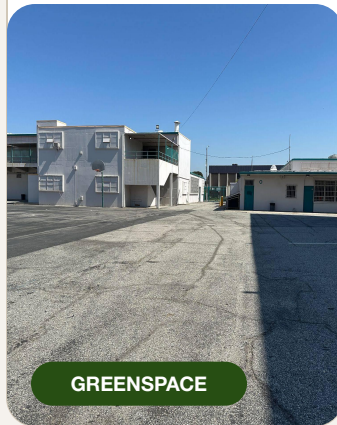
Extensive modernization is required to bring historical, multi-story buildings up to equitable access standards.



ACCESSIBILITY

Concrete Landscape

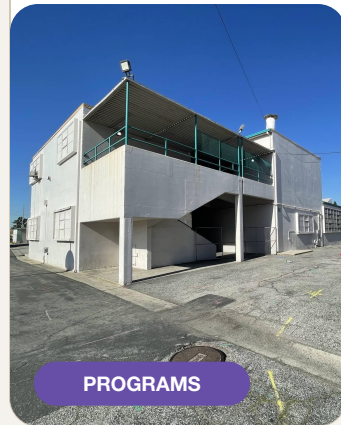
A stark lack of natural greenspace restricts outdoor programming.



GREENSPACE

Siloed Programs

Separated CTE & music building structures lock students into singular focus areas, limiting interdisciplinary collaboration.



PROGRAMS

Part II: Introduction to CTE Programming & IUSD Vision



Elevating Community Pride

Celebrating and honoring the campus's historic legacy.

Addressing 21st-Century Needs

Rapidly modernizing into an industry-aligned learning ecosystem.

CTE as Connective Tissue

Using career pathways to bridge academics, community, and industry.

What is CTE?

Career Technical Education (CTE) is hands-on, skills-based education connecting classroom instruction directly to high-demand career pathways.

THREE REAL-WORLD PILLARS

- 01 Real-World Skills:** Technical competence combined with essential workplace skills.
- 02 Real High School Experience:** Contextualized academics that elevate student engagement.
- 03 Real Options After Graduation:** Direct pipelines to apprenticeships, industry certifications, associate degrees, and 4-year universities.

PROVEN IMPACT

91%

of CTE parents report students are better prepared for career success

80%

of CTE parents report students access internship opportunities

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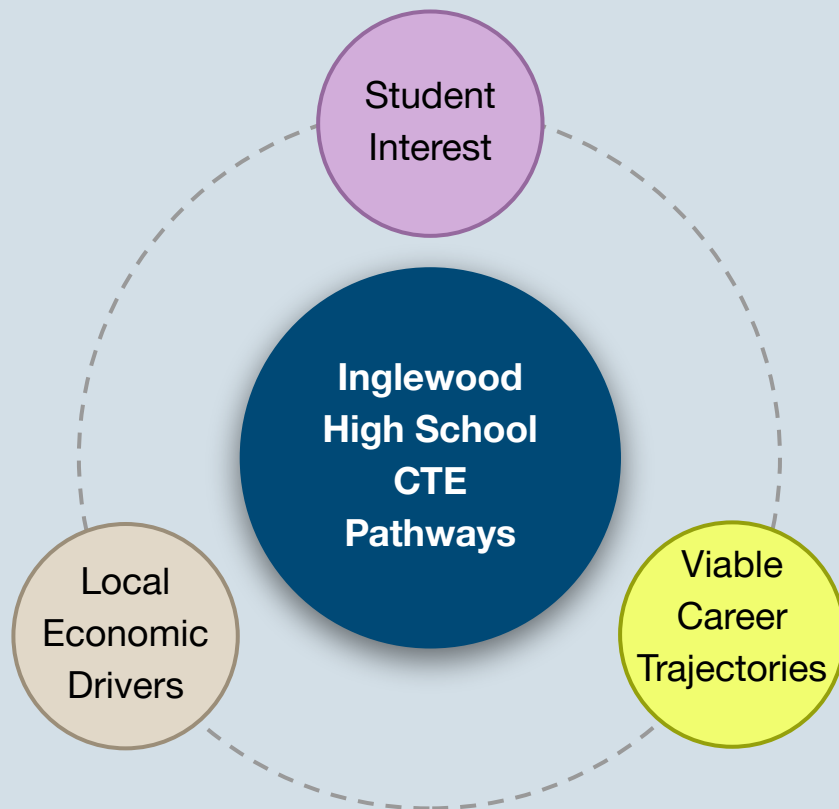
Intentional Pathway Selection

Data-Driven Equity

Aligning Chamber of Commerce data with student interest to open pathways in industries where students of color are underrepresented.

Sunsetting Unsustainable Programs

Using data and community input to phase out unsustainable legacy programs, such as ROTC.



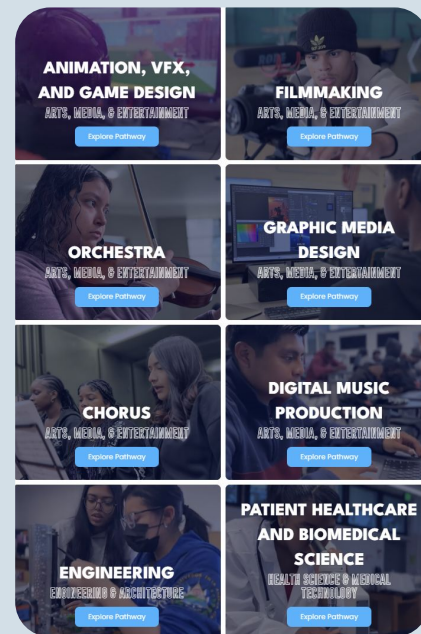
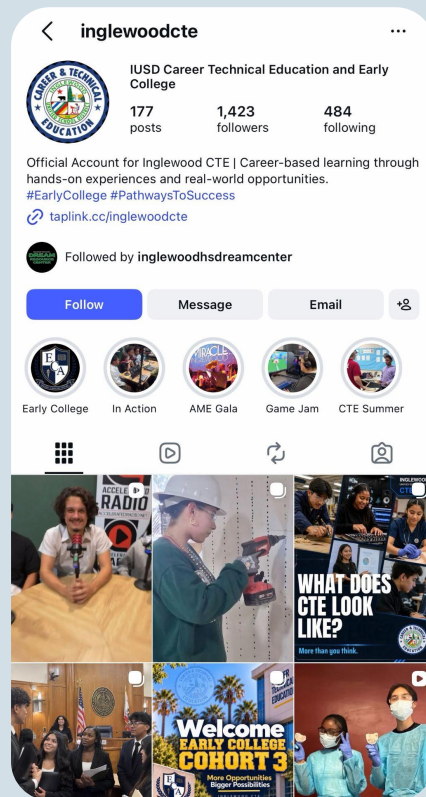
CTE Advisory Committee & Pathway Selection Handbook

Active Governance

The CTE Committee oversees these pathway selections, handles staffing and A-G compliance, and ensures students can realistically secure capstones or certificates.

Standardized Framework

IUSD utilizes a comprehensive CTE selection handbook to guide this strategic process.



Instructional Alignment & Facility Flexibility

Instructional Alignment

Embed contextualized CTE concepts directly into core curricula through co-teaching, project-based learning, and interdisciplinary units linking technical and foundational subjects.

Facility Flexibility

Modernize learning spaces into adaptable, multi-use maker spaces with authentic equipment supporting both technical training and general instruction.



Social-Emotional Competency Integration

The Community

Integrate essential workplace skills—such as teamwork, emotional regulation, resilience, and problem-solving—into CTE standards, supporting social-emotional development alongside technical skills within the [IUSD Beloved Community](#).



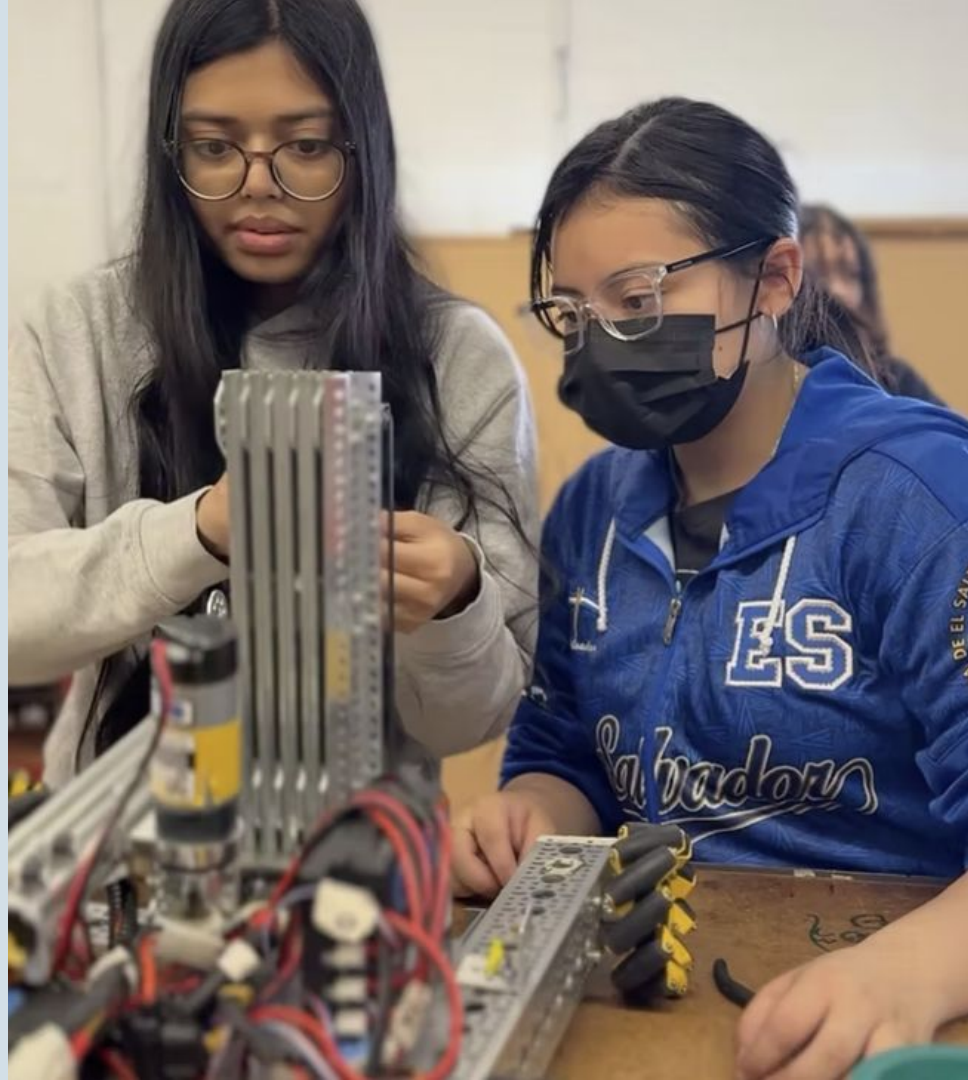
Cross-Departmental Collaboration & Work-Based Learning

Cross-Departmental Collaboration

Cultivate unified professional learning communities (PLCs) where CTE instructors, faculty, and counselors jointly monitor career readiness, academic growth, and student well-being.

Work-Based Learning

Expand job shadowing and internships across campus by aligning industry partnerships with guidance counseling, career mapping, and postsecondary planning.



Industry & Community Partnerships

Workforce Alignment

Partner with workforce intermediaries—such as the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and local community-based organizations—to align training with labor demand, secure externships, co-design curriculum, and provide wraparound support.



Higher-Ed Pipelines

Leverage upgraded facilities as a magnet to strengthen critical partnerships with higher education institutions like USC Iovine & Young Academy, Loyola Marymount University, and El Camino College.



**USC Iovine and
Young Academy**
*Arts, Technology and the Business
of Innovation*

Building the Pipeline & Projected Impact

Driving Enrollment & Academic Excellence

Leveraging CTE modernization to increase daily attendance, standardized test scores, and certificate completions.

Attracting Talent

Supplying modern, curriculum-propelling spaces to recruit and retain industry professionals as educators.

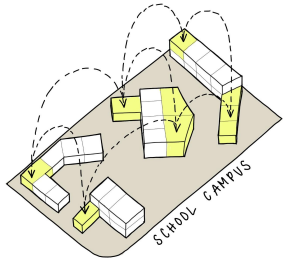


Part III: Designing the Ecosystem

Reimagining the Academic Ecosystem with CTE as Campus Infrastructure

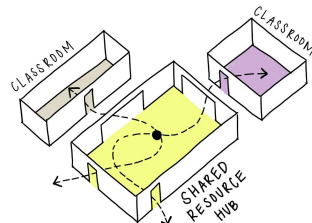
CAMPUS-WIDE PROGRAMMATIC DISPERSAL

- Weave specialized CTE spaces directly into everyday student paths.
- Make industry-focused learning visible to the entire campus.
- Prevent isolation by purposefully mixing diverse subjects together.



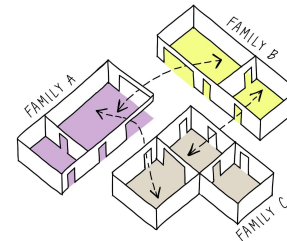
SHARING & CONSOLIDATING RESOURCES

- Use budget and site limits as a reason to design smarter, shared spaces.
- Design central hubs that
- serve multiple departments equally well.
 - Overlap equipment needs to justify investing in higher-quality tools.



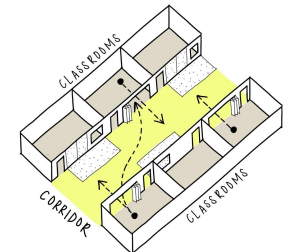
STRATEGIC ADJACENCIES

- Group complementary programs to encourage natural collaboration.
- Plan building layouts based on how different subjects actually interact.
- Create shared boundaries that invite students from different classes to work together.



INTERIOR ACTIVATION & SPATIAL FLUIDITY

- Transform standard hallways into active, usable learning areas.
- Blur the physical lines between the enclosed classroom and the open corridor.
- Use furniture and flooring to define spaces without having to build walls.



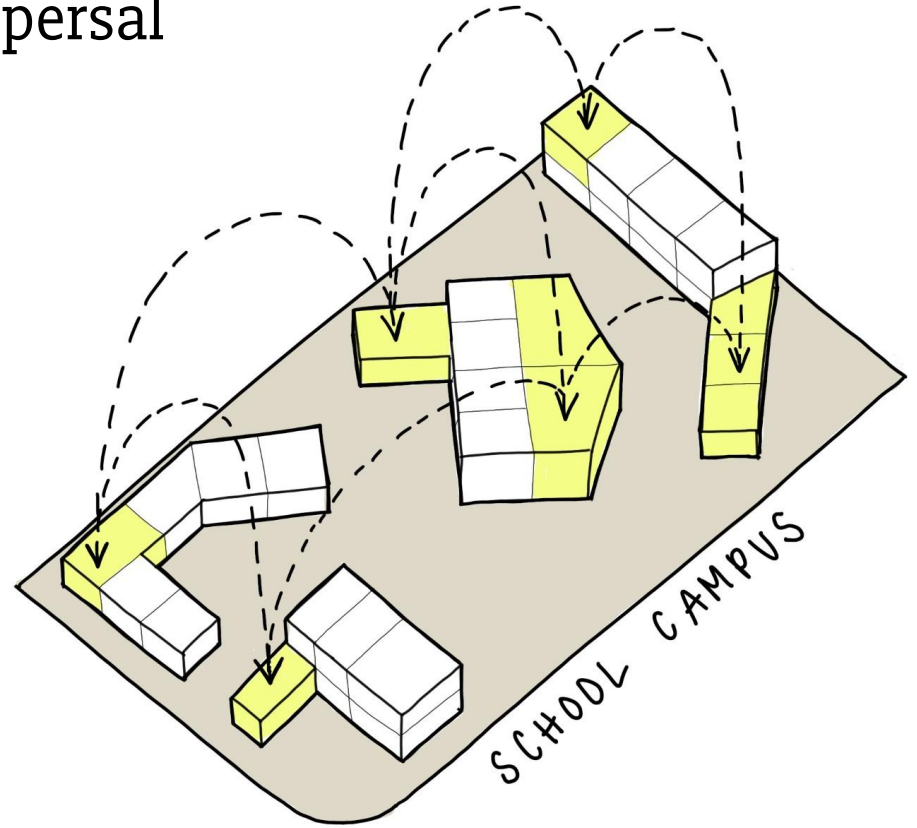
Campus-Wide Programmatic Dispersal

Program Integration

Distribute CTE programs across the campus, where appropriate, to foster interdisciplinary learning opportunities and reinforce connections with broader academic community.

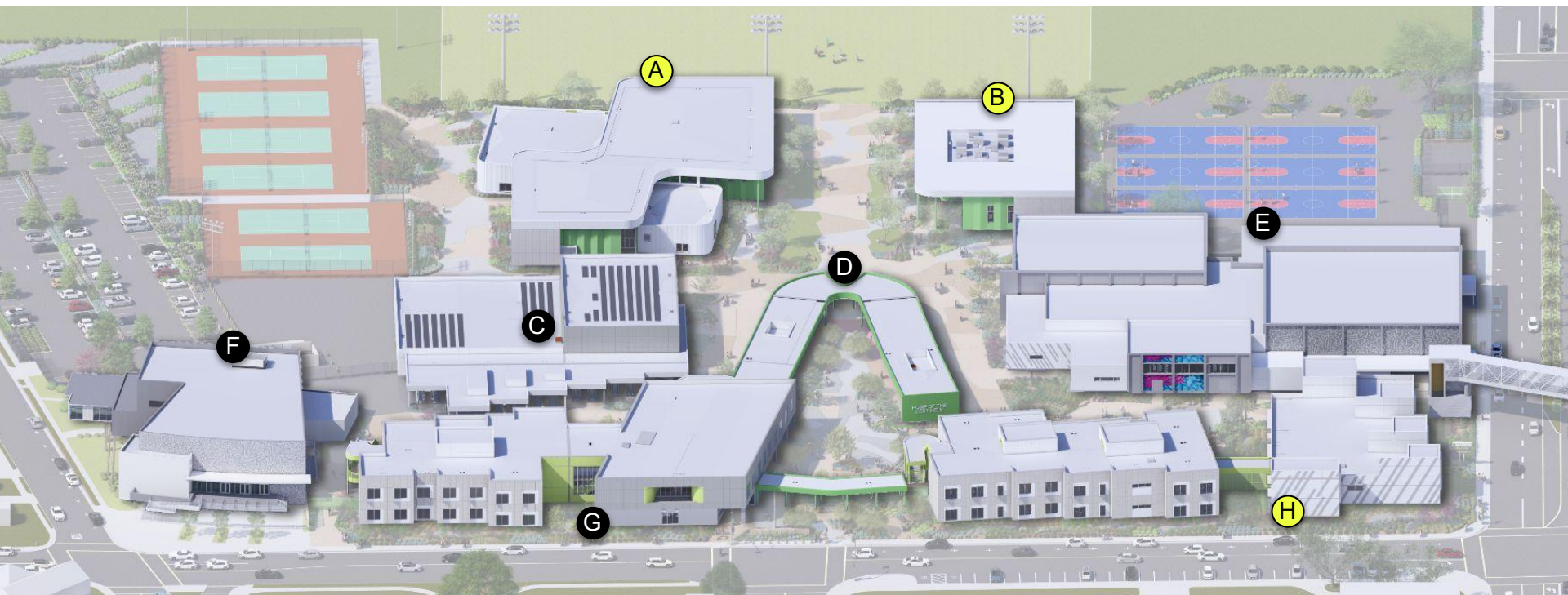
Flexible Growth & Reconfiguration

Locate specialized CTE classrooms in proximity to general classrooms to provide flexibility for future program expansion, contraction, and reconfiguration



CAMPUS-WIDE
PROGRAMMATIC
DISPERSAL

- A** CTE & Music Classrooms
- C** Food Services & MPR
- E** Existing Gymnasium
- G** General Classrooms & Administration
- B** CTE & General Classrooms
- D** Student Life Classrooms
- F** Existing Auditorium
- H** Flexible Arts & Science Laboratories



Inglewood High School - CTE Classroom Buildings



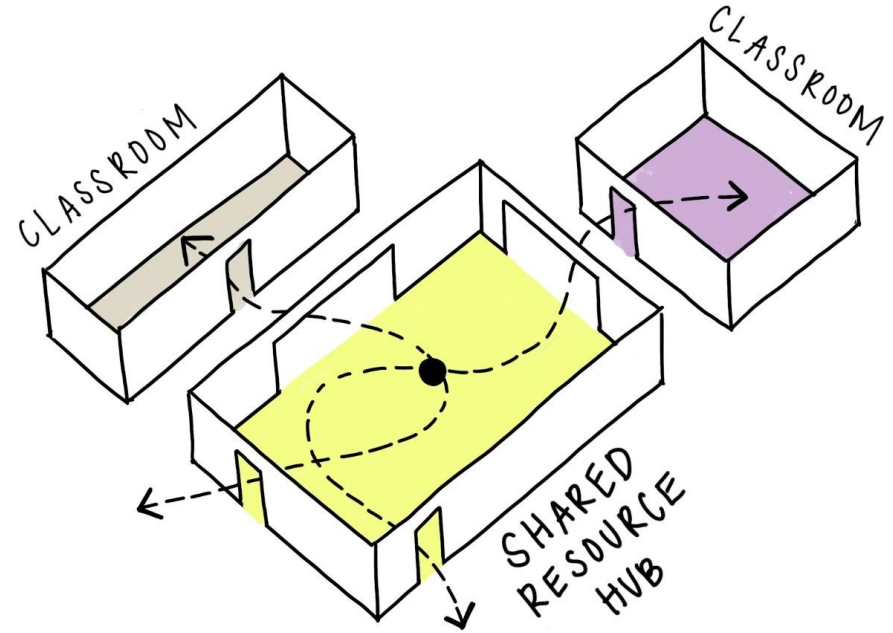
Sharing & Consolidating Resources

Maximizing Access

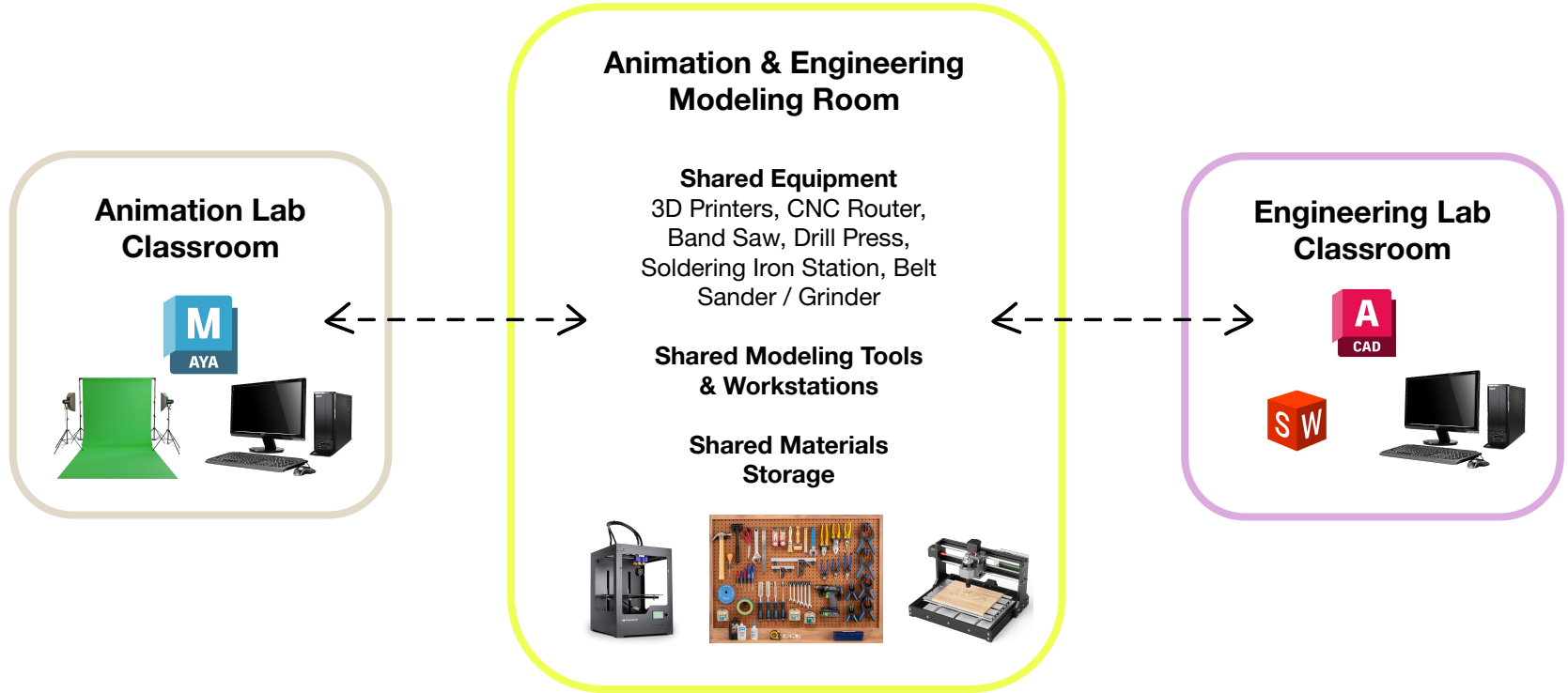
Consolidating shared resources and centralizing hubs to offer students the highest caliber of programming within a strict physical footprint.

Strategic Efficiency

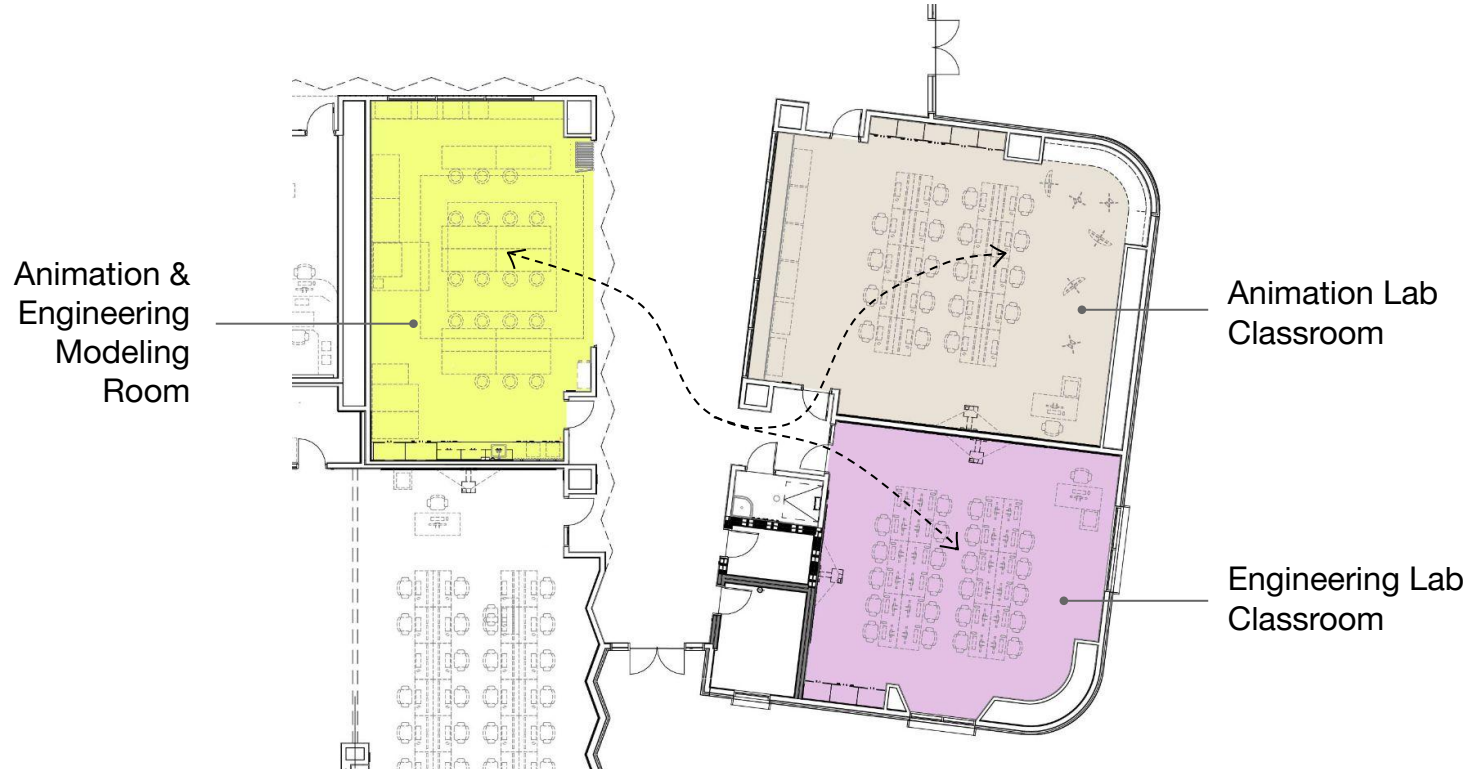
Leveraging economic and spatial constraints as a catalyst for highly efficient, intelligent design (e.g. modeling equipment shared between animation lab & engineering lab programs).



Inglewood High School - Sharing & Consolidating Resources



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Inglewood High School - Sharing & Consolidating Resources



Animation Lab Classroom



Engineering Lab Classroom



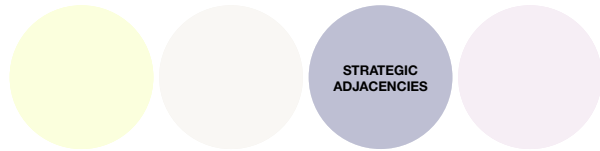
Strategic Adjacencies

Micro-Ecosystems

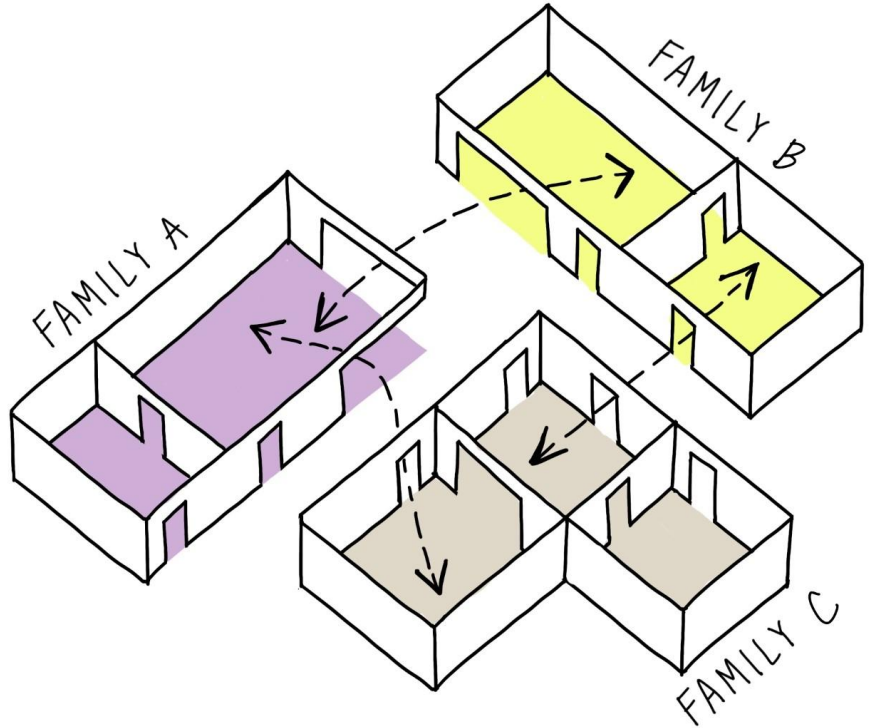
Grouping complementary disciplines within the broader campus network so related programs can share resources, cross-pollinate, and build off one another's energy.

Clustering Complementary Programs

Showcasing the specific pathway families designed for Inglewood High, including Student Life, Laboratory + Fine Arts, Music & Audio Production, Film & Broadcasting, and Patient Care.



Reimagining the Academic Ecosystem: CTE as Campus Infrastructure



Inglewood High School - Strategic Clusters

Digital Production

- Digital Music
- Sound Recording Booth
- E-Sports
- Graphic Media

Instrumental Performance

- Band
- Orchestra
- Practice Rooms

Media & Modeling Studios

- Film & Film Editing
- Broadcasting
- Modeling Room

Technical Design

- Animation Lab
- Engineering Lab





Inglewood High School - Strategic Adjacencies



Digital Music Classroom



Sound Recording Studio

Interior Activation & Spatial Fluidity

The "Collaboration Zone"

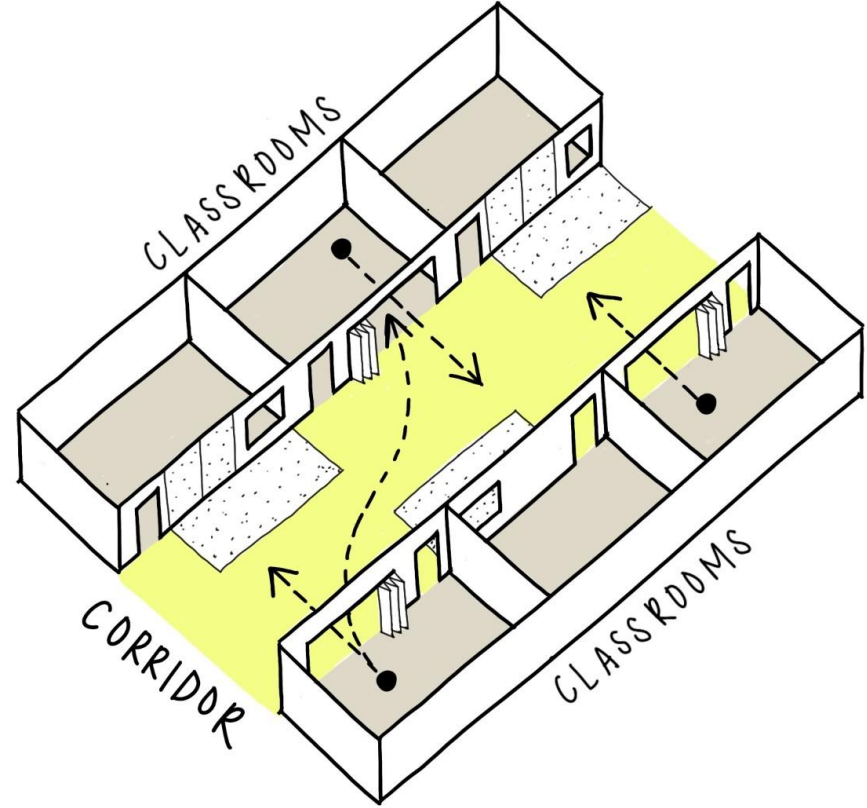
Expanding traditional transit corridors to more than twice their standard width, transforming them from mere pathways into dynamic, informal learning hubs.

"Spill" Effect

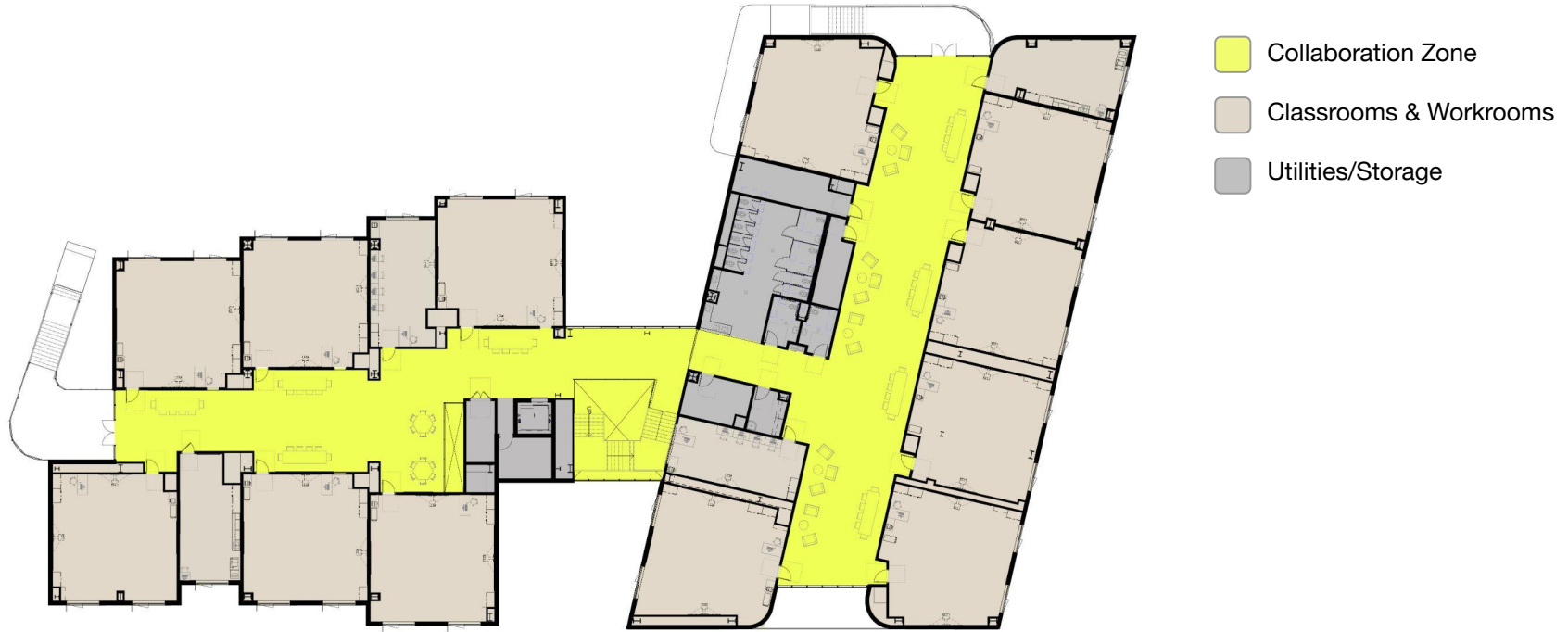
Dissolving the strict, traditional boundary between the formal classroom and the shared corridor by integrating storefront glazing, interior windows, accordion doors, and retractable partitions.

Zoning Without Walls

Using intuitive design cues (e.g. transitioning floor finishes from hard circulation tile to carpet, installing tackable display walls, and deploying modular furniture).



Inglewood High School - Interior Activation & Spatial Fluidity







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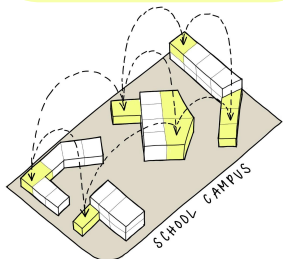


Best Practices Toolkit

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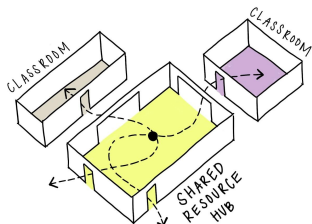
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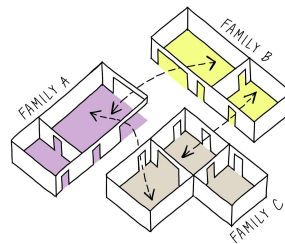
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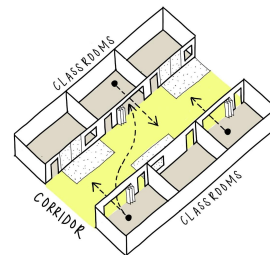
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Thank You!

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