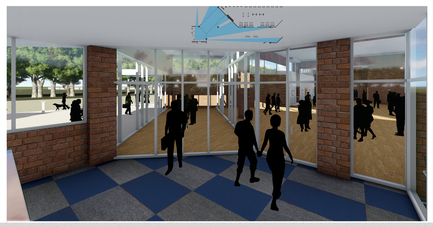
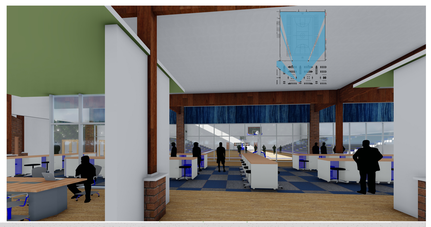



BULLY FREE

A school is an institution where students build their identity that follows them into adulthood. While attending school, students grow in many ways if placed in the proper environment. Creating a positive environment is key to inspiring and allowing our youth to learn at their highest level. One of the many ways of creating a positive environment is decreasing the amount of bullying that may take place within a school system.

Many schools surrounding Fargo, ND are experiencing urban sprawl, which is causing an over population and a diversity factor that they have not had to deal with in their past. The added diversity and population provides the possibility of an increased risk of student bullying. These schools would benefit from a school that is designed to decrease the act of bullying.

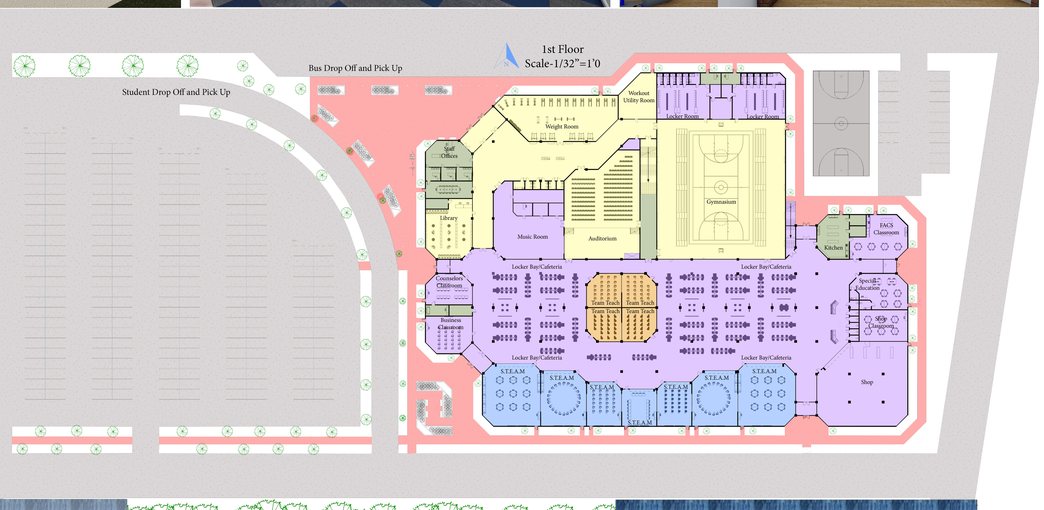
Bullying happens heavily in certain areas of a school. These areas include hallways, restrooms, gymnasiums, and locker storage spaces to name a few. My design provides solutions to these hot spot areas by fixing their deficiencies. My Bully Free Design will help decrease the act of bullying and increase the ability of the students to learn at a high level.

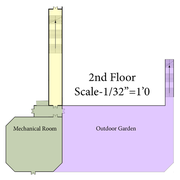
STATE: North Dakota
CITY: Hillsboro, ND
COUNTY: Traill
POPULATION: 1,609
SCHOOL NAME: Hillsboro High School
SCHOOL MASCOT: Burro
HIGH SCHOOL GRADE LEVEL: 7th-12th Grade
HIGH SCHOOL POPULATION: 192
TEACHER TO STUDENT RATIO: 16
AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POPULATION: 32
AVERAGE ELEMENTRY SCHOOL GRADE POPULATION: 43
DESIRED CIRRICULM: S.T.E.A.M. & Team Teach

North Dakota-Traill County-Hillsboro Map

World View

Site Map





South Elevation
Scale-1/8"=1'0

West Elevation
Scale-1/8"=1'0

KRISTINE PARANICA
North Dakota State University, NDSU Ombud (3 Years)

Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, I was bullied in the classic mean girl way.

Takeaway: When people make eye contact, the eye contact gives a higher feeling of empathy towards each other. As a result, it will decrease the likelihood of demonizing each other in a bullying fashion.

DAVID SCHILL
Hillsboro High School Counselor

Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, the older kids use to always bonk their class rings on us younger kids heads.

Takeaway: Introduced Owning Up curriculum. (See right)

NICK VARIANO
May-Port CG High School Counselor

Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, I was bullied this week by a student.

Takeaway: Creates opportunities to grow trust and relationships with students by being available in Commons before school, lunch time, and after school.

ADAM SOLA
May-Port CG High School Math Teacher

Have you ever been bullied?
No, I don't believe I ever have.

Takeaway: I try to build "credits" with my students because students don't just automatically listen anymore. In order to discipline a student, they must trust and respect you first.

TERRY BASELER
Hillsboro High School Principle

Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, I was little. A kid picked me up and threw me in the mud one time.

Takeaway: Established a 3 stage Behavior Program, which has decrease bad behavior. The steps are posted throughout the school.

JIM JOHNSON
North Dakota School Board Association President

Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, I remember being bullied by a teacher in while school pretty vividly.

Takeaway: Every school is different and has different issues, which is why the School Board is there to provide its district with guidance.

BRIAN BERG
Zerr Berg Architects

Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, I think everyone has.

Takeaway: The schools curriculum will push design. Become aware of the different teaching methods of classes, age groups, etc.

TIM ZERR
Zerr Berg Architects

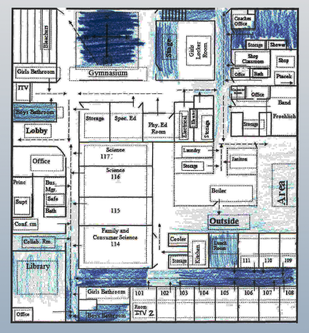
Have you ever been bullied?
Yes, the country boys always tried to show off how tough they were to us city kids.

Takeaway: Suggested taking a look at Woodland and Deerwood Elementary School to get a sense of open classroom design.

In order to make any change in making a bully free atmosphere, our schools must be committed to the process. The biggest step in creating a bully free atmosphere is creating awareness and giving our students the tools needed for social situations.

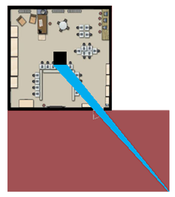
Bully Prevention & Intervention is a very interesting book. Susan Swearer states that hallways, classrooms, buses, cafeterias, and gymnasiums are typical hot spot areas that bullying occurs in. She also states that teachers have a very difficult time supervising all areas with everything they are asked to do.

David Schill teaches Owning Up Curriculum to his 7th graders every year. This curriculum helps provide his students the skills to deal with bullying at a young age. During the semester, he has his students fill out a floor plan of where they witness bullying behavior occurring throughout the school. Every student had their own differences in their floor plans, but all of them specified hallways, locker areas, and restrooms as high bully threat areas.



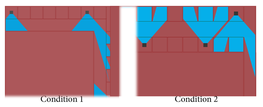
Isovist analysis is the study of a volume of space visible from a given point. Isovist analysis was a driving force in determining why bully hot spots exist and how to design to fix their design deficiencies.

CLASSROOM TO HALLWAY CONNECTION

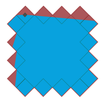


On the left is a traditional classroom setup. "Typical" meaning having four walls that are not transparent. The isovist analysis shows that the teacher cannot see what is going on in the hallway, even with the door opened. Creating the ability to supervise the hallway is extremely important in decreasing the act of bulling. A teacher cannot enforce punishment if he or she did not witness the act. This is a common problem that teachers face.

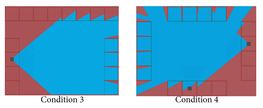
Deerwood Elementary School uses an open classroom setup in their school. Teachers stated that noise and motion is not a problem unless they have a new student.



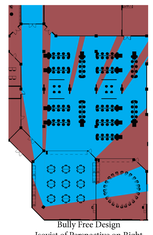
SINGULAR TRANSPARENT WALL TAKEAWAY:
Increasing the distance between classrooms increases a teacher's ability to supervise their students. Increasing the amount of sides that a hall has, will also increase supervision.



Jordan Middle School uses garage doors throughout their school. This allows for supervision and quick collaboration during S.T.E.M. classes.



MULTIPLE TRANSPARENT WALLS TAKEAWAY:
Increasing the amount of transparent sides of a classroom severely increases the isovist zone.

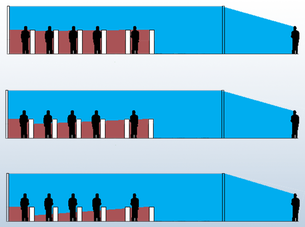

Bully Free Design
Isovist of Perspective on Right

LOCKER DESIGN

A high amount of bullying occurs around a schools locker area. These areas are often unsupervised or not supervised with enough teachers. Teachers are busy preparing for their next class when students are typically at their lockers. Schools often resort to hallway monitors, but the monitor to student ratio makes it hard for any monitor to do much good.

A common size of lockers is 1'x1'x5'. The average width of a male is 1'6" wide. Creating a wide enough locker for the students to move comfortably is important.

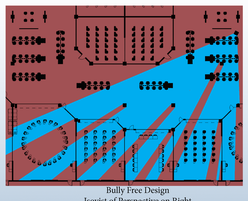
Moving lockers away from the classroom, provides visibility for teachers. The average height of a male is 5'9". Decreasing a lockers height will allow for better supervision.



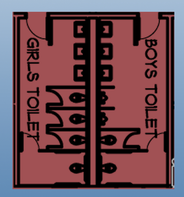
5FT. LOCKERS TAKEAWAY
A teacher's ability to supervise is minimal. Will have a lot of trouble seeing shorter students.

4FT. LOCKERS TAKEAWAY
A teacher's ability to supervise and make student eye contact is improved. Locker top is too high to use.

3FT. LOCKERS TAKEAWAY
A teacher's ability to supervise and make student eye contact is great. Lockers can double as desks.


Bully Free Design
Isovist of Perspective on Right

RESTROOM DESIGN

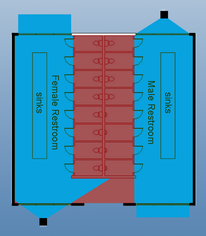


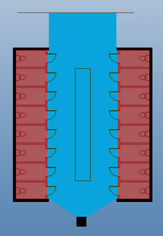
Restrooms are an important human need. Supervision in these areas is not permitted by camera or by school staff. Without supervision, restrooms are a common area that the act of bullying occurs.

Recently, the location of where homosexual, bisexual, and transgender students go to the bathroom has come into question. Students that fall into these categories are more likely to be bullied than others.

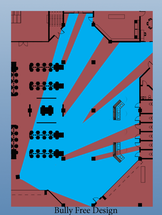
Woodland Elementary School has hand washing stations outside of the restroom to help with supervising the process of its young students.

Jordan Middle School has door free restrooms. The isovist analysis on the right stems from this layout.





RESTROOM TAKEAWAY
Some people find the restroom experience extremely private. I do not consider the process of washing your hands part of the restroom experience. The ability to supervise student hand washing should help with school sickness because of the added pressure to wash your hands.


Bully Free Design
Isovist of Perspective on Right

DAVID FYRE
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Arch 772