

project information

Project Summary

Capacity (SRC) of Existing Rippling Woods ES	613
Current Enrollment	593
Capacity (SRC) of Proposed New Building	775
Area of Existing Rippling Woods Elementary School	76,500gsf
Area of Proposed New Building	102,704gsf

Project Budget

Building + Site Construction	\$53,954,000
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Project Schedule

Schematic Design to AACPS	Mar 2020
Design Development to AACPS	July 2020
Construction Documents	Nov 2020
Bid Award	Feb 2021
Construction - Phase I (New Building - Start)	Apr 2021
Construction - Phase I Complete	Jul 2023
Construction - Phase II (Demo Existing Building/Site - Start)	Jul 2023
Construction - Phase II Complete	Dec 2023

project description

INTRODUCTION

Rippling Woods Elementary School is located at 530 Nolfield Drive in Glen Burnie, Maryland. The school occupies a 75.85-acre site adjacent to the Old Mill High School site in Anne Arundel County. The existing building comprises 76,500 SF and was constructed in 1972. Interior renovations and some systemic improvements have taken place beginning in the early 1990's, however no significant renovations or additions have occurred since 1972. The academic areas in the building are configured in 'open plan' clusters, which creates significant compromises to needed acoustic separation. In its current location, this school is impacted from the noise generated from the BWI flight paths.

The existing facility does not meet the program requirements of the current Anne Arundel County Public Schools' Educational Specifications for 775 students. Several required program spaces, such as learning studios, before-after care, maker space and additional support and storage spaces do not exist within the facility. The existing building, though well-maintained and having undergone several interior renovations, is not in compliance with current energy, mechanical, or electrical codes, building codes, or accessibility requirements and in many areas lacks modern mechanical and information technology systems.

The new replacement school, based on a modified version of the current AACPS prototype design, will be located on the site of the existing Rippling Woods Elementary School. The new school will meet all spatial requirements of the Educational Specifications. The new site layout will include a bus loop, parent drop-off lane, parking lot, multi-purpose field and play areas. The existing Rippling Woods Elementary School will remain occupied during new construction and will then be demolished after completion.

The program for Rippling Woods Elementary School will provide twenty-five general classrooms, five kindergarten classrooms, two pre-kindergarten classrooms, two special education classrooms and two learning studios, as well as supporting spaces to accommodate a state rated capacity of 775 students. The school will also house a regional Alternative Education program with three classrooms and supporting spaces.

Some general objectives identified for this project include:

- Design a facility to meet today's educational standards;
- Create a school environment which promotes learning and collaborative study;
- Create an attractive facility, properly oriented on its site, which is aesthetically in harmony with the surrounding community and the natural environment;
- Provide community use for recreation;
- Create a technologically advanced and energy efficient facility.

The following narrative will describe how the team intends to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Educational Specifications for the Rippling Woods Elementary School.

BUILDING PLANNING

BUILDING CONCEPT

Rippling Woods Elementary Replacement School is being designed to achieve the

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planning objectives established in the Educational Specifications. As with any school for young children, the project will be designed to emphasize safety, security and accessibility. Sustainable design principles such as natural daylight in all classrooms, improved acoustics and a focus on providing a high level of indoor air quality through careful selection of building materials and proper design of the HVAC system will help create an environment that promotes learning and study. The project is being designed to facilitate recreational use of the building and grounds by the community. The building is being sited to allow for future classroom expansion, as well as providing views of the field and surrounding woods for the classroom wings.

The building is being organized to allow the public-use spaces of the school to be separated into easily secured zones with independent entrances. All public-use spaces are linked to a main public way that functions not only as a circulation corridor, but also as a lobby and reception space for the gymnasium, media center and cafeteria while being securely separated from the academic areas of the school. This public way will be designed to be a bright, warm space that welcomes students and visitors into the main public parts of the school.

BUILDING DESIGN

The building plan is based on maximizing the building efficiency and organizing the classrooms and support areas into cohesive clusters of related spaces with the media center in the core. The circulation corridor consists of two classroom wings that make up the more private portion of the building intersecting on both floors with the main public corridor, allowing the entire academic portion of the building to be secured at only two locations. The gym and cafeteria are visible and easily accessible because of their location along the main circulation corridor. The academic portion of the building is two stories and includes all grades from pre-kindergarten to 5th grade. The music and arts classrooms are located together in a fine arts cluster with easy access to the main corridor as well as the platform for performances.

The main entry of the building, adjacent to parking and student drop-off, is directly supervised by the administrative areas. Pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, 1st grade classrooms and the regional Alt. Ed. program are located on the ground floor with all the special program areas such as the media center, gym, cafeteria, art and music rooms. The administration, health suite, faculty support spaces and student support offices are also located on this floor. Before and After care spaces are located on the ground floor in the southeast corner, close to the parent drop-off loop. The second floor contains classrooms for 2nd through 5th grades, special education, resource rooms, and a faculty work room.

Throughout the school, state-of-the-art technology systems will be incorporated into every discipline. Instructional areas will have access to high-capacity internet and video. Library / media center resources will be accessible from within the school and from other schools. The design of the technology systems for the Rippling Woods Elementary School will meet the requirements of the Educational Specifications while incorporating a flexible design approach to accommodate future technologies.