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High School design finalized

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The final design of the new Mora High School features natural light and a design that reflects the city's Scandinavian heritage. ICS and Wold Architects presented the final designs to the Mora

School Board, where it was met with excitement.

Designers explained the new school's aesthetic is inspired by modern Scandinavian design. The new design includes a lot of large windows, high ceilings, naturally-toned wood paired with neutral, high contrast colors

like charcoal gray.

Approving the final design of the school means construction is well on it's way. School Superintendent Dan Voce said, "What a privilege I feel to be able to work with the school board, high school staff and administration to help design the facility, to see

the user groups and all the input, time and effort; and to see the excitement of the staff ... I get the chills right now just to think we've come this far."

Voce gave the school board credit for their leadership.

SEE DESIGN, PAGE 9



Classrooms
The main 7-12th grade classrooms were designed on two levels that form a "U" shape surrounding an outdoor courtyard. Windows allow natural light into the rooms, and give teachers a line of sight to students in flexible learning/locker spaces (pictured)



Alternative Learning Center

The Alternative Learning Center has a separate entrance for ALC students and staff.



Career and Technical Ed.

A "maker space" (pictured) acts as a lobby and entry point to the schools career and technical wing. The wing includes spaces for agriculture lab, family and consumer science, art, business classes, metal shop, woods shop, auto and manufacturing shop and a flexible shop space. The exterior of the wing includes three loading areas and a building pad.

Science

The science classrooms are divided into two rooms designated for 7-8th grade science, as well as physics, earth science, biology and chemistry labs.

Performing Arts

This wing includes the band, choir and auditorium spaces. The architects sought the opinions of both a theater consultant and an acoustics consultant to advise on lighting and acoustic panel placements in the auditorium. The choir room, adjacent to the auditorium, also functions as a "black box" theater which provides another performance space.



Main Entrance
Entrance interior (pictured above)

Entrance exterior (pictured below): The designers wanted to make it very clear where the main entrance to the high school was. Therefore, it was designed with a two-story, elevated entryway and an adjacent canopy. The main entrance is made very obvious with high, dramatic designs.

Administration/Offices

The new high school design includes safety features like a secure entrance. To enter the building, visitors will have to pass through the school office. Unlike the current high school, the district office and high school office are in the same location, immediately accessible to visitors as a "one-stop shop" to conduct their affairs.



Commons Areas

Commons areas are dividing into "upper" and "lower" commons areas and are on two different elevations. The lower commons includes the cafeteria (pictured), breakout spaces and are focused near the main entry. The lower commons is separated from the upper area by a staircase and "learning staircase" which is like large steps suitable for students to sit and gather on.

