

City Neighbors Hamilton (Grades K-8) and City Neighbors High School (Grades 9-12) are two new progressive public schools for 600 Baltimore City public school students.

“What does it take for every student to be Known, Loved and Inspired?” This design question was used to transform a 132,785 square feet of a former public middle school site to house both schools with separate entrances and shared community spaces, and to align the physical learning environment with the mission of City Neighbors schools through project-based learning, arts integration, parental involvement and community engagement.

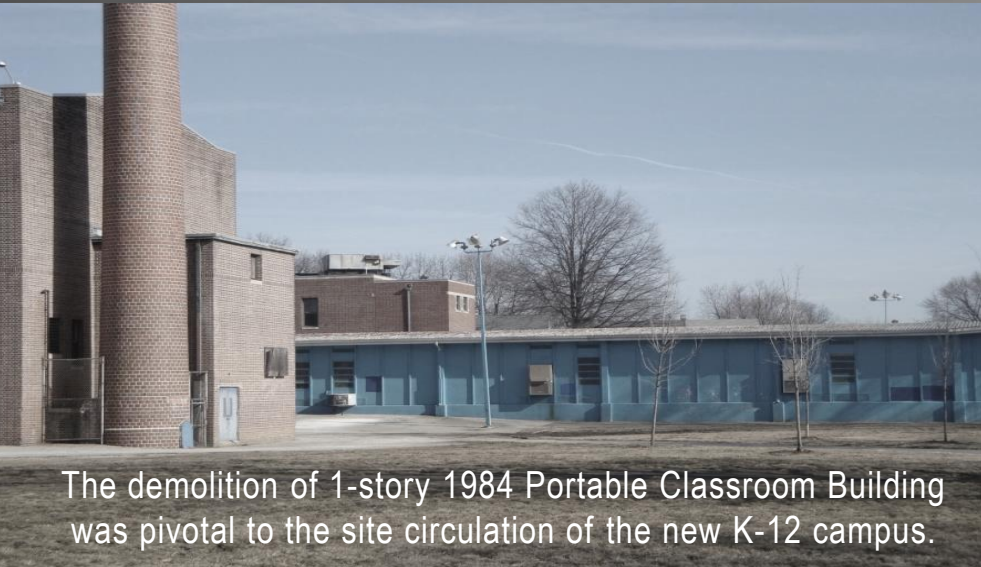
The design team collaborated closely with the school leaders through six years of renovation. Despite its minimal \$8.9 million budget, the innovative and cost effective design solution is an inherent partner in creating an exemplary 21st Century learning environment that values independence, creativity, collaboration, communication and critical thinking. The design leads to a dynamic school culture, impacts teaching and learning, supports social relationships, and fosters high academic achievement for public school students.



CITY NEIGHBORS HAMILTON & CITY NEIGHBORS HIGH SCHOOL
BALTIMORE, MD

K-12 EDUCATION

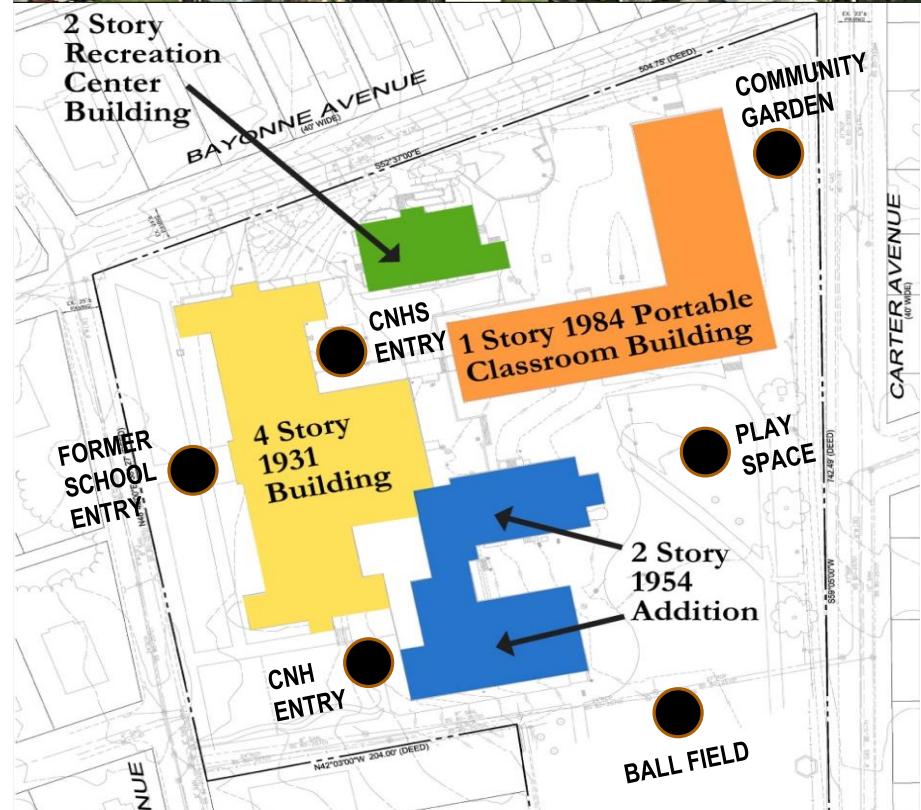
EXISTING CONDITION



The demolition of 1-story 1984 Portable Classroom Building was pivotal to the site circulation of the new K-12 campus.



COMMUNITY CONNECTION





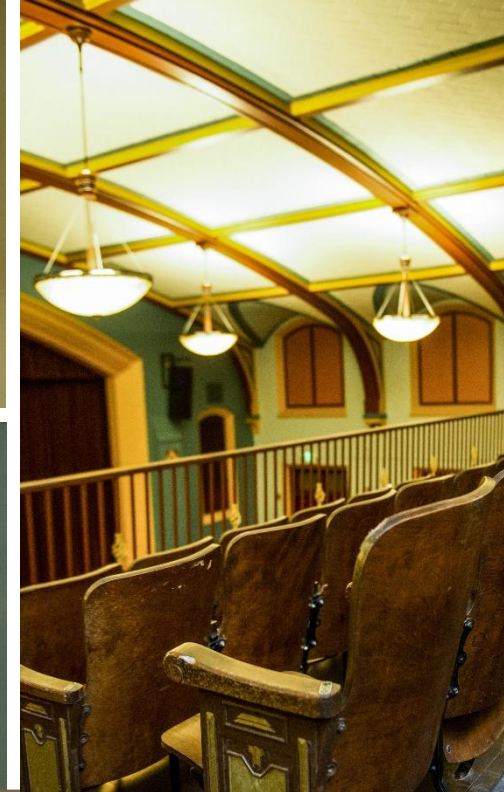
KEY:



- CN Hamilton
- CN High School
- Shared Spaces
- Circulation

1. CNH Entrance
2. CNHS Entrance
3. Lobby
4. School Office
5. Classroom
6. Restroom
7. CNH Cafe
8. CNHS Cafe
9. Fitness & Dance Studio
10. Locker Room
11. Music Room
12. Library
13. Outdoor Patio Seating
14. Fabrication Lab
15. Outdoor Amphitheater





HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The 1931 auditorium features a state-of-the-art sound and lighting system with a new ticket and sound booth. Wood theater seats with cast iron standards are refurbished. Deteriorated wood and plaster details are fully restored while the coffered ceiling look and contemporary finishes elevate its elegance.





A former roller skating hall was transformed into a flexible learning environment: an Advisory Pod for 16 students, a classroom for 24 students and a meeting space for up to 100 students. Other features include restored maple flooring, upcycled newel posts, home-like bathrooms and a new elevator.

ADAPTIVE REUSE





THE ENVIRONMENT IS THE THIRD TEACHER



A village square is delineated by framed arches, inviting nooks, varying hard and soft floor finishes, decorative lighting and vast gallery walls to display and document on-going projects. It promotes independence, collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking.



“A home away from home”, the Advisory Pod is designed for 16 students with an advisor, who stay together from Freshman to Senior year. Fully equipped with a kitchenette, the home-like aesthetics communicate individuality and care to instill a comforting and supportive learning environment.

ADVISORY POD





“When I got to City Neighbors High School, it was different than any other school. My teachers helped me learn again.”

Daa’Von Carpenter, 2015 Graduate



The Café features casual dining with a piano lounge, a variety of seating styles, new and upcycled furnishings and student-created art. As a classroom extension, the glass doors for natural daylighting lead to a patio for indoor-outdoor connection and community engagement.

STUDENT-DESIGNED CAFE





The entrance lobby is secure yet inviting, where old and new elements are designed to create a non-institutional looking interior. It is a welcoming gathering space for the school community where **EVERYONE** is “Known, Loved and Inspired.”