



Ravenswood City School District announces \$50M design for the new Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School

East Palo Alto - On Tuesday night, the Ravenswood City School District (RCSD) Board of Trustees unanimously supported a \$50m plan for the Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School (CCRMS). Superintendent Gina Sudaria presented the plan and explained, “This plan represents the culmination of years of board, community, student, and staff input for the future of CCRMS. We are thrilled that at the end of this project we will be able to put all CCRMS students in a new or renovated classroom.”

Initiated by the Board’s Facilities Committee in 2015, and made possible by the successful passage of Measure S in 2018, this project - the single largest new capital project in Ravenswood’s history -- calls for two new buildings at the front of the CCRMS campus. The larger two-story building will include seven classrooms and a state of the art media center that looks out onto two courtyards. The second, one-story building will create a single-point of entry for the school. This building will feature four new classrooms, as well as a new cluster of student service offices for students to meet in small groups with various support staff from the district.

The plan also calls for renovating all remaining structural classrooms. As Trustee Ana Maria Pulido explained, “This design reflects Ravenswood’s commitment to putting instruction and students first, by making significant investments in creating as many state of the art learning spaces as possible.” Renovated classrooms will receive a variety of improvements including new heating and cooling, finishes, cabinetry, and classroom technology, among others.

CCRMS welcomed its first cohort of students in 2017. As Amanda Kemp, the CCRMS Principal explained, “This new design not only increases our number of quality classrooms, but it also creates a cohesive campus complete with welcoming outdoor courtyards for our students and staff to mingle, read, and relax.”

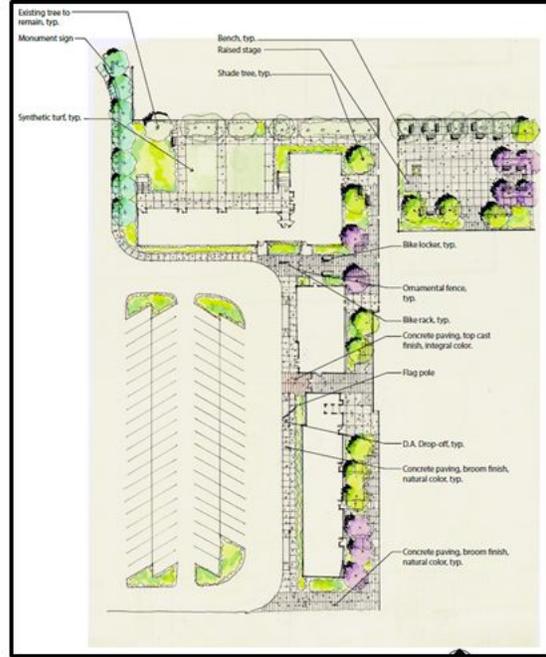
This investment is made possible through the generosity of the community, which overwhelmingly passed Measure S in 2018. Former Mayor and School Board Member Sharifa Wilson added “We are very fortunate to have the community support through our Measure S bond funding which we have used to support the children and staff of our district. This latest project will help move us closer to delivering a “state of the art” middle school when our children will have an opportunity to be housed in upgraded and new facilities, something they deserve.”

Mele Latu, President of the Board of Trustees, highlighted that “this marks a major and important step of improving all of our school facilities. We continue to explore ways to strategically spend our bond money while looking for new resources. We will not stop until all of our students -- and community members -- have access to excellent, welcoming, and 21st century classrooms and outdoor spaces.”

Construction is expected to begin this Summer, with the revamped school opening targeted for Spring 2024. The construction will be phased to allow students to remain on campus during construction. Chris Bradley from SVA Architects is serving as the project architect on the project.



This is the view from the main CCRMS parking lot, highlighting the new two-story building and new one story building.



The left hand view shows that the new plan calls for renovating every structural classroom in the school (highlighted in orange and red) and two new buildings (highlighted in blue). On the right you can see the new courtyards and new pathways through the campus.