

29. Redesign and Expand Early Childhood Education Classrooms.

Goal A15

A15. Redesign of ECE Program space to address current and future enrollment levels and current instructional needs.

Problem Statement

In the last ECE Audit, the small size of the ECE laboratory classroom was identified as a major concern. According to that report, the classroom was designed to support fewer than 29 students. It was recommended that additional laboratory classroom space be relocated or that the class size for the ECE laboratory class be limited to 24 students from the current 36. In addition to expanding the instructional area, additional storage is required. Enrollment demand for the program would make it desirable to establish a second laboratory for the program.

Proposed Solution

Because of the large investment in ECE-specific physical accouterments and the first floor location, the current laboratory space area on the West first floor location is a desirable location in which to expand. An additional square foot allocation is required to accommodate a classroom optimally sized for 36 students. A redesign of W1-25 is a possibility to create additional space. This expansion would require the relocation of the current Behavioral Health/Human Service Lab to another location in the West Building.

If a second lab is developed, the Northwest Center may be the best location. This Center has focused its curricular offerings on the social science and human service programs. The currently undeveloped space at the Northwest Center would make it relatively easy to fit an ECE lab into the Center's space program. In addition, there is the possibility of creating a small outdoor play area which is not as feasible at the main campus.

Ideally, an early Childhood Education laboratory/classroom would contain the following:

Categories of Space

- two (adjoining) spaces that include a laboratory/classroom of 1,700 square feet and an observation/storage room of 500 feet in size.
- adjacent faculty offices to accommodate 10-12 faculty with storage closets, shelving, and bulletin board.



- student records storage space, e.g., a small office or large walk-in closet.
- observation window (looking from observation room into the classroom).

Space Features

- first or second floor space with easy access to an outdoor, grassy area for children's play.
- rooms with natural light from windows.

In the Laboratory/Classroom:

- large utility sink.
- kitchen appliances (sink, stove, refrigerator).
- ample counter space alongside of the sink and above floor level storage areas.
- partial carpeting (durable, washable; $\frac{1}{4}$ carpeting, $\frac{3}{4}$ linoleum).
- locking storage areas (cupboards and/or closets).
- open shelving.
- infant changing area.
- child bathroom with child-sized toilet and sink.
- large bulletin boards or cork areas (for display).
- blackboards.
- built-in TV/VCR/DVD equipment.
- built-in computer workstation with computer, printer in area to accommodate small group of students (3-4) to work on/observe the computer.
- sound system (to hear in observation room conversations in classroom)

Cost Estimate

Redesign and Expand Early Childhood Education Classrooms

Total Construction Cost	\$88,930.00
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(Note: All estimates are in 2003 dollars. On average, construction costs increase 1% to 2% per year. See detailed cost estimate prepared by Turner Construction in Appendix A)



Master Plan Update

2003
H2L2