

## **Educational Suitability Summary Report**

Houston Elementary School

Date: 12/23/2020

**Score 55% Average**

Houston Elementary School has an enrollment of approximately 430 students in southeast Austin for pre-K through fifth grade. The campus offers tuition-assisted pre-K to qualified families. The campus was originally built in 1976 and separate additions were built in 1991 and 2006. It offers signature programs such as a certified academic language therapist, dual language: one-way Spanish, and social and emotional learning.

The campus consists of multiple detached buildings on approximately 13 acres. The main building houses the library, cafeteria, art room and the majority of learning spaces. These learning spaces are open-concept rooms that do not have doors separating them. They are in clusters of four studios and are all connected by an opening in the walls. In some instances, the openings have been closed off from the next space with placement of furniture to create separation. In some clusters, there is a narrow corridor from the main corridor to enter the studios. Most learning neighborhoods lack breakout spaces. Only a few of these have an attached small group learning space, with a dated, operable partition with limited functionality and transparency. The open concept also applies to the centralized library with partial height walls. Hanging acoustic panels help reduce sound transmission. The open concept contributes to a lack of acoustic privacy, and many of these studios lack direct access to natural light due to the internal layout.

The separate gym building appears to be adequately sized with sufficient storage and support spaces. The other studio buildings have much more access to natural light. Their layouts do not feature an open concept, but bathroom corridors connect adjacent rooms. One of the additions has a large collaboration space, and one addition has one small breakout space for every two studios.

### **Interview Overview**

An interview was held with Principal Alberto Alonso, Assistant Principal Chaitra McGrew, administrative assistant Suzanne Acosta Solis and parent support specialist Frutoso Robledo to discuss the overall educational suitability of the campus and opportunities for improvement. The campus provides a significant amount of support to after-school programs and parent support services. The principal and staff desire better accommodations and additional spaces to serve after-school enrichment programs such as ACE, Side by Side Kids, Extend-A-Care and Child Inc. These programs share the cafeteria, which is not large enough to accommodate them all at the same time.

The campus also supports the SEED program, which supports adult native Spanish speakers learning English in addition to offering early childhood classes for parents. This program is in a portable.

It was mentioned that the most significant issue caused by the open-concept plan is the openness of the library. Sounds are easily heard from the corridor and beyond in the library. This causes distractions and does not allow for quiet study.

The campus lacks a dedicated maker space and uses the library for this purpose. STEM clubs are being held in a typical studio, and the staff would like the program to include computers and robotics. They would also like to incorporate extracurricular activities such as band, dance and theater arts and would like to have suitable spaces for these programs. The music room is currently in a portable.

There are some areas that are being used as outdoor gardens and learning spaces, but these spaces are not ideal. They would like to have developed spaces with writable surfaces, updated furniture and areas that are more inclusive to students in special education. The exterior playground needs updated equipment. The exterior basketball area's surface is unlevel. The gym's flooring surface becomes very slippery with little moisture and the protection pads behind the basketball goals do not stay in place.



**Assessment Findings**

The Educational Suitability Assessment of Houston Elementary School earned a 55% overall score and places the campus in a category of Average. The assessment consists of seven General Building categories and seven Academic categories to determine areas that need more attention.

**Unsatisfactory Categories (36-50%):**

**General Building**

Score is unsatisfactory.

Corridors are narrow (6' to 7') leading into the learning studios. Some corridors have columns obstructing the pathway. There is not a dedicated community room that is accessible to the public. The gym is the only community use area that can be opened from rest of the school after-hours. In general, the appearance of the school is average.

**Environmental Quality**

Score is unsatisfactory.

Open concept does not allow for adequate acoustic control between spaces. The newer additions have better sound separation, but a restroom hallway between studios allows some sound transmission. The interior studios in the original building do not have windows.

**Academics & Learning**

Score is unsatisfactory.

Open concept in main building compromises acoustics. Studios in building additions connect by a restroom corridor, which leads to distractions from the next room. The additions have spaces for collaboration, but do not have separate rooms for small group or other breakout rooms. A few studios in the main building have small group spaces, but these spaces do not function well. Learning neighborhoods do not have a maker space but they do have a professional learning center.

**Visual and Performing Arts**

Score is unsatisfactory.

The stage is adequate but there is no dedicated music room. It is currently located in a portable. The stage lighting is unsatisfactory. There is a kiln in the art room, but a portion of the space is being used for storage.

**Media Resources**

Score is unsatisfactory.

The library is accessible by walking through the corridors past studios and other spaces. There are no dedicated quiet study spaces or reading rooms. Library is open to exterior noise from corridors and studios across the hall. No collaboration rooms for smaller groups.

**Administration Spaces**

Score is unsatisfactory.

The reception area is small and does not feel welcoming. There is a conference room in the admin space, but it is not easily accessible for visitors or parents.

**Average Categories (51-65%):**

**Security**

Score is average.



**Controllability of Systems**

Score is average.

Shades are provided in studios, and there is alternate light switching for lighting controls in the studios.

**Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment**

Score is average.

Some furniture in studios is cumbersome to reconfigure. Some studios have newer desks and chairs with more flexibility.

**PE and Wellness**

Score is average.

Gym is adequately sized with appropriate support spaces. The gym flooring becomes slippery if moisture is present. There is a covered basketball area adjacent to the gym. It has safety concerns due to drop-offs at the baseline areas.

**Technology**

Score is average.

Multiple types of technology in some spaces. Some of the studios in the new addition have old television monitors with VCRs. Original building has fewer outlet locations than additions. There are not enough charging locations in the studios.

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**Satisfactory Categories (66-80%):**

**Exterior**

Score is satisfactory.

Site permits separation of vehicular, bus and pedestrian traffic. Exterior signage is not visible and interior wayfinding is not apparent. Dumpsters located near cafeteria.

**Outdoor Learning and Activity**

Score is satisfactory.

The outdoor studio is satisfactory and located near the pre-K and kindergarten studios.

**Food Services**

Score is satisfactory.

The cafeteria is adequately sized and in good condition. Finishes need updates to make the space more appropriate for an elementary school.

**Supporting Photographs**



The main entry is not overly generous and not an inviting entry space.

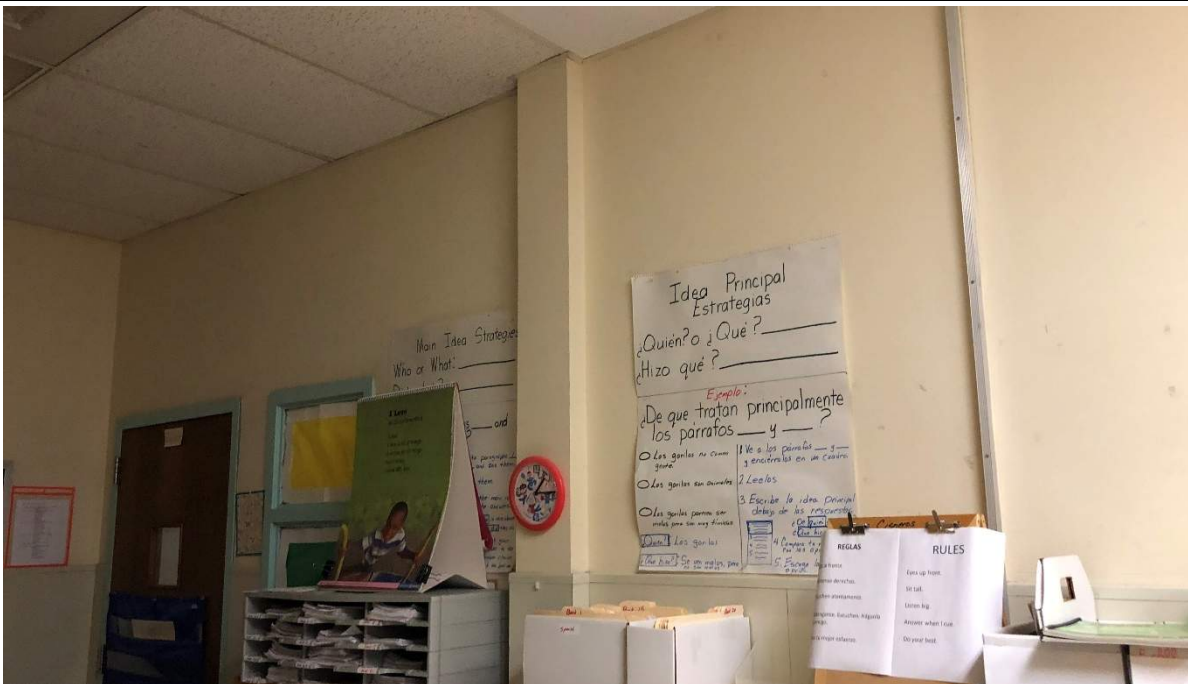


Narrow corridor from main corridor to access studios.

**Supporting Photographs**

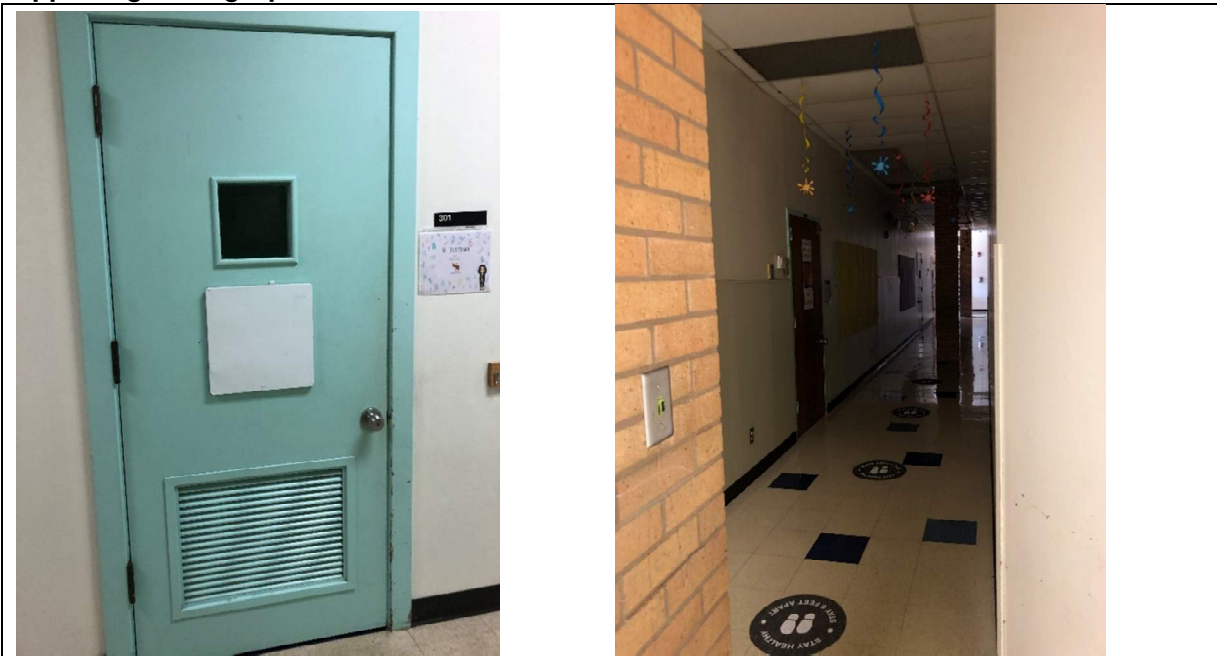


Openings into adjacent studios enclosed with curtains and furniture.



Attached small group room to studios. Operable partition is unable to close completely due to furniture placed in conflict with wall track.

**Supporting Photographs**



*Columns located in middle of the back corridor.*



*Open-concept library with partial-height walls. Open to corridor and acoustically open to studios across corridor.*

**Supporting Photographs**



*Typical studio in building addition. This typical studio is being used as a Life Skills special education studio without a washer and dryer.*



*In building addition, some transparency is provided from studios into corridor.*



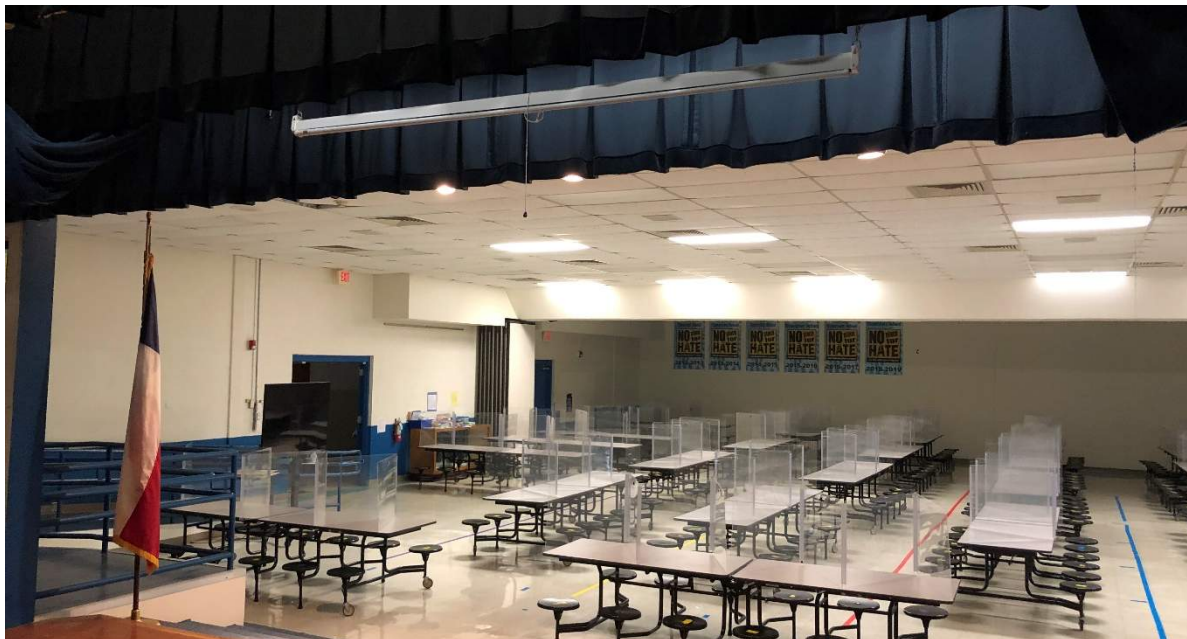
**Supporting Photographs**

*Typical studio in addition. Furniture is in good condition and flexible. Studio has plenty of access to natural light.*



*Main outdoor learning space with benches and platform. Some raised garden beds nearby but there is no water source or power outlets. The surface is not level due to erosion, which impacts accessibility.*

**Supporting Photographs**



*Cafeteria and stage are in good condition. Cafeteria only has one type of seating and finishes need updates to make the space more appropriate for an elementary school.*



*Active playgrounds are a good size and in adequate condition. Both have shade from canopy and from trees.*



### Austin ISD Educational Suitability Assessment Criteria

#### General Building

School Name

Houston Elementary School

Walk Attendees:

Carlos Cruz, Anacleto Rojas

Date:

12/22/2020

1 - Exterior		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	8.75	74%	
1.1	Does the site permit desirable separation of vehicular, bus and pedestrian traffic?				4			Comments	1.00	4.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Bus, car and pedestrian all happen at the same location 2 Unsatisfactory - Cars and buses mix, pedestrians are separated 3 Average - Buses, cars, and pedestrians are separate but stack space is small 4 Satisfactory - Buses, cars, and pedestrians are separate but drop off does not have a canopy or a holding place like a commons or cafeteria 5 Very satisfactory - Buses, cars, and pedestrians are separate and drop off area has a canopy and destination N/A Does not apply						Ample separation between vehicular and bus drop-off areas.			
1.2	Is the building easily identified with appropriate signage and community wayfinding?		2					Comments	0.25	0.50
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Campus has no signage / wayfinding 2 Unsatisfactory - Signage/wayfinding is faded/hidden 3 Average - Signage / wayfinding visible but not apparent 4 Satisfactory - Signage / wayfinding is visible but not good condition 5 Very satisfactory - Signage and wayfinding is visible and easy to use N/A Does not apply									

1 - Exterior (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A		
1.3	Is the dumpster accessible for trash / compost disposal?				4			Comments	0.50 <b>2.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - No compost present, route has obstacles (stairs, curbs, barriers) to dumpster							Area just off the cafeteria	
2	Unsatisfactory - Compost is present. Route has obstacles to dumpster								
3	Average - Compost is present (<100' to cafeteria), Route to dumpster is free and clear but the two are not directly adjacent.								
4	Satisfactory - Compost and dumpster are directly adjacent and route is barrier free								
5	Very Satisfactory - Compost and dumpster are directly adjacent and route is barrier free. Dumpster are shaped / positioned so people of all heights can access it.								
N/A	Does not apply								
2 - Outdoor Learning and Activity		1	2	3	4	5	N/A		
2.1	Are outdoor studios and support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated outdoor studios							The outdoor studio is near the pre-K and kindergarten classrooms.	
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, disconnected from learning spaces, no flexibility, no shade provided								
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well, 50% or less shade coverage over studio area								
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, connected to learning spaces, good flexibility, more than 50% shade coverage over studio area								
5	Very satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, connected to learning spaces, excellent flexibility, full shade coverage over studio area								
N/A	Does not apply								
2.2	Are active playgrounds (elementary only) and support spaces configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated active playground							Playscape adjacent to kindergarten area. Shaded by nearby trees. Other playground adjacent to gymnasium. There is a covered outdoor basketball court adjacent to the gymnasium.  Principals noted safety concerns with basketball area. The playscapes will be replaced in Summer or 2021.	
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, no shade provided								
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well, 50% or less shade coverage over play structure								
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, more than 50% shade coverage over play structure								
5	Very satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, full shade coverage over play structure								
N/A	Does not apply								

2 - Outdoor Learning and Activity (cont)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A				
2.3	Are gardens and support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec? (evaluation on infrastructure not condition of plants)			3					Comments	0.00	0.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated gardens							Monitoring answer, does not affect score for Outdoor Learning and Activity. There is one garden area near wing of classrooms. Water source is not nearby.			
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, disconnected from learning spaces, no flexibility, no accessible water source										
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well, water source is difficult to access										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, connected to learning spaces, good flexibility, water source is accessible with 100 ft hose										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, connected to learning spaces, excellent flexibility, water source is less than 50ft from the garden or has irrigation										
N/A	Does not apply										
2.4	Are the rain gardens and/or cisterns appropriately configured per the ed spec?	1							Comments	0.00	0.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - No rain gardens or cisterns							Monitoring answer, does not affect score for Outdoor Learning and Activity.			
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, not functioning, disconnected										
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, is connected, needs some renovations or updates to function well										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, functions properly										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, exceptional functionality, connected to learning spaces, educational signage provided										
N/A	Does not apply										
2.5	Does the school have animal husbandry? (optional)	1							Comments	0.00	0.00
1	No										
5	Yes										
2.6	Does the school have nature loop trails? (optional)	1							Comments	0.00	0.00
1	No										
5	Yes										
2.7	Does the school have a learning pond? (optional)	1							Comments	0.00	0.00
1	No										
5	Yes										
2.8	Does the school have a grass play field and walking trail?				5				Comments	1.00	5.00
1	No										
5	Yes										

3 - General Building		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	11.25	42%	
3.1	Are interior circulation routes wide enough to safely and effectively accommodate student movement?		2					Comments	0.50	1.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - Primary circulation is 5'-0" to 6'-0" wide							Relatively small corridors. Some corridors have columns obstructing the pathways. The newer buildings has more adequate spacing for hallways.		
2	Unsatisfactory - Primary circulation is 6'-0" to 7'-0" wide									
3	Average - Primary circulation is 7'-0" to 8'-0" wide									
4	Satisfactory - Primary circulation is 8'-0"-10'-0" wide									
5	Very satisfactory - Primary circulation is 10'-0"+ wide									
N/A	Does not apply									
3.2	Are community use areas arranged so that the school can allow night functions without full school access?			3				Comments	0.75	2.25
1	Very unsatisfactory - Cafeteria, gym, and library cannot be accessed after hours							Cafeteria is on the perimeter of the building offering the opportunity to have after-hours functions. The doors to the rest of the building would need to be secured or monitored. Gym is separate building and provides separation from the rest of the school for after-hours use.		
2	Unsatisfactory - Only one of the public spaces (Cafeteria, Gym and Library) can be accessed from parking and secured after hours									
3	Average - Only two of the public spaces can be accessed from parking and secured after hours									
4	Satisfactory - All of the public spaces can be accessed from parking and secured from the rest of the building but not individually									
5	Very satisfactory - Cafeteria, gym, and library can be accessed from parking and locked off from rest of campus for night/evening use with their own entrance									
N/A	Does not apply									
3.3	Is there a community room that is a dedicated meeting space outside of school function?	1						Comments	0.75	0.75
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated community room							No dedicated community room		
2	Unsatisfactory - Community room but within school function, no access after school hours									
3	Average - Community room, moderate size, but need some renovations or updates to function well									
4	Satisfactory - Community room, good size /layout, meets needs /functions well									
5	Very Satisfactory - Community room, generous size, nice condition, functions appropriately outside of school function									
N/A	Does not apply									
3.4	Does the general appearance of the school convey pride for the students and community?			3				Comments	0.25	0.75
1	Very unsatisfactory - General appearance is poor							Average appearance		
2	Unsatisfactory - General appearance is aged but ok									
3	Average - General appearance is good									
4	Satisfactory - General appearance shows pride in campus and student works									
5	Very satisfactory - General appearance shows pride in campus and student works and is welcoming to the community									
N/A	Does not apply									

4 - Security		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	16.25	
4.1	Does the facility have key card access at all major entries?							0.25	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No entries								
2	Unsatisfactory - 1/4 of major entries								
3	Average - 1/2 of major entries								
4	Satisfactory - 3/4 of major entries								
5	Very satisfactory - All of major entries								
N/A	Does not apply								
4.2	How adequate is site lighting and security for the campus overall?							1.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No exterior lighting, no secure perimeter								
2	Unsatisfactory - Lighting is limited to front entry only, parking lot lighting poor, security is minimal								
3	Average - Lighting at all night-use entries and parking lot, but poor condition. Security is moderate								
4	Satisfactory - Lighting at all night-use entries and parking lots, good condition, signage less visible, perimeter is well secured but needs updates								
5	Very satisfactory - Signage, parking lots, and entries are well lit, visible and easy to use, perimeter is very secure								
N/A	Does not apply								
4.3	Is the main office located at the school entry and configured with a secure vestibule to the main corridor?							1.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No secure vestibule, office located far from main entry, allows visitors access to school unsupervised								
2	Unsatisfactory - No secure vestibule, office located somewhat far from main entry, minimal supervision of visitors								
3	Average - Office close to entry, views of front door, but no secure vestibule								
4	Satisfactory - Office is well-located with a secure vestibule, but needs updates								
5	Very satisfactory - Office well-located with secure vestibule and all appropriate security features								
N/A	Does not apply								
4.4	Is there enough interior transparency for faculty to passively supervise learners and their activities who are not in studios?			3				1.00	3.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - No transparency of walls								
2	Unsatisfactory - Limited transparency in certain locations								
3	Average - Good transparency in certain locations but inadequate or missing in other locations of school								
4	Satisfactory - Adequate transparency throughout the school								
5	Very satisfactory - Excellent transparency throughout the school								
N/A	Does not apply								

Due to the open concept in the studios in the original building, there is visual transparency only at the openings into the studios. Where there are doors, there is only a small view window in the doors. In the newer separate buildings, the visual transparency is significantly better.

5 - Environmental Quality		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	25.00	44%
5.1	How are acoustics in studios in general?		2					Comments	1.00 <b>2.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - Recognized word/sound from adjacent studio/corridor							Open concept does not allow for acoustical privacy in the original building. The newer buildings acoustics are better. The restroom connections between the studios still allows for sound to travel easily between studios.	
2	Unsatisfactory - Audible sound from adjacent studio/corridor								
3	Average - Slight sound from outside room								
4	Satisfactory - Walls to deck insulated only white noise from mechanical system								
5	Very satisfactory - Able to hear quiet speaking from across the room								
N/A	Does not apply								
5.2	Is the studio artificial lighting adequate quality?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - Sporadic lights work, glare, less than 20 FC								
2	Unsatisfactory - 10-19 FC or serious glare								
3	Average- 20-29 FC minor glare								
4	Satisfactory - 30-39 FC and no glare								
5	Very satisfactory - 40+ FC and no glare								
N/A	Does not apply								
5.3	Is there access to natural light in studios?		2					Comments	1.00 <b>2.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - No learning spaces have natural light							Interior classes do not have access to natural lighting in the original buildings. The newer studios have adequate daylighting.	
2	Unsatisfactory - 1-25% of learning spaces have natural light or windows are too small to let in light								
3	Average - 26-50% of learning spaces have natural light								
4	Satisfactory - 51-75% of learning spaces have natural light								
5	Very satisfactory - 76-100% of learning spaces have natural light								
N/A	Does not apply								
5.4	Is there access to outside views from learning spaces?		2					Comments	1.00 <b>2.00</b>
1	Very unsatisfactory - No learning spaces have views							Interior studios in the older building have no views to the outside. The studios that have exterior walls have limited views to the outdoors obstructed by breakout program rooms which also have no windows.	
2	Unsatisfactory - 1-25% of learning spaces have views or windows are too small to see out								
3	Average - 26-50% of learning spaces have views								
4	Satisfactory - 51-75% of learning spaces have views								
5	Very satisfactory - 76-100% of learning spaces have views								
N/A	Does not apply								



<b>5 - Environmental Quality (cont.)</b>		1	2	3	4	5	N/A			
5.5	Does the building have odor or pest problems?		2					Comments	1.00 <b>2.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Evidence of both pests and odors							School notes evidence of pests such as squirrels and racoons. Birds tend to create some issues by the portables.		
2	Unsatisfactory - Evidence of pests or odors									
3	Average - Limited evidence of pests, no odors									
4	Satisfactory - No evidence of pests / odors, school cleanliness in good condition									
5	Very Satisfactory - No evidence, school cleanliness in excellent condition									
N/A	Does not apply									
<b>6 - Controllability of Systems</b>		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	12.50	<b>52%</b>	
6.1	Does the studio thermostat allow for individual control?	1						Comments	0.50 <b>0.50</b>	
1	No	Studios in the addition have control.								
5	Yes									
6.2	Are shades provided to control natural light in learning spaces?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No, windows are covered with boards/paper									
2	Unsatisfactory - No, windows have no light control									
3	Average - Yes, but poor condition blinds									
4	Satisfactory - Yes, blinds									
5	Very satisfactory - Blackout shades									
N/A	Does not apply									
6.3	What is the quality of lighting controls in the studios?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Single switch only per room									
2	Unsatisfactory - Alternating rows switch off									
3	Average - Alternating lamps in single fixtures switch off									
4	Satisfactory - Tri level switching									
5	Very satisfactory - Dimmable									
N/A	Does not apply									

7 - Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	18.75	65%	
7.1	What is the current condition of the furniture?			3				Comments	0.75 <b>2.25</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Damaged or broken, non-functioning									
2	Unsatisfactory - Torn/ bent/ wrong size									
3	Average - Scratched/dented/marked									
4	Satisfactory - Not new, but sturdy and clean									
5	Very satisfactory - New									
N/A	Does not apply									
7.2	Are a variety of furniture types being accommodated throughout the school - learning commons, dining commons, other multi-use spaces?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
1	Very Unsatisfactory - Same furniture used in all spaces									
2	Unsatisfactory - Furniture variety in one multi-use space									
3	Average - Furniture variety in more than one multi-use space									
4	Satisfactory - All multi-use spaces have greater than one type of furniture									
5	Very satisfactory - All multi-use spaces have greater than two types of furniture									
N/A	Does not apply									
7.3	How well does furniture accommodate rapid reconfiguration of a space?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
1	Very Unsatisfactory - Furniture is fixed or very heavy									
2	Unsatisfactory - Furniture does not allow desks to be configured as individuals, small groups, or large groups									
3	Average - Mix of furniture that can reconfigure but is cumbersome to move									
4	Satisfactory - Furniture is flexible for multiple configurations of space									
5	Very satisfactory - Furniture is flexible for multiple configurations of space, easy to move and stack									
N/A	Does not apply									
7.4	Is the furniture ergonomic and size appropriate for grade level?				4			Comments	1.00 <b>4.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Desk with attached chair combinations too small for grade level									
2	Unsatisfactory - Desk with attached chair combinations									
3	Average - Mix of studios with tables/loose chairs and desks with fixed seats									
4	Very satisfactory - Tables with loose chairs									
5	Very satisfactory - Tables with loose chairs that allow students to be active									
N/A	Does not apply									

Zero Waste		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	5.00	60%	
Do studios and corridors have blue recycle bins with bilingual instructions and/or image sorting instructions?				3				Comments	0.50 1.50	
1	Very unsatisfactory - There are no recycling and landfill bins and signage are sparse or infrequent, OR there are only landfill bins with no recycling bins.							A score for this category is being recorded, but this category is not calculated in the overall ESA average.		
2	Unsatisfactory - Bins and signage are sparse or infrequent and/or lack clear signage.									
3	Average - 50% of corridors and studios have both a landfill bin and a recycle bin in an accessible location. The containers have clear signage.									
4	Satisfactory - 75% of studios and corridors have a visible landfill and recycle collection containers in an accessible location. The containers have clear signage.									
5	Very satisfactory - All studios / corridors (100%) have visible landfill and recycle collection containers in accessible locations. The containers have clear signage, and the style and format is consistent and uniform across campus.									
N/A	Does not apply									
Does the cafeteria (or wherever meals are served) have at least one of each: green compost bin, blue recycle bin, and landfill bin? Are the bins labelled clearly with bilingual and/or image sorting?				3				Comments	0.50 1.50	
1	Very unsatisfactory- There may be landfill bins, but there are no compost and/or recycle bins. There is not clear sorting signage.									
2	Unsatisfactory- Recycle, landfill, and compost bins are present, but the bins are scattered and no co-located next to one another. Signage is absent or inconsistent.									
3	Average- There is at least one waste station with all three bins (recycle, compost, landfill) located with close proximity to one another. The signage is visible and consistent.									
4	Satisfactory- There are several waste stations as described above									
5	Very Satisfactory - There are several waste stations as described above, and additional signage in the cafeteria that encourages recycling/composting.									
N/A	Does not apply									



### Austin ISD Educational Suitability Assessment Criteria

#### Academics - Elementary School

School Name

Houston Elementary School

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Carlos Cruz, Anacleto Rojas

Date:

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8 - Academics & Learning		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	70.00	46%	
8.1	Are studios appropriately configured per the ed spec?		2					1.00	2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Too small, no flexibility, disconnected	<p>Older building is an open-concept floor plan where studios share restrooms and breakout room program. The studios do not have walls that go to the ceiling. The system works more like a pod system where several studios are grouped together. There are breakout rooms along the exterior walls of the studios allowing for small groups to meet. There is no transparency between these rooms and the larger studio. The newer buildings are more traditional in plan with full walls to the hallways and where two studios share a restroom. There are opportunities in the newer buildings to have individual and small groups in the hallways but the visibility is limited.</p>								
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, only one area for all teaching methods, limited flexibility, disconnected									
3	Neutral - Adequate size, multiple areas for different teaching methods, adequate flexibility, limited transparency and connection to other studios and shared learning spaces, needs updates or renovations to function well.									
4	Satisfactory - Good size, multiple areas for different teaching methods, good flexibility, good transparency and connection to other studios and shared learning spaces									
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, multiple areas for different teaching methods, excellent flexibility, generous display area and visual teaching tools, excellent transparency and connection with other studios and shared learning spaces									
N/A	Does not apply									
8.2	Do Pre-K and Kinder have appropriate support spaces such as restrooms and storage per the ed spec?			3				1.00	3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - None provided									
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, disconnected, poor condition									
3	Neutral - Adequate size, average condition, needs updates or renovations to function well									
4	Satisfactory - Good size, connected, good condition									
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, connected, excellent condition									
N/A	Does not apply									

8 - Academics & Learning (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A			
8.3	Do studios have appropriate support spaces such as storage per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, disconnected, poor condition 3 Neutral - Adequate size, average condition, needs updates or renovations to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size, connected, good condition 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, connected, excellent condition N/A Does not apply								Older building has built-in cabinets. The newer buildings have built-in cabinets and dedicated closets.	
8.4	Do typical learning neighborhoods have small group rooms and open collaboration space?		2					Comments	1.00 <b>2.00</b>	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No breakout rooms or open collaboration spaces are provided 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small or too few, poor condition, no flexibility, lacks visual connection to learning neighborhood, poor acoustic privacy 3 Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition and flexibility, transparency and connection to learning neighborhood, acoustic privacy 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition and flexibility, transparency and connection to learning neighborhood, acoustic privacy N/A Does not apply								Some studios have breakout spaces.	
8.5	Are general studios large enough to support project-based learning and multiple teaching modalities?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Too small, no flexibility, does not support project-based learning 2 Unsatisfactory - Undersized, decentralized resources, limited flexibility 3 Average - Adequate size, needs some renovations or updates to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size, centralized resources, good flexibility 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, centralized project resources, excellent flexibility N/A Does not apply								Open concept plans. No clear partitions between studios. Some of the studios are large at 1,000 SF and have the ability to support project based learning.	

8 - Academics & Learning (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A				
8.6	Are Maker Spaces and support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?	1							Comments	1.00	1.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated maker spaces										
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, disconnected from learning spaces, no flexibility										
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, connected to learning spaces										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, connected to learning spaces										
N/A	Does not apply										
8.7	Is there a Professional Learning Center in the learning neighborhood?	1							Comments	1.00	1.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated space for Professional Learning Center										
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, disconnected										
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, connected										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, connected										
N/A	Does not apply										
8.8	Is there a dedicated science room and support space?	1							Comments	0.00	0.00
1	No							Monitoring answer, but doesn't affect overall score.			
5	Yes										
8.9	Are there adequate places to display the evidence and artifacts of learning (both 2D and 3D)?			3					Comments	1.00	3.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated space										
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, non-dedicated, poor condition										
3	Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs updates or renovations to function well										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition										
N/A	Does not apply										

8 - Academics & Learning (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A			
8.10	Does the building provide adequate opportunities for students/teachers to collaborate in varying group sizes?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No space to support collaboration in various sizes.							Acoustics is an issue.		
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, inflexible, only one option, does not support a variety of group sizes									
3	Average - Adequate space for collaboration, needs updates or renovations to function well.									
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, multiple options to support a variety of group sizes									
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, multiple options to support a variety of group sizes									
N/A	Does not apply									
8.11	Does the building provide opportunities for informal interaction?			3				Comments	1.00 <b>3.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No space									
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, layout and furnishings do not support informal interaction well									
3	Average - Adequate size and condition, needs updates or renovations to function well.									
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, layout and furnishings support informal interactions									
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, layout and furnishings support informal interactions									
N/A	Does not apply									
8.12	Does the learning neighborhood / building provide adequate opportunities for students to work independently?		2					Comments	1.00 <b>2.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No breakout rooms/small study spaces							There are small group rooms in the corners of the building that approximately 4 studios share. There are accordion partition in the space that does not work well.		
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, no acoustic privacy, only one space for independent work, disconnected from learning neighborhood									
3	Average - Adequate size and condition, needs updates or renovations to function well.									
4	Satisfactory - Good size and condition, acoustic privacy, variety of independent work space options, connected to learning neighborhood									
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, acoustic privacy, variety of independent work space options, connected to learning neighborhood									
N/A	Does not apply									

8 - Academics & Learning (cont.)											
8.13	Are Special Education spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?		2					Comments	1.00	<b>2.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Too small, no flexibility, disconnected						Life skills room separate building. Refrigerators but no washer or dryer. Has restrooms. Need to update for ADA purposes.				
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, only one area for all teaching methods, limited flexibility, disconnected										
3	Neutral - Adequate size, multiple areas for different teaching methods, adequate flexibility, limited transparency and connection to other studios and shared learning spaces, needs updates or renovations to function well.										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, multiple areas for different teaching methods, good flexibility, good transparency and connection to other studios and shared learning spaces										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, multiple areas for different teaching methods, excellent flexibility, generous display area and visual teaching tools, excellent transparency and connection with other studios and shared learning spaces										
N/A	Does not apply										
8.14	Are Special Education support spaces, such as storage, space for washer/dryer, appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00	<b>3.00</b>	
1	Very unsatisfactory - None provided						Large flexible space but no washer / dryer provided.				
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, disconnected, poor condition										
3	Neutral - Adequate size, average condition, needs updates or renovations to function well										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, connected, good condition										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous size, connected, excellent condition										
N/A	Does not apply										
8.15	Are Accessible restrooms and changing rooms readily available to the Special Education spaces?	1						Comments	1.00	<b>1.00</b>	
1	No						Not ADA compliant				
5	Yes										



9 - Visual and Performing Arts		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	15.00	47%	
9.1	Are music spaces and the cafeteria stage appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Too small, missing program spaces							Adequate stage size but lighting is unsatisfactory.		
	2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition									
	3 Neutral - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs updates or renovations to function well.									
	4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition									
	N/A Does not apply									
9.2	Are music and performance storage spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?	1						Comments	1.00 1.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided							No dedicated music room		
	2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, disconnected, poor condition									
	3 Neutral - Adequate size, average condition, needs updates or renovations to function well									
	4 Satisfactory - Good size, connected, good condition									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, connected, excellent condition									
	N/A Does not apply									
9.3	Are Visual Arts spaces and storage appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Too small, missing program spaces							Open space. Have a kiln in the art room, but area is being used mostly as storage.		
	2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition									
	3 Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well									
	4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition									
	N/A Does not apply									

<b>10 - PE and Wellness</b>		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	10.00	60%
10.1	Does the campus meet the ed spec standard for physical education program spaces?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Too small, missing program spaces 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition 3 Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs some renovations or updates to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition N/A Does not apply	Gym in separate building. Size is adequate but the flooring can become slippery if there is any moisture							
10.2	Are the physical education storage spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, disconnected, poor condition 3 Neutral - Adequate size, average condition, needs updates or renovations to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size, connected, good condition 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, connected, excellent condition N/A Does not apply								
<b>11 - Food Services</b>		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	10.00	70%
11.1	Is the Dining Commons appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Too small, missing program spaces 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, only one option for eating space provided, inadequate circulation 3 Average - Adequate size and condition, needs updates or renovations to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size and condition, good circulation, multiple options for eating space (ex: connection to outdoor eating space) 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition and circulation, multiple options for eating space (ex: connection to outdoor eating space) N/A Does not apply	Elongated tables. Not much flexibility							
11.2	Are the Food Services support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?				4			Comments	1.00 4.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, disconnected, poor condition 3 Neutral - Adequate size, average condition, needs updates or renovations to function well 4 Satisfactory - Good size, connected, good condition 5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, connected, excellent condition N/A Does not apply								

12 - Media Resources		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	30.00	43%
12.1	Is the Library/Media Center easily accessible for the occupants and visitors to the school?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Not accessible								
	2 Unsatisfactory - Limited access, difficult to find, no transparency								
	3 Average - Adequate accessibility, needs updates or renovations to function well								
	4 Satisfactory - Accessible, easy to find, good transparency, good condition								
	5 Very Satisfactory - Accessible, easy to find, excellent transparency, excellent condition								
	N/A Does not apply								
12.2	How well does the Library/Media Center support quiet study?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No quiet study spaces							No dedicated quiet study or reading rooms.	
	2 Unsatisfactory - One area in poor condition, poor acoustic privacy								
	3 Average - One or more areas provided, needing updates or renovations to function well								
	4 Satisfactory - Clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, good condition, good acoustic privacy								
	5 Very Satisfactory - Multiple clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, excellent condition, excellent acoustic privacy								
	N/A Does not apply								
12.3	How well does the Library/Media Center support social interaction?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No space								
	2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, layout and furnishings do not support informal interaction well								
	3 Average - Adequate size and condition, needs updates or renovations to function well.								
	4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, layout and furnishings support informal interactions								
	5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, layout and furnishings support informal interactions								
	N/A Does not apply								
12.4	How well does the Library/Media Center support collaborative work in small groups (4-8 students)?	1						Comments	1.00 1.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No breakout rooms, no flexible furniture, no support							No breakout rooms to support collaborations.	
	2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, one area, poor condition								
	3 Average - Adequate size, multiple areas provided, needing updates or renovations to function well								
	4 Satisfactory - Clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, flexible furniture, good condition								
	5 Very Satisfactory - Multiple clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, flexible furniture, excellent condition								
	N/A Does not apply								

12 - Media Resources - Continued		1	2	3	4	5	N/A			
12.5	How well does the Library/Media Center support collaborative work in larger groups (10-25)?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No gathering areas									
	2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, one common space, limited seating, poor condition									
	3 Average - Adequate size, one common space, needs updates or renovations to function well									
	4 Satisfactory - Good size, multiple common spaces with seating, good condition									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, multiple commons spaces with seating, excellent condition									
	N/A Does not apply									
12.6	How well does the Library/Media Center support technology?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No vis comm tools							Movable screen. Some computers. No projector option.		
	2 Unsatisfactory - Outdated, poorly functioning, or insufficient									
	3 Good - Mix of old and new whiteboards/projectors/etc.									
	4 Satisfactory - Projectors, marker boards, smart boards in most spaces - good condition									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Projectors, marker boards, smart boards in most spaces - new condition									
	N/A Does not apply									
13 - Technology		1	2	3	4	5	N/A		20.00 55%	
13.1	How well equipped are the facilities with instructional technology?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Limited to no technology present in instructional spaces									
	2 Unsatisfactory - One type of technology present									
	3 Average - Multiple types of technology, smart boards, poor condition, limited to only certain areas of school									
	4 Satisfactory - Multiple types of technology, smart boards, good condition.									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Multiple types of technology, smart boards, excellent condition									
	N/A Does not apply									
13.2	Is there an adequate number of power and data outlets in learning spaces?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Outlet configuration does not support digital devices throughout school (1 per wall)							The newer buildings have better outlet options than the older buildings.		
	2 Unsatisfactory - Outlet configuration support digital devices only in certain areas of school (2 per wall)									
	3 Average - Outlet configuration support digital devices but not enough capacity throughout school (3 per wall)									
	4 Satisfactory - Outlet configuration support digital devices with adequate coverage and capacity throughout school (>3 per wall)									
	5 Very Satisfactory - Excellent outlet configuration to support digital devices throughout school (>3 per wall)									
	N/A Does not apply									

13 - Technology (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A				
13.3	Are there adequate charging locations for devices?		2					Comments	1.00	2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No centralized charging location							Charging cart located in computer room.			
2	Unsatisfactory - Centralized charging location, but inadequate in size for number of devices										
3	Average - Charging cart or tower but not adequately sized for number of devices										
4	Satisfactory - Charging cart or tower not centralized										
5	Very Satisfactory - Charging cart or tower located centralized location. Excellent condition										
N/A	Does not apply										
13.4	Is there adequate AV for presentations spaces – cafeteria and gym?			3				Comments	1.00	3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - AV not present in one or more space										
2	Unsatisfactory - AV undersized for room, poor condition										
3	Average - Adequately sized / poor condition OR AV undersized / adequate condition										
4	Satisfactory - Good size, good condition										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generous sized, excellent condition										
N/A	Does not apply										
13.5	Is there digital media signage at the reception area?	1						Comments	0.00	0.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No digital media present in reception area										
2	Unsatisfactory - Undersized, poor condition										
3	Average - Adequately sized / poor condition OR undersized / adequate condition										
4	Satisfactory - Media signage present, good sized, good condition										
5	Very Satisfactory - Generously sized, excellent condition										
N/A	Does not apply										

