

CREATING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

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Independent Education and Systems Consultant

Public Speaker

Former Candidate for State Superintendent (OSPI)

OPPORTUNITY GAP

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Strength-based term that speaks to the lack of access many students have to resources that lead to academic success:

authentic engagement
of families and
community

culturally-relevant
curriculum

positive role models

smooth transitions for
all students at every
level

highly-quality,
experienced
educators (that
means YOU)

high expectations

academic English
(while showing value
for home language)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, EQUALITY

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, EQUALITY

Diversity

wanting to acknowledge and, possibly, celebrate, the differences between people.

Typically focused on compliance or the superficial ways people are different.

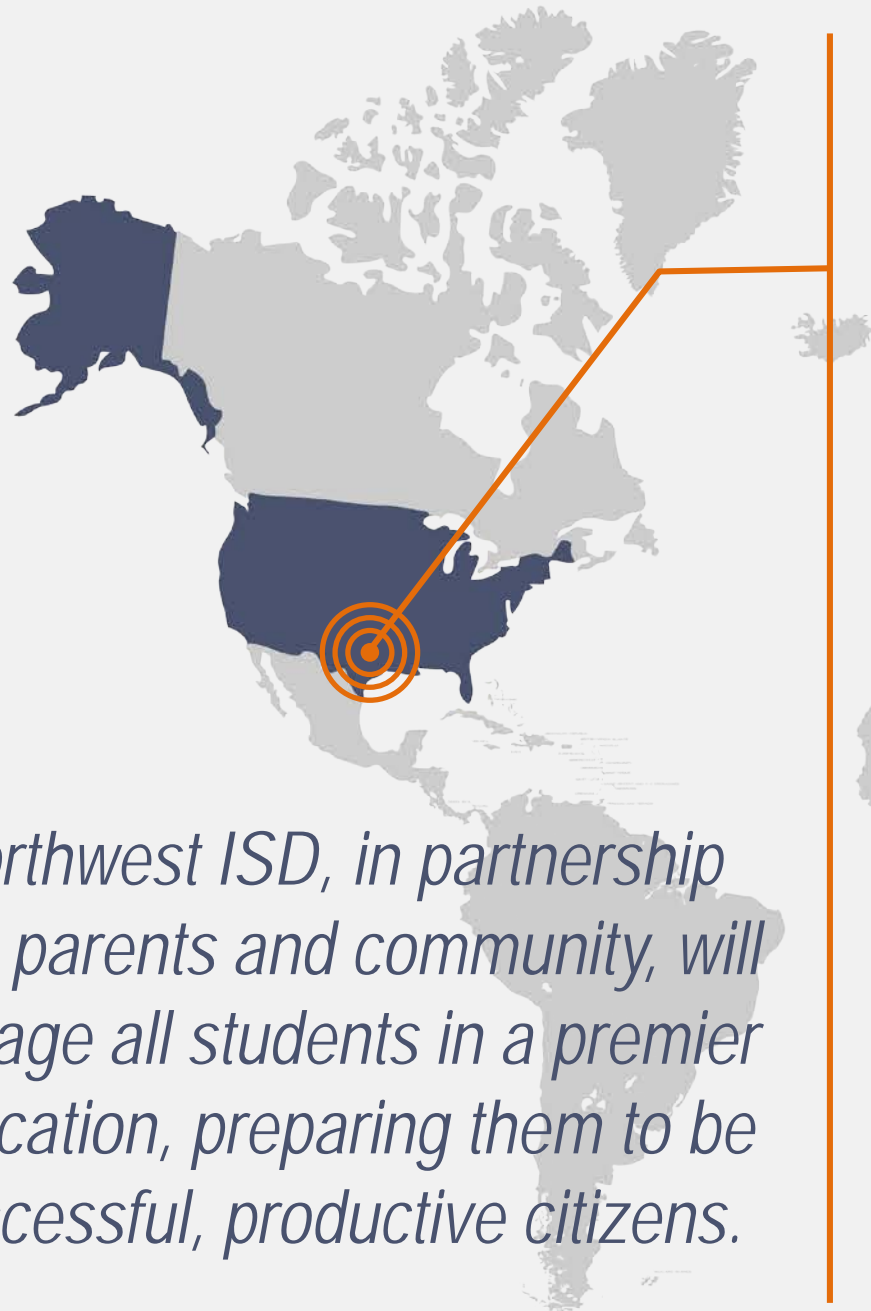
Equality

treating everyone the same and providing everyone with the same opportunities/resources.

Equity

giving students whatever they need to be successful (will be different, depending upon the student).





Northwest ISD, in partnership with parents and community, will engage all students in a premier education, preparing them to be successful, productive citizens.

Tim McClure


*Assistant
Superintendent
for Facilities*

Northwest
Independent
School District

Ft. Worth, Texas
United States

No. of Students
(District): **23,000**

NISD has **28 campuses** within an area that encompasses **234 square miles**. We are a fast growth district averaging **1,600 – 2,000 new homes** annually producing a yield of approximately new **1,200 students** annually. Given that we are only **24% built out**, NISD is projected to be a 9-10 high school district with enrollment near **95,000 students** when we are within 5% of build out.



We engage all learners through meaningful and challenging experiences, preparing them to understand, adapt and successfully contribute to our changing global community.

JOHN WHEATLEY

Former Director of Facility Planning

Rocky View Schools

Airdrie,
Alberta, Canada

No. of Students
(District):
24,000

Alberta population
4,000,000

Over 700,000 students
in over 2000 schools
operated by: 63 Public /
Catholic /
Francophone school
authorities (elected
boards) and 13 Charter
School agencies



*Each student will graduate prepared to
lead a rewarding responsible life as a
contributing member of our community
and greater society.*

STEVE MURAKAMI

Senior Program Manager

Former Chief Operating Officer

OAC Services

Lake Washington School District

Tacoma Public Schools

Bellevue, Washington, USA

No. of Students (District):

29,000

30,000



DEB O'RILEY

Project Director

Adelaide Botanic High School

Department for Education and
Child Development

Adelaide, South Australia

*To build a stronger future for our
children by making South Australia's
education and child development
system world class*

INITIATIVES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- » Universal Design Principles – Very important in vertical schools
- » Integrated Special Education – move from co-location to integration
- » School as Community Hubs - Including Nature Play
- » *Birth to year 7/12 Sites (SA)*
- » *Children Centres - 43 and 4 in delivery (SA)*
- » *Co-location of Schools with Technical and Further Education(TAFE) or Universities (SA)*
- » *Year 11/12 Adult Campus (SA)*
- » *Klemzig PS - Bilingual School (SA)*
- » *Wiltja program (SA)*



VERTICAL SCHOOLS



ALDINGA BEACH CHILDREN'S CENTRE

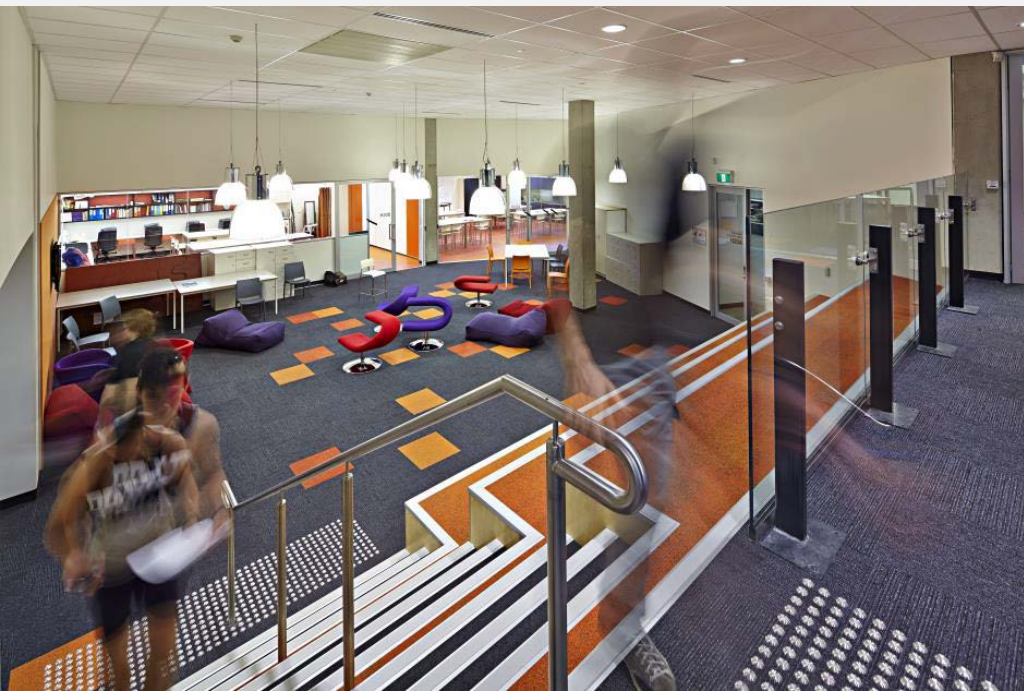
COMPLETED: APRIL 2014



REFURBISHMENT -NORTHERN ADELAIDE SENIOR COLLEGE*

COMPLETED: DECEMBER 2014

Northern Adelaide Senior College is a senior secondary school exclusively for people over the age of 16. They offer adult students a second chance to complete the South Australian Certificate of Education through a wide range of subjects and VET courses. Also co-located with TAFE.



AUSTRALIAN MATHS AND SCIENCE SCHOOL

- » The ASMS opened in 2003. Year 10 to 12 school. Through its partnership with Flinders University, the ASMS is responsible for leadership of reform of science and mathematics education across South Australia. The school, located on the campus of Flinders University, operates in an innovative building.
- » The school develops new approaches to teaching and learning in Science and Mathematics through the creation of an environment for interaction between educators and professional scientists and mathematicians within institutions and industry in South Australia and beyond. The schools' partnership with Flinders University is key to this collaborative work.



KLEMZIG PRIMARY SCHOOL

COMPLETED: OCTOBER 2014

Klemzig School is a bilingual school which means learning opportunities are offered by two teachers simultaneously in both spoken English and Auslan sign language in many classes.



WILTJA

- » Wiltja Secondary College is a residential school in Adelaide for Indigenous secondary students from remote communities in South Australia, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.
- » The college is made up of two equal parts: Wiltja School and Wiltja Boarding. Both areas cater to the educational, social and emotional needs of our students within a culturally respectful context.
- » Students at Wiltja are able to undertake year 11 and 12, as well as participating in vocational education and training and an array of out of school hours learning.
- » Wiltja School is based at two high school campuses.



CO-LOCATED SPECIAL SCHOOL WITH BIRTH TO YEAR 12 SCHOOL: MARK OLIPHANT COLLEGE AND ADELAIDE NORTH SPECIAL SCHOOL



- » MOC - The college was formed with the following core key principles
- » Schools within a school Birth to year 12 (1650)
- » Strong connections with community – local, education and global
- » Believe that our students can and will achieve – irrespective of their background

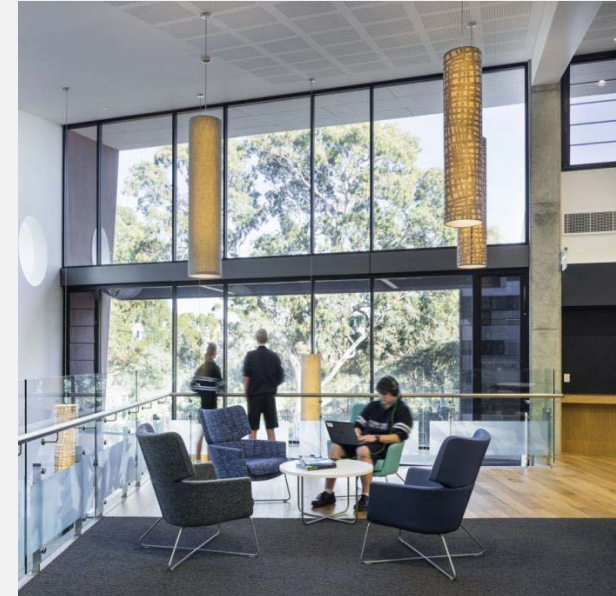


Adelaide North Special School caters for students with identified disabilities from Foundation level to Year 12.



SCHOOLS AS COMMUNITY HUBS

- » The Schools as Community Hubs concept is a priority for the South Australian state government and they want to ensure schools and community needs are met through strengthening relationships and partnerships within a space.
- » There are countless benefits of community hubs in helping to build stronger social networks, enhance community wellbeing and increase engagement which leads to better learning outcomes for children, young people and their families.
- » Using schools as community hubs is more than just sharing a space, it's about the social links and wellbeing of young people and the wider community.



NATURE PLAY

- » The preschool Nature Play outdoor learning project has committed to creating 20 new outdoor learning areas in South Australian preschools between 2014 and 2018.
- » The design and build of each area takes into account authentic contributions from children, families and the local communities. The engagement process is helping to create culturally appropriate environments that strengthen local communities.
- » The areas enhance children's curiosity and experience in play by using unique features such as mounds with tunnels, garden and creek beds, mud kitchens and sensory walls.
- » All the preschool sites incorporate philosophies taken from the Reggio Emilia approach. It is a free and open-sourced style of learning that guides the relationships children have with their environment, family and peers.





Marbut Traditional Theme School offers each student a challenging educational environment where self- discipline and high academic expectations are emphasized. Teachers, parents, and the community share the responsibility of promoting achievement and success for all.

**ANDRE
BENITO
MOUNTAIN**
Principal

**TIERNEY
MOUNTAIN**
*4th Grade
Student*

Marbut Traditional Theme School
DeKalb County School District
Lithonia, Georgia, United States
No. of Students (School): 1,250



DISCUSSION