

Educational Suitability Summary Report

Pleasant Hill Elementary School

Date: 01/21/2021

Score 56% Average

Pleasant Hill Elementary School serves an enrollment of approximately 410 students, pre-K through fifth grade, in southeast Austin. It was constructed in 1985 and consists of approximately 65,300 square feet on 10 acres. The overall building condition is good and some of the main concerns of the school include programs in unsuitable spaces, lack of collaboration space, poor functionality of the cafeteria and site safety.

Overall, the building does not sufficiently support the goals of the school's curriculum, nor does it meet the standards as described in the district's Educational Specifications. The school has outdated studio furniture and limited common spaces. The school also lacks specialty spaces such as maker space and outdoor learning studios. Other deficiencies include lack of accessibility to the school and ADA-compliant restrooms in some spaces. Accessibility will be fully covered in the facility condition assessment report but is noted here since it does not create an equitable approach to the school for all students and visitors. There is limited transparency and connection to other learning spaces in the building.

Interview Overview

The interview participants consisted of Principal Kristi Cisneros and head custodian Reynaldo (Randy) Tovar. The interview discussion focused on the inadequate and unsuitable spaces for programs, cafeteria space issues, lack of shared spaces and site safety.

The principal noted some spaces are not conducive to program needs, such as counseling, cafeteria, gym and the music room. Cafeteria space has poor acoustics and gets loud during full occupancy, which impacts students with sensory issues. The music room is affected due to its proximity to the cafeteria and lack of acoustic control in the walls.

There is a pod area between studios, but it does not function well due to lack of flexible seating, presentation equipment or power outlets. The layout of the academic spaces does not allow for small-group breakout spaces. The principal mentioned a STEM lab with proper infrastructure and equipment would be nice to have. Maker space functions are currently carried out in the library. The principal also expressed desire to have a flexible learning space with configurable furniture where different grade levels can come together. In the future, they would like to have each pod function as a flexible learning space that can be divided into different learning spaces in addition to a separate fine arts space; however, the school does not currently have flexible furniture for these areas.

The garden space establishes connection with the community, and the library is used for district meetings and training for AISD staff. The cafeteria is also used for meetings but is not ideal due to its size, condition and unsatisfactory acoustics.

Some issues were noted with the outdoor learning spaces. The tree stumps next to a garden are not really used due to the condition of the garden. There are picnic tables that are occasionally used for classes. Power outlets and shade are needed for the outdoor spaces to function better. There is an ant issue in the garden. There are no ADA-accessible paths to the garden or within the garden. Lack of accessibility in certain areas of the school is a big issue according to the principal.



The principal mentioned a few important elements that are valued within the school, including the garden space, butterfly garden and current pod concept outside the studios. The garden space and pod concept have great potential but require improvements to function well for the school.

Assessment Findings

The Educational Suitability Assessment of Pleasant Hill Elementary School earned a 56% 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%):

Exterior

Score is unsatisfactory.

In morning, cars and buses mix for arrival at the front of the school. There is a separate dismissal area for buses, but stack space is small and there are no canopies. There is a digital marquee on the street corner and signage on the building is visible. Main entry is easy to locate. The route to the dumpster has obstacles.


Academic & Learning

Score is unsatisfactory.

Studios are adequately sized, and storage is provided with wall cabinets. Bulletin boards are in poor condition and whiteboards are just resurfaced chalkboards. No dedicated maker space is provided. Pod spaces provide opportunity for informal interaction but are currently underutilized due to lack of flexible furniture. The pre-K and kindergarten areas are appropriately configured, but the restrooms are somewhat small.

Administration Spaces

Score is unsatisfactory.

 The waiting space within the reception area is limited. There is one conference room present in the administration suite. It is undersized, not clearly identified and not accessible to the parents and visitors. The acoustics within the admin suite are poor.

Average Categories (51-65%):

General Building

Score is average.

Corridors are well sized between 8 and 10 feet wide. The cafeteria and gym can be accessed for after-hours events without access to the rest of the school. The library cannot be accessed for after-hours events.

Security

Score is average.



Environmental Quality

Score is average.

Acoustics and artificial lighting in studios are average. Not all studios have windows. Those that have access to natural light and views of nature have very small windows. An ant issue was noted in and around the building.

Controllability of Systems

Score is average.

All studios have thermostats for temperature control and blinds for daylight control, but all blinds in studios are in poor condition. All studios have single switches for lighting control. Cafeteria, gym and library have alternating rows and dual controls.

Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment

Score is average.

There is a mix of old and new furniture throughout the campus. The school reports that they have not received any updated furniture from the previous bond and that many of the tables are too heavy to move around. The library has some upgraded furniture, which allows for some flexible seating.

Visual and Performing Arts

Score is average.

Music rooms are not appropriately configured and do not have acoustic walls. The space is next to the cafeteria, which causes unwanted sounds to travel from the cafeteria to the music room. Cafeteria seating needs updates. The stage is undersized, the curtains are in poor condition, and the stage storage is inadequate. Art room is in a regular studio and needs updates and proper layout to function well. Art room storage is not adequate.

Food Services

Score is average.

The cafeteria is adequately sized based on the Educational Specifications and school's capacity. Finishes are dated. The cafeteria has poor acoustics and gets too loud under its full capacity. Better seating options are needed for dining and to hold more people during district or school meetings. There are minimal windows and natural lighting in the space. The kitchen has only one serving line and is of average size

Media Resources

Score is average.

The library has space for collaborative work for different group sizes. New furniture is provided in the library. Two projection screens, charging carts, two mobile TV displays and some power towers for charging devices were present.

Technology

Score is average.

All studios have projection and mobile TV displays, but outlets are sparse, and some outlets do not work properly. There is a projector or projection screen in the cafeteria, but the gym only has a mobile projection cart and an edudisplay. A mobile TV display is used for digital media signage in the reception area, but there is no permanently installed TV. There is a mix of older and newer technology. There are chalkboards in some studio spaces, and in other studios, they have been covered with whiteboard material (purchased with campus funds).

Satisfactory Categories (66-80%):**Outdoor Learning and Activity**

Score is satisfactory.

Garden areas have access to a water source but are disconnected from learning spaces and need maintenance and updates to be more functional. They also lack ADA accessibility. Courtyards have picnic tables for seating, but other outdoor areas are lacking furniture to work well for outdoor learning.

PE and Wellness

Score is satisfactory.

The gym is appropriately sized and in decent condition. Indoor athletics spaces are well connected to outdoor athletics areas. The gym lacks technological resources and power outlets are sparse. Storage is adequate for the gym equipment. The operable wall between the gym and cafeteria provides poor acoustic control and makes both spaces noisy. Currently, the partition does not work and does not stay on its track. The school would like to be able to use it to accommodate large family and campus events.

Supporting Photographs



Furniture in library is new, flexible and easy to reconfigure for different sized groups.



Studios wings are organized around "pods," open spaces equipped with projectors where grade levels and larger groups can gather. Skylights bring in natural light to this space. It is being used for storage, but this is due to COVID protocols.

Supporting Photographs



Academics and Learning: Studio storage space and furniture are dated.



Covered outdoor playing surface provides shade for gym and after-school activities.

Supporting Photographs



Space used as maker space in library with flexible furnishings and organized supplies.



Cafeteria is adequately sized for the capacity but does not meet the needs for the school currently. The finishes need updating and acoustic control is also needed.

Supporting Photographs



Most studios are equipped with edu-boards and/or projectors, but furniture and other technology need updating.



Storage space in most studios is inadequate and dated.

Supporting Photographs



Outdoor garden is a valued learning space and has one medium-sized tree to provide some shade.



Playground space with no shade. Sidewalks are broken in some places and need upgrades to be ADA accessible. Picnic tables are in poor condition.



Austin ISD Educational Suitability Assessment Criteria

General Building

School Name

Pleasant Hill Elementary School

Walk Attendees:

Davis Richardson and Vishwesh Panchal

Date:

1/28/2021

1 - Exterior		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	8.75	43%
1.1	Does the site permit desirable separation of vehicular, bus and pedestrian traffic?		2					1.00	2.00
	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							The vehicular circulation is separated effectively, but the stack is limited. Principal's note - Cars and buses mix for arrival in the morning. in the front of the school building. There is a separate dismissal area for buses; as noted, the stack is limited. There is also not a sidewalk or ADA accessibility for the students/staff to exit to the bus dismissal area.	
1.2	Is the building easily identified with appropriate signage and community wayfinding?			3				0.25	0.75
	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							Signage is average throughout the building.	

1 - Exterior (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A			
1.3	Is the dumpster accessible for trash / compost disposal?		2					Comments	0.50 1.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No compost present, route has obstacles (stairs, curbs, barriers) to dumpster							Route has obstacles to dumpster, not accessible.		
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	15.00	67%	
2.1	Are outdoor studios and support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated outdoor studios							No shades provided for outdoor spaces. Need upgrades and renovations. ADA accessibility is needed to outdoor learning spaces.		
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 3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated active playground							Principal's note - The blacktop is covered to provide shade and was recently replaced due to the Winter Storm. Neither of the play structures have shade provided. Many of our students seek to play on the swings, and we only have 2 swings on each playground. One of the swings in the big playground is an adapted swing, and there is only one regular swing. We really need another set of 2 swings in the back play area.		
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 answers, does not affect score for Outdoor Learning and Activity.			
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 answers, 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	51%
3.1	Are interior circulation routes wide enough to safely and effectively accommodate student movement?				4			Comments	0.50 2.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - Primary circulation is 5'-0" to 6'-0" wide 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 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	The gym / cafeteria can be opened up after hours. The library is internal to the school. Principal's note - Currently there is a non-functional partition separating gym / cafeteria from rest of school.							
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 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	Principal's note - The school has a dedicated space in a portable but none within the school.							
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 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?		2					1.00	2.00
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								

Studio doors have small windows, but they do not allow much visibility into corridor spaces. Limited transparency in certain locations and in studio walls.

5 - Environmental Quality		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	25.00	56%	
5.1	How are acoustics in studios in general?		2					1.00	2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Recognized word/sound from adjacent studio/corridor	<p>Acoustics are not adequate in general in the learning spaces.</p> <p>There is an accordion partition between to small group rooms for speech. Acoustically, there is sound that carries from these rooms into one another.</p>								
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				1.00	3.00	
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?			3				1.00	3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No learning spaces have natural light									
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?			3				1.00	3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No learning spaces have views									
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									

5 - Environmental Quality (cont.)		1	2	3	4	5	N/A				
5.5	Does the building have odor or pest problems?			3				Comments	1.00	3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Evidence of both pests and odors							Trail of ants in some spaces in the building. Principal's note - Classrooms A1/A2 smell musty, cooking bay smells of mold. At times much of the campus smells of sewage. We also have cockroaches and mice, depending on the season.			
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										
6 - Controllability of Systems		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	12.50		52%	
6.1	Does the studio thermostat allow for individual control?					5		Comments	0.50	2.50	
1	No										
5	Yes										
6.2	Are shades provided to control natural light in learning spaces?			3				Comments	1.00	3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No, windows are covered with boards/paper							Principal notes that all classroom blinds are in need of replacement.			
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?	1						Comments	1.00	1.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Single switch only per room							All studios have single switch. The gym, cafeteria, and library have multiple switch.			
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	55%	
7.1	What is the current condition of the furniture?			3				0.75	2.25	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Damaged or broken, non-functioning	Comments New furniture for library received last year. Principal's note: Furniture was not updated from a previous bond. The only area of campus that has newer furniture is the library. There is no upgraded furniture in the pods. Many of the tables are heavy and difficult to move around, and the bookshelves are a blend of what we've been able to get from the warehouse. Our office reception area could also use some significant improvements.								
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?		2					1.00	2.00	
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				1.00	3.00	
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?			3				1.00	3.00	
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?					4			Comments	0.50 2.00	
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?			2					Comments	0.50 1.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory- There may be landfill bins, but there are no compost and/or recycle bins. There is not clear sorting signage.							Does not affect overall score.		
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

Pleasant Hill Elementary School

Walk Attendees:

Davis Richardson and Vishwesh Panchal

Date:

1/21/2021

8 - Academics & Learning		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	70.00	50%	
8.1	Are studios appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Too small, no flexibility, disconnected	<p>Limited transparency to other studios. There is a central pod which is used for breakout spaces and presentations. Adequate size and areas for teaching methods.</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				Comments	1.00 3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - None provided	<p>The pre-K and kindergarten areas are appropriately configured, but the restrooms are somewhat small.</p>								
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?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00
	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	Some spaces require more storage than what is provided. The general building storage is almost nonexistent. The classrooms feature tall built-in cabinets that are somewhat dated. Principals note: Locked cabinet space is a need. Sink areas and cabinetry are not in good shape. Some classrooms have even had 2x4 wood panels installed in order to prevent leaking from the sink onto the counter area.							
8.4	Do typical learning neighborhoods have small group rooms and open collaboration space?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00
	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	Pods between cluster of classrooms can be used as collaborative space but lack adequate power outlets and technological resources. Principal's note - There is potential for flexible learning spaces in our pods, but visibility is limited for the teacher to monitor both classroom and pod areas.							
8.5	Are general studios large enough to support project-based learning and multiple teaching modalities?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00
	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								

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)?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated space									
2	Unsatisfactory - Too small, non-dedicated, poor									
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 3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No space to support collaboration in various sizes.									
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 3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No space							Common spaces "pod" areas allow for group collaborations of different sizes and informal interaction; principal noted that they are not utilized frequently. There are no seating options and presentation equipment.		
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 2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No breakout rooms/small study spaces									
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?			3						Comments	1.00	3.00
1	Very unsatisfactory - Too small, no flexibility, disconnected									Special education spaces don't have enough resources to function well such as separate kitchen and washer/dryer.		
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?	1								Comments	1.00	1.00
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											
8.15	Are Accessible restrooms and changing rooms readily available to the Special Education spaces?				5					Comments	1.00	5.00
1	No											
5	Yes											

9 - Visual and Performing Arts		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	15.00	53%
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							Music room not appropriately configured and doesn't have acoustic walls. The space is next to the cafeteria, which causes unwanted sounds to travel to the music room.	
	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?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided							Does not meet ed spec requirements. Principal's note: There is no restroom in or near the music room and allowing a student to leave the classroom to use the restroom down the hall doesn't allow for visibility .	
	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								
	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								

10 - PE and Wellness		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	10.00	70%	
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									
10.2	Are the physical education storage spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?				4			Comments	1.00 4.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided								Athletic spaces are in good condition and the support spaces are well-sized.	
	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									
11 - Food Services		1	2	3	4	5	N/A	10.00	60%	
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								Cafeteria is adequately sized but finishes are dated. There are no acoustic materials to help diffuse and absorb sound.	
	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									
11.2	Are the Food Services support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
	1 Very unsatisfactory - None provided								Kitchen only has one serving line and is around 2,000 SF.	
	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	60%
12.1	Is the Library/Media Center easily accessible for the occupants and visitors to the school?				4			1.00	4.00
	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	Comments The library has space for collaborative work of different group sizes. New furniture is provided in the library. Principal's note - No classroom restrooms with visibility for special areas classrooms or the library							
12.2	How well does the Library/Media Center support quiet study?		2					1.00	2.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No quiet study spaces 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	Comments One large open space but could accommodate quiet study with updates.							
12.3	How well does the Library/Media Center support social interaction?				4			1.00	4.00
	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	Comments							
12.4	How well does the Library/Media Center support collaborative work in small groups (4-8 students)?			3				1.00	3.00
	1 Very unsatisfactory - No breakout rooms, no flexible furniture, no support 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	Comments							

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)?		2					Comments	1.00 2.00	
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?			3				Comments	1.00 3.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No vis comm tools									
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?				4			Comments	1.00 4.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - Limited to no technology present in instructional spaces							There is a mix of older and newer technology, including older projectors and newer computers. There are chalkboards in some classroom spaces, and there is about one innovation station for every three classroom 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)							More power outlets are needed. Surge protected outlets are limited. Principals note - Computer lab is in room D3 and the space could be improved with more outlets.		
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	Comments		1.00	2.00	
13.3	Are there adequate charging locations for devices?		2					Comments		1.00	2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - No centralized charging location							Principal's note - There are not charging locations aside from outlets in the classrooms.				
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?		2					Comments		1.00	2.00	
1	Very unsatisfactory - AV not present in one or more space							Projector / screen in the cafeteria. Gym does not have any AV - mobile projection cart and an edudisplay.				
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											

