

Hannah Hall

Mr. Speice

ISM

11 April 2018

Mentor Visit #9

This week at my mentor visit, Mr. Horstman and I sat down to talk about my final product for over an hour. I started off by telling him about the program and what all I envision the school offering. From there, I told him about my designs for each of the five buildings and showed him the sketches I had made.

As I started telling Mr. Horstman about the program for the school, I was giving very vague answers. He told me that I need to be more specific. Instead of saying that I will have 400-500 students at the school, it needs to be 433 or 485 or 500, so I decided on 500 students. Because of this, we talked about codes, classroom size, and logistics. He said that in a dining space, every person needs 15 square feet and in a lab, every person needs 50 square feet. In a typical classroom, it is usually around 750 to 800 square feet, but it needs to be at least 700. Thankfully, my design already matched what was needed. My science labs were a tad small, but that just means there will be smaller class sizes, and there are six rooms anyway, so 94 students could have a science class each period.

As I started making the site plan map, I placed all the dorm buildings on one side and the education buildings on the other side, in the middle, there is the performance building and green space. I showed Chris the map that I had sketched, and he said he liked how the residential is on

one side with the educational space on the other side, and as the students walk to class, they have to cross the green space and the line of the public space. On the side opposite end of the performance building, however, there was just an open spot. I felt that I should close off the campus with something and give it definite boundaries, however, so I asked Chris about that as well. He suggested putting something there like a student union, or another public space there to suggest the definite lines of the residential column, the public column, and the educational column. Because of this suggestion, I decided to place there a building with admissions on one side and a makerspace lab on the other.

I also noticed an empty space that was created between the general education building and arts classes building by the addition of a third dorm building on the other side. I decided to add a gallery for the art students in that space, since there is little room in the theatre for their work to be displayed. I showed the new design to Chris and he suggested switching the placement of the gallery and the arts building, so that the spaces to show off artistic work would be closer together.

I also had originally placed the three dorm buildings in a straight row, but it looked very militaristic because of the sharp shapes that they're made of. Chris said that I should arrange them in a U shape to create a public green space in the middle. I agreed, thinking that they would look less scary and unwelcoming to new students and visitors.

With the new arrangement of the buildings on the site, the campus becomes closed with defined boundaries, yet very open and inclusive on the campus. It encourages collaboration between all of the students and their different art forms, which is exactly what I was going for.