Collaborative Learning Spaces

As a way to support students in collaboration, we need to rethink the learning spaces in which our students live every day. Flexible and agile furniture, along with different break out spaces and places to work are essential. Collaboration can be seen working together with creating and communicating knowledge environments, since "innovation or knowledge is moved from abstract to a product and can be shared information," as as highlighted in In Sync: Environmental Behavior Research and the Design of Learning Spaces.

ENVIRONMENTS	ARCHETYPAL ATTRIBUTES*			
	Icon	Behavioral Premise	Process Steps	Protocol Attributes
Creating		 Innovation or knowledge moved from abstract to a product 	 Research Recognize need Divergent thinking Incubate Interpret into product / innovation 	 Multiple disciplines Leaderless Egalitarian Distributed attention Privacy Casual Active learning
Communicating	88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88	 Share information Provide quick exchange 	 Organize information Deliver Receive and interpret Confirm 	 Knowledge is dispersed Impromptu delivery Casual Active learning

Webber, Lennie Scott. *In Sync: Environmental Behavior Research and the Design of Learning Spaces.* Ann Arbor: Society for College and U Planning, 2004. 2009. Web. Oct. 2015.

What is collaboration?

We often use the term *collaboration* to describe the simple act of working with others. True collaboration, however, requires more than individuals working together; it must also have a clear purpose. Thus,

WORKING TOGETHER + PURPOSE = COLLABORATION

Students are collaborating when they work in pairs or groups to discuss an issue, solve a problem, and/or create a product; students are collaborating skillfully when they resolve controversy and conflict through negotiation.

Collaboration is a key skill for success in the 21st Century workplace. In virtually every career, people are required to work in teams to accomplish tasks that are too complex

or too large for individuals to complete on their own. Moreover, research on innovation suggests that the ideas we develop in concert with others are more likely to be viable solutions to real-world problems.

-Citation from Minnetonka Public Schools Framework Guide