

WHY A BOND ISSUE?

In communities like Pratt, district schools are a vital part of our future and our quality of life. Our community values and understands the importance of a quality education for our students.

Over the past year, our school district conducted a thorough needs assessment of our existing facilities and current educational opportunities for our students. We conducted meetings with our staff and administrative teams, and our community. Architects and engineers evaluated our existing facilities. The identified priorities include a new storm shelter and new classrooms for **Southwest Elementary** school, renovating the **ACE** to most efficiently use the space for education opportunities for district students, and address safety needs by constructing secure entries at **SW** and the **ACE**. A new **Transportation Maintenance Facility** is needed to replace an unsafe structure. The need for additional childcare is also a priority; our community is desperate for a new **Daycare Facility** with an estimated need for 225 children. The lack of available high-quality childcare impacts the district, area employers, and the community as a whole in our ability to attract new employees and their families who may consider moving to Pratt.

We cannot complete these projects with our yearly funding. However, if we pass a bond issue, we can improve our schools to best meet the needs of our students, staff, and the Pratt community.

WHY ARE IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED?

The existing **ACE (Academic Center for Excellence)** building will be re-purposed to accommodate 4th and 5th graders and will provide space for the **Childcare Center** with a separate entrance and drop-off. The **Frog Dome** renovation will restore this legendary space into a functional gymnasium facility with gym space for students and for community use. The **Southwest Elementary** renovation will add much needed classroom space for our Pre-K students and upgrades for our special education students, which will improve their educational opportunities during their important and early formative years.

A new **Transportation Maintenance Facility** is desperately needed to replace the existing building which is unsafe. The new building will accommodate departmental staff and maintenance operations to better meet the district's transportation needs.

The proposed bond projects are designed to optimize the learning environment for students, and to attract and retain a high-quality staff. Together, we can ensure our community offers our students a **21st century education!**

BOND FINANCING

Now is a great time to consider a bond project in Pratt. The mill increase would be 6.5 mills over 25 years. This would put the total mills for USD 382 at 56.36 mills. The average school district mill levy for 42 school districts in our area is 56.8 mills. In 2031, this would drop 2 mills to 4.5 (54.36 total).

How will the Bond affect Taxpayers? The Facts:

- ▶ **\$16.6 Million, 25-Year Bond**
- ▶ **\$100,000 Residential Property:**
\$6.23 per month increase
- ▶ **\$100,000 Commercial Property:**
\$13.54 per month increase
- ▶ **160 Acres - Per month increase:***

Dry Crop Land	\$ 3.80
Grass Land	\$.65
Irrigated Land	\$11.31

**Estimate only, land owner must calculate based on crop productivity.*

See full Bond Finance Info at usd382bond.com

BALLOT QUESTION Shall the following be adopted?

Shall Unified School District No. 382; Pratt County, Kansas (Pratt) (the "District") be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$16,600,000 (the "Bonds") to pay the costs to: (a) construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to District Facilities, including interior and exterior improvements, new windows, roof improvements at the ACE building; (b) construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to Southwest Elementary School, including new classrooms, interior improvements, storm shelter and secured entry improvements, and transportation improvements; (c) construct, furnish and equip a transportation maintenance facility; (d) make all other necessary improvements appurtenant thereto (collectively the "Project"); and (e) pay costs of issuance and interest on the Bonds during construction of the Project, all pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 10 IO1 et seq., K.S.A. 25-2018(£), K.S.A. 72-5457, and K.S.A. 72 5458 et seq.?

PRATT COUNTY, KS USD 382 PRATT BOND ELECTION



BOND ISSUE INFORMATION
VOTE MAY 9, 2023

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Why a Bond Issue Now?

We are at a decision point with the ACE building. The district has maintained the 1939 facility, but the core infrastructure of steam pipes, antiquated HVAC system, and the outdated electrical and plumbing has reached the end of useful life. The structure itself, though, is solid and sound per engineering studies. We must replace the boiler immediately, which provides steam heat at a significant cost. If the district is able to renovate, it avoids spending large sums for a band-aid solution on outdated infrastructure. We also have an opportunity to use federal dollars to cover some of the costs, which reduces the bond amount. We have space needs in the district and a complete renovation of the ACE allows the district to most efficiently use the space it has without adding additional roofs. We need tornado shelters at our elementary to maximize student safety. Finally, this renovation and construction allows the district to house Pre-K with the kindergarten and increase kindergarten readiness as well as share primary instructional resources.

What will the restoration to the Frog Dome Include?

The restoration of the Frog Dome will include a new floor, new ceiling, new lighting, and new windows. These improvements are necessary to meet the needs as a PE classroom for 4th and 5th grades, and to meet requirements of being a regulation competition gym and practice facility for middle and high school teams. Locker rooms will also be updated.

Who will staff the Childcare Center at the ACE?

USD 382 would provide the space, janitorial and maintenance services, and security and a 3rd party provider would handle the staffing, certification, and administration of the daycare.

Why is it feasible to renovate the ACE now when the district didn't in 2006 (when the new HS was built)?

In 2006, it was more expensive to renovate the ACE with new construction than it was to build new to serve the needs for a modern 9-12 building of nearly 400 students and staff, and all activities. The new PHS building linked the Pedigo (shop classes, etc) to PHS and LMS. This allowed students 6-12 to walk to lunch without going outside and provided an efficient infrastructure. The district sold two buildings in need of repair and reduced its overall footprint to survive the economic crunch at the time. The renovated building will meet the needs of three programs (4th/5th Grades, District Office, and Daycare) that, in their entirety, will consist of half of the students and staff in the high school. The space was not adequate for 400, but is more than adequate for the planned use.

The ACE can be renovated at a cost of \$200/square foot versus the cost of building new at \$330/square foot. This does not include the cost of demolishing the ACE, which is estimated to cost between \$500,000 – 750,000, nor the loss of a site that represents our strong tradition in the center of our community.

What renovations will occur at the ACE? What will remain "original"?

The renovation will include new windows, doors, roof, exterior tuck pointing, HVAC overhaul, plumbing, and electrical. It is the goal of the Architect, Construction Manager, and USD 382 to maintain the historic character of the building. Efforts to do so include keeping the terrazzo floors, the tile, and the wood finishes in hallways and stairwells. Classroom areas will be made more functional while maintaining the character of the building. Interior walls will be adjusted to increase classroom space to meet recommended size requirements. Additionally, all restroom facilities will be completely renovated.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WICHITA, KS
PERMIT 1148



(with camera app)



**For Complete
Bond Information**

usd382bond.com



Bond Election Day - Tuesday, May 9, 2023

**Vote at the
Pratt Community Center**

619 N Main St | Polls open 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

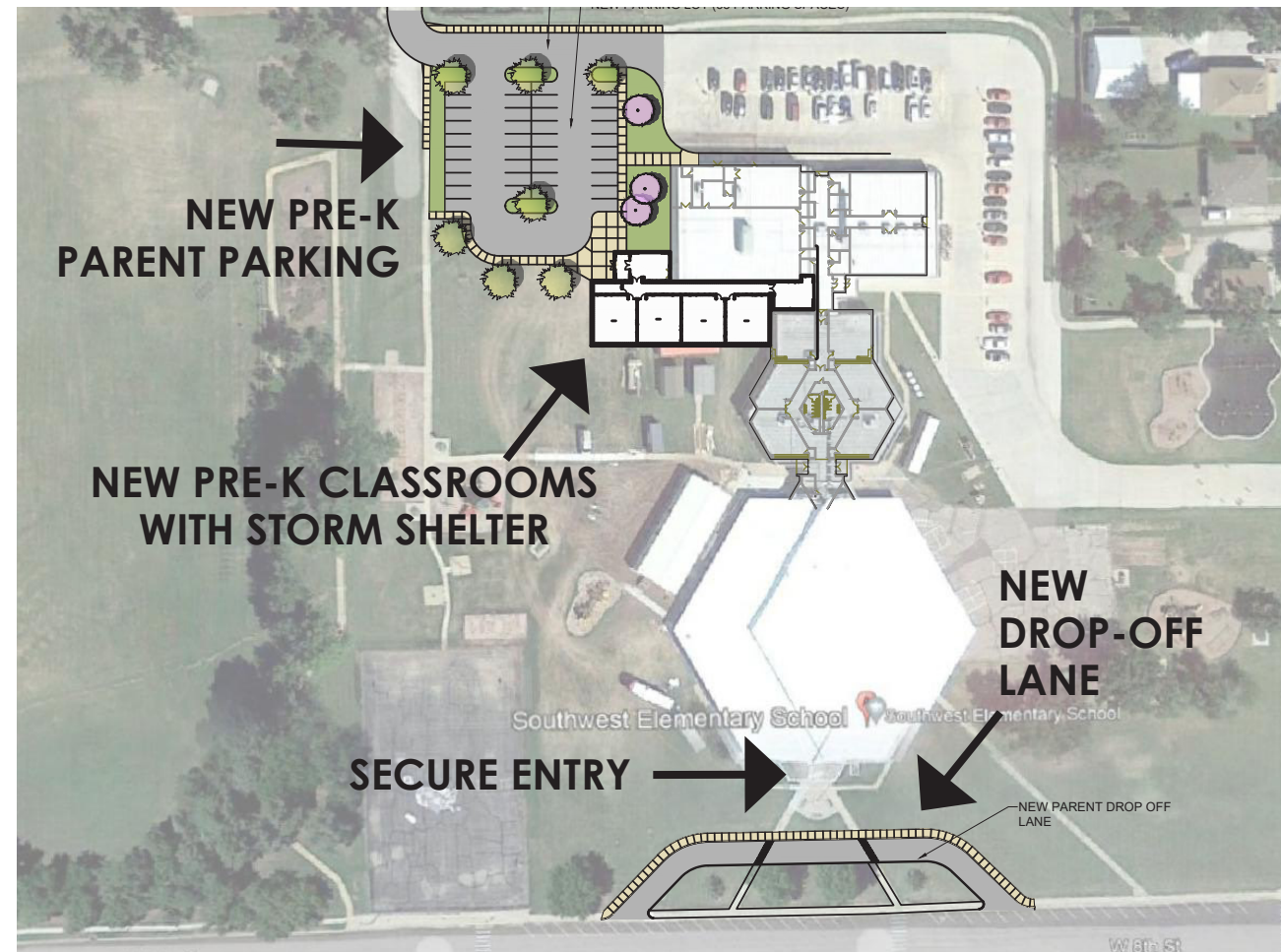


**Read More Questions/Answers &
complete bond info at bond website**

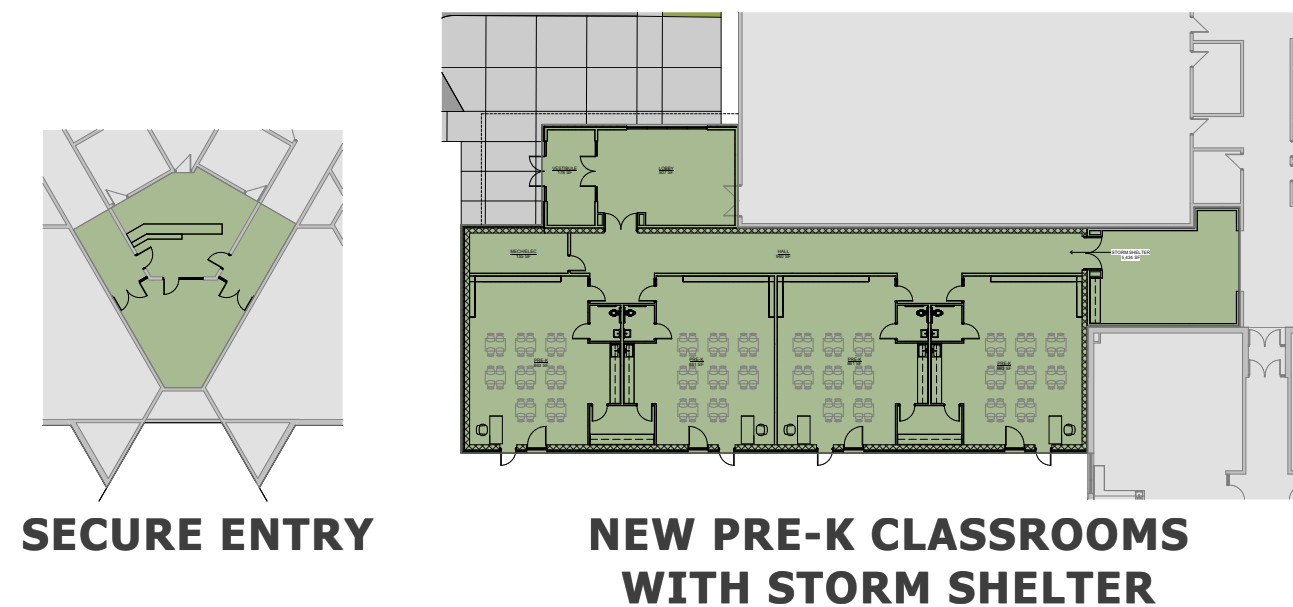
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Our Children ★ Our Schools ★ Our Future

SOUTHWEST ELEMENTARY SITE PLAN



SOUTHWEST ELEMENTARY



ACE BUILDING
RENOVATION

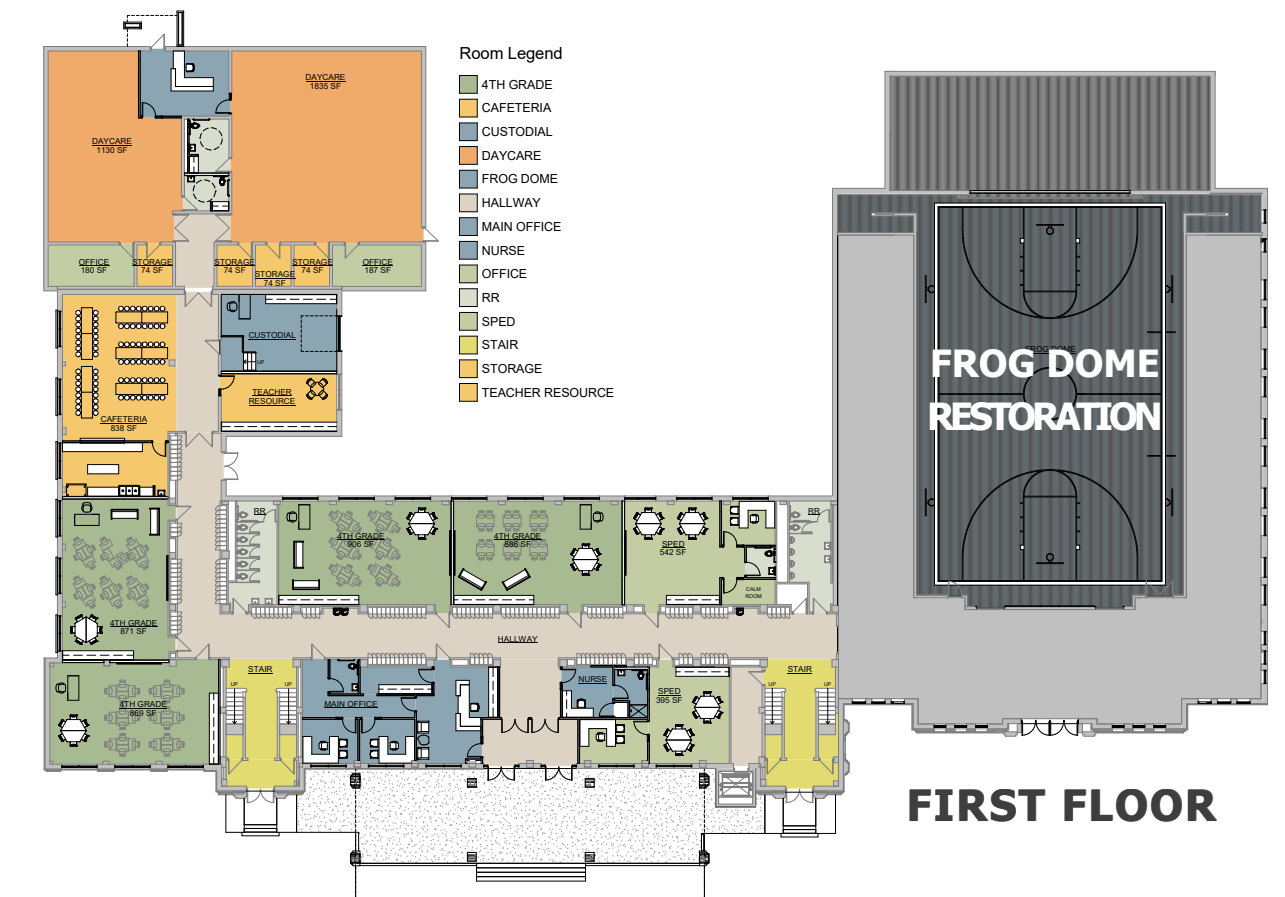


FROG DOME
RESTORATION

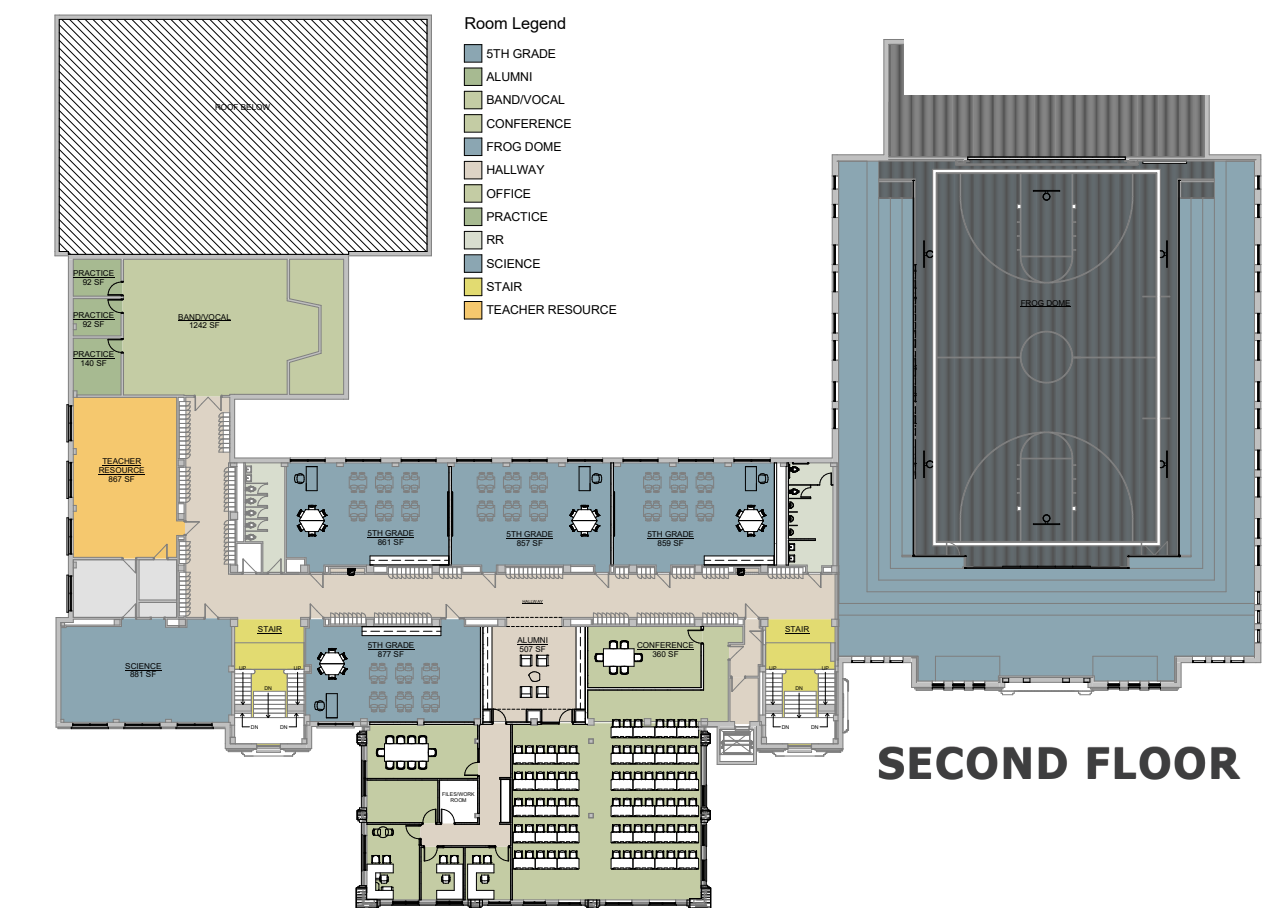


CHILDCARE
CENTER

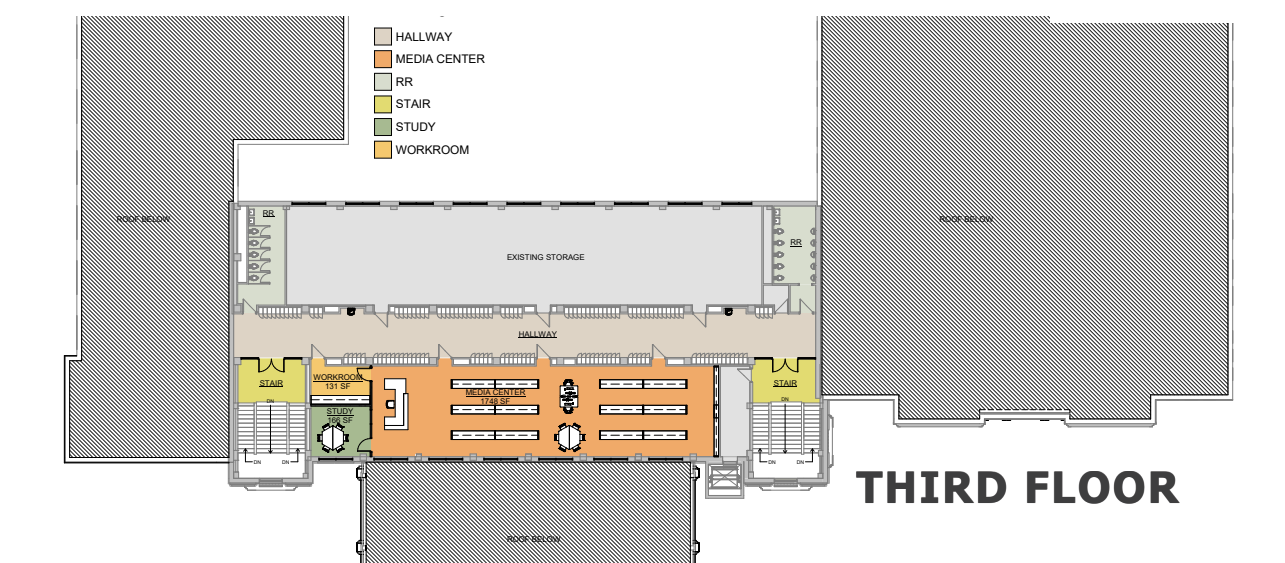
ACE BUILDING RENOVATIONS



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR



TRANSPORTATION
MAINTENANCE FACILITY

PROPOSED SCHOOL BOND IMPROVEMENTS

► Southwest Elementary

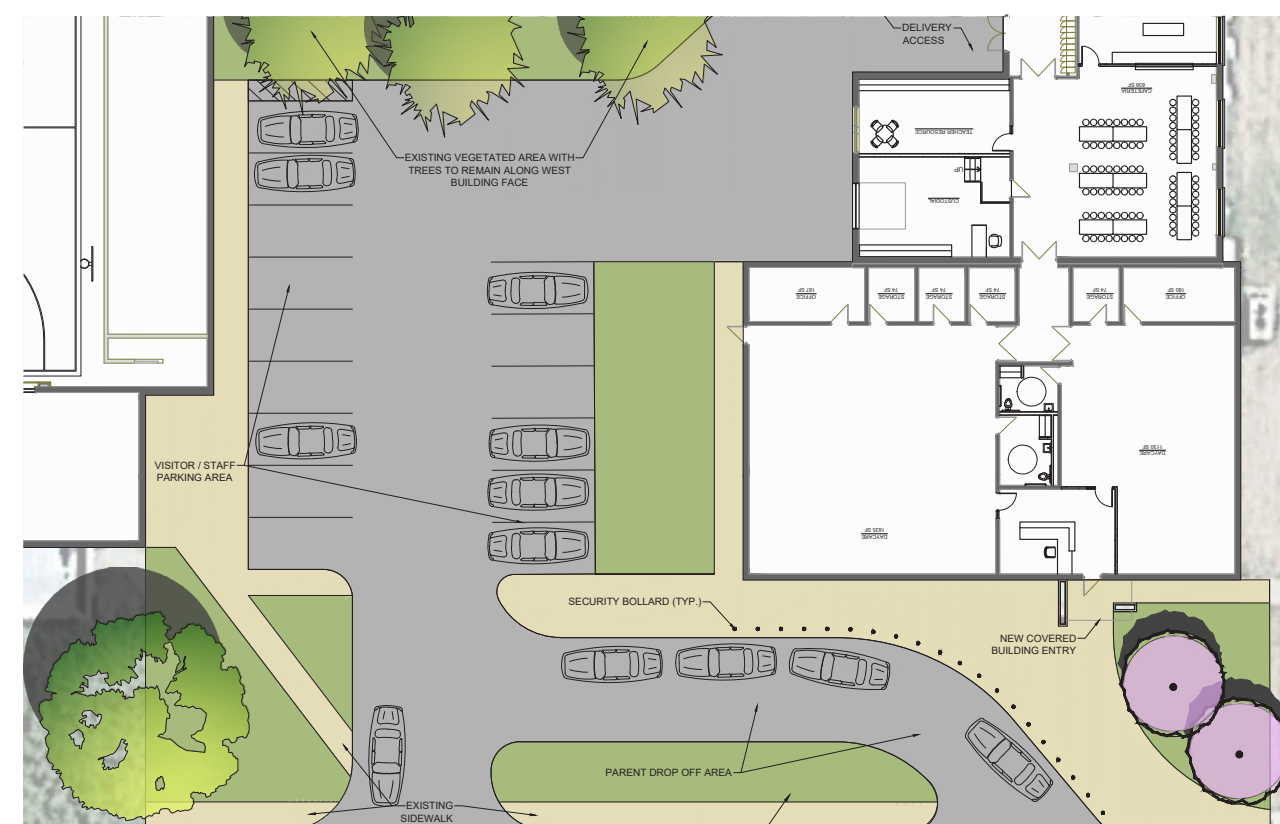
- New Pre-K Classrooms with Storm Shelter
- New Pre-K Parent Parking Area
- New Drop-Off Lane
- Secured Entry

► ACE Building Renovation for 4th & 5th Grade Center

- Secured Entry
- New Parking & Drop-Off Lane
- Childcare Center will address the huge need for quality childcare in our area. With capacity for 50 children, the center will help to attract new district staff and retain existing staff. It will also benefit our area business and hospital employees, and help to bring new families to our community.

► Frog Dome Gymnasium Restoration

► New Transportation Maintenance Facility



ACE BUILDING - NEW DAYCARE
WITH PARKING & DROP-OFF LANE