

Facilities Redesign

Jessica Thornton

LIBS 674: Library Management & Leadership

Dr. DiScala

April 7, 2021

Part One: Library Space Evaluation

Dinwiddie Middle School Library is located in Dinwiddie County Virginia and serves almost 1,000 sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. Currently there is only one librarian to service the entire school. The mission statement of the library is: "Each school shall maintain an organized library media center as the resource center of the school and provide a unified program of media services and activities for students and teachers before, during and after school. The library media center shall contain hard copy, electronic technological resources, materials, and equipment that are sufficient to meet research, inquiry, and reading requirements of the instructional program and general student interest. Each school provides a variety of materials, resources and equipment to support the instructional program." (Dinwiddie County Public Schools, 2018).

The library has a very old and slightly outdated feel, there are books located along the walls and then there are two shorter shelves of books that come into the 'floor space' of the library. These shorter shelves of books are more height friendly to younger and shorter students and also allow for books and other presentations to be displayed on top. Usually the librarian tries to keep these displays fresh and updated as much as possible to keep students and faculty engaged and up to date with new books and trends. There are also signs and displays throughout the library letting students know where to go to find fiction or non-fiction books and then they are broken down front here. The only furniture in the main part of the library are wooden tables with four wooden chairs at each table, which does allow for students to read books, have lunch, or collaborate with their peers and do group work when classes utilize the library space.

There is also one promethean board currently in front of the tables to allow for presentations, or teachers to utilize when their classes are in the library. The layout is open with clear walkways, but is not a very flexible or comfortable space for students to utilize in their free time. The space of the library behind the circulation desk will be reserved for the proposed media lab and at this time will not be included in the space evaluation as it will be changing in the future.

Part Two: Facilities and Redesign Plan

Changing the furniture and layout of the library will help the library more closely align with the VMOSA and hopefully help the library see more traffic overall. Students and staff will likely enjoy a more flexible layout and space where students can still collaborate and use the library as a large and collaborative workspace, but also feel comfortable and relaxed. This space will also be highly beneficial to students who frequent the library often on their own, they will most likely appreciate having a new layout with new furniture being added to the main library space. As it stands the space is rigid and outdated and not designed to its full potential.

My plan for the space is to get rid of the round tables that are currently in the back of the library completely, maybe another teacher could find a good use for them. Next would be to move the rectangle tables in the front of the space to the back of the space so that they are not the main focal point. I would add three sofas, six wobble stools, one mobile power tower, and two nature stands.

Regarding the action plan of this project, it should be relatively easy to redesign the space. The school maintenance technicians should be able to move the old furniture

out, put new furniture into place, and potentially assemble any new future that needs to be assembled. The anticipated timeline for the project should be no more than two days once all the furniture has been received and is ready to be set up. The idea being that nothing will be set up or taken down until everything is ready and in place to do such.

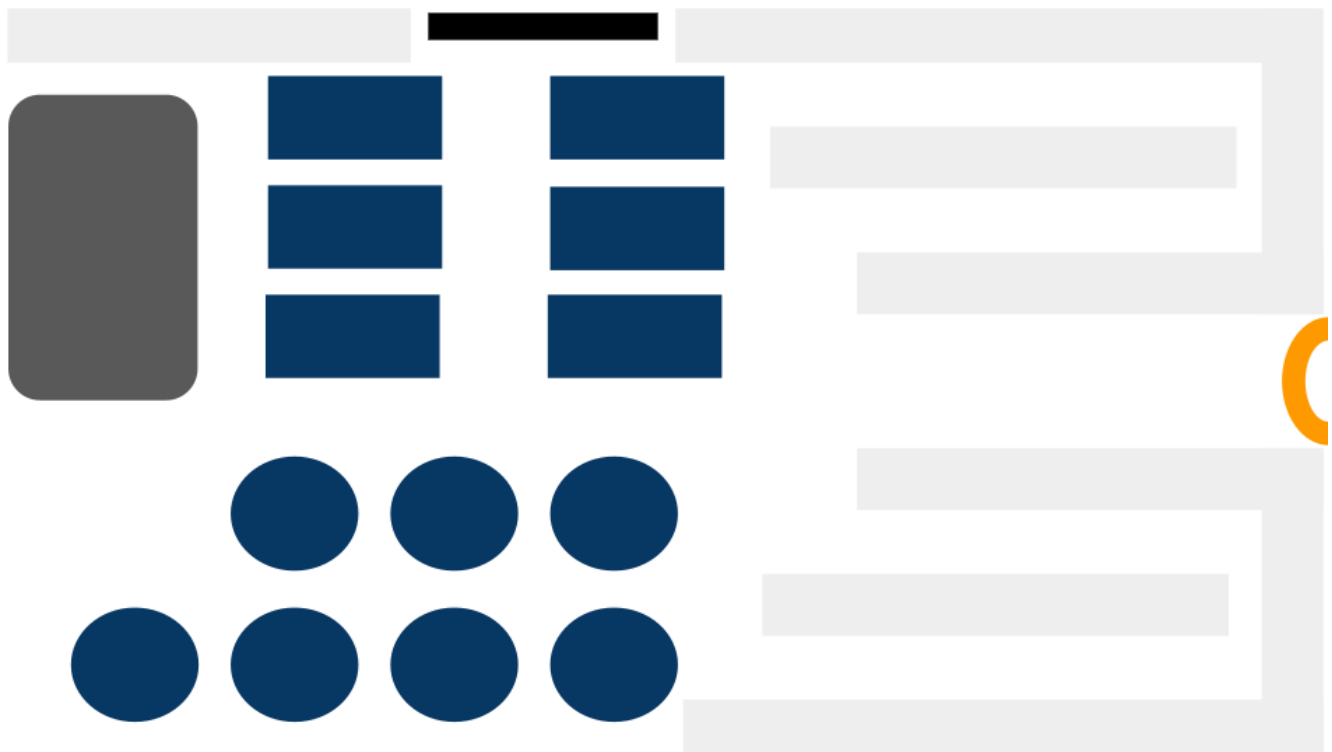
The itemized budget table for this redesign project is below:

Kore Antimicrobial Pre-Teen Wobble Stool	Demco	Individual seats designed specifically for middle school aged students.	\$79.99 each x6 \$479.94 total
JSI Moto Inline Chairs	Demco	Sofas where students can read comfortably, but also work collaboratively.	\$1179 each x3 \$3,537.00 total
Whitney Brothers Nature Stand	Demco	Two plant stands so that students can watch and help various plants grow.	\$249 each x2 \$498.00 total
MooreCO ITeach Mobile Power Tower	Demco	One mobile power tower that can be moved around the library so students can charge their devices.	\$449.99 each \$449.99 total
Facilities Redesign Total: \$4964.93			

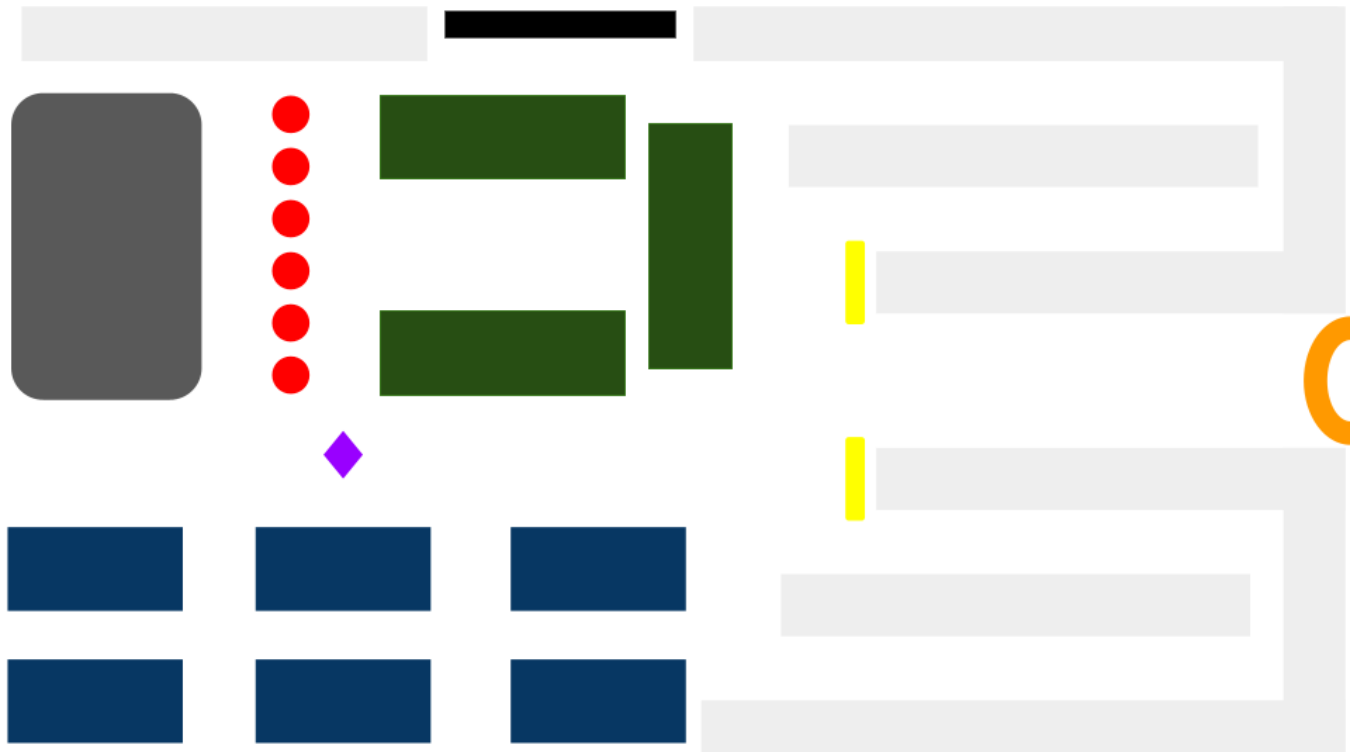
Part 3: Before and After Visuals

Color Guide/Key

Dark Grey	= Circulation Desk
Light Grey	= Bookshelves
Blue	= Wooden Tables
Black	= Promethean Board
Purple	= Mobile Power Tower
Green	= Moto Inline Sofa
Yellow	= Nature Stands
Red	= Wobble Stools
Orange	= Door/Opening



Current library layout



Proposed library layout



Pictures of items being added

Part 4: Reflection

Redesigning the library will be a combination of making the best of what is already there and adding the more comfortable, functional, and flexible furniture. Libraries are constantly changing and evolving to meet the needs of its patrons. Because of this, libraries of all types need to consider what can be changed or redesigned to help bring libraries forward and make them convenient and modern for students and patrons. Redesigning the library at Dinwiddie Middle School even with a small budget would do a lot for the aesthetics and functionality of the library space. Redesigning the space would draw interest from students who do not frequent the library currently, but want to check out what has changed. Overall, change and modernization is necessary in the library and would be great for the library.

References:

Dinwiddie County Public Schools. (2018, February). *SCHOOL LIBRARIES/MEDIA CENTERS*. DINWIDDIE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD. Retrieved February 9, 2021, from <https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/dinwiddie/Board.nsf/Public#>