glossary

KCH Learning Commons Ideas Mike Brown, Teacher Librarian February 9, 2011

Information Commons: Access to lots of information for the whole school community

- Book and media collection
- Increased computer access (cold be wireless for more space)
- Access to staff for help

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Tech Support Commons

• First line of defense and support for all tech needs

Learning Commons: A great place to learn, with flexible spaces

- At least 3 seperate teaching/learning environments
- Staffed so that students can come alone and get help, but also entire classes with teacher
- Much more collaborative and creative learning going on. In fact, all of third grade lessons
 would be integrated/collaborative with classroom teacher and classroom content--Maybe
 even second grade.

Curriculum Commons: A center for curriculum development

Teacher's Resource Commons: Local Teaching Center for the school and district

- Organizing and hosting professional development seminars
- Laminator and all other media production equipment housed here--maybe even some aides could use this space as home.

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Virtual Commons: Lots of online resources and "spaces" for meeting and learning online

- Wikis and blogs for learning and communication
- Homework hotline
- Order and renew books from home, like public library?

Facility Re-Design Ideas: Some are not too expensive, some more expensive, but perhaps a 5 year plan... Here's why: With movable tables and chairs, and wireles access, any of the three instructional spaces in the learning commons could quickly be reconfigured for many different uses, like a mini computer lab, conference space, professional development space, etc.

- Tables and chairs on castors, like Marcellus Library Community Room: Quick set up, or break down for flexible use of spaces
- Many movable book cases: The more book cases we can push back, the more flexible space we'll have. We could use the whole room as an auditorium space.
- Cut down tall book cases for better sight lines, easier access for young students, and tons more display space
- Movable wall at Story Room, so it can be more private, but also opened up for much bigger event space
- Movable wall at back of room for another nice instructional space
- Maybe turn back office and storage room into media production area
- Add SmartBoard to at least one of the new instructional spaces, probably in the back.