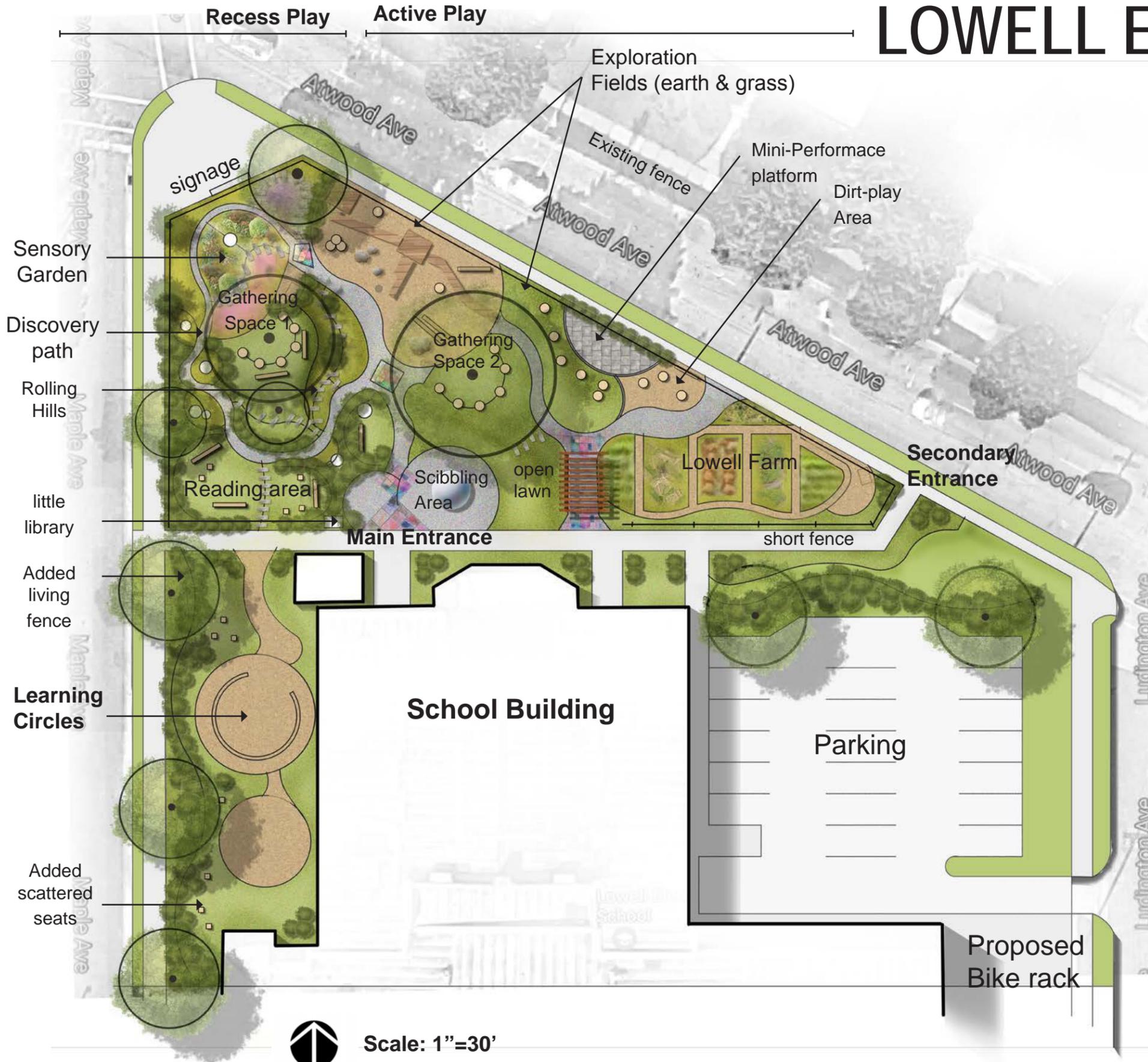


LOWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

401 Maple Ave, Madison, WI

LA451, Shiqi Tang, Feb, 8th/ 2017



Concept: "Go, and Explore!"

Mission Statement

The Goal of this project was to redesign the front yard of Lowell Elementary School. The design aims to utilize the space well and is focusing on nature play.

Guiding Principles

- 1) Utilize the space
- 2) Nature play (discover, mystery, learning)
- 3) kids-scale
- 4) sense of identity

Design Programs

- 1) Left: Recess play area; Right: Active play area
- 2) Recess (L) :
 - semi-hidded Reading area (w/ little library)
 - gentle rolling hill
 - discovery path w/ education zones
 - semi-hidded gathering/teaching space
 - sensory garden (Smell, touch, view, education)
- 3) Active (R) :
 - main entrance (flag pole, Earth sculpture, Scribbling area)
 - path w/ creative paving
 - exploration play fields (earth & grass)
 - gathering space & open lawn
 - mini performance platform
 - dirt play
 - Lowell farm & pergola



Per #1: Mainentrance

4. Open lawn

- slightly mound-up open lawn
- works as transitional zones
- adding interests in topography

3. Semi-hidden seating/ observing area

- Fence using shrubs
- all kids' scale:
shrub's heights: abt 3'
- still under the eyelevel of adults
(safety consideration)
- w/ cartoonish sculptures

1. Node paving

- incorporate existing artwork pattern on campus
- sense of identity
- better & more attractive wayfinding
- either by paints or by pavements



2. Scribbling area

- incorporate existing Earth Sculpture
- concrete paving for kids to scribble
- are erasable, aim for creativeness



Sec #1: Active Play. (A-A')



1. Gathering/ teaching space 2

- taking advantage of existing tree canopy nice in summer
- natural seatings

2.Exploration field (Earth & Grass)

- 2 kinds of pavement for diff favor
- grass one also works as bleachers for the nearby performance stage
- all natural play facilities, for creativeness



3. Mini-performance platform

- taking advantage of sloping down topography
- can work as play/performance area
- proposing for water collection zone underneath
- living fence 4' as background & safety issue

1. Reading area

- Recess reading area connected to the existing "Little Library"
- surrounded by living fence (4')
- various, moveable seatings, for creativity



existing "Little Library"

2. Discovery path(edu)

- curving path increase mystery
- 3 zones for kids to discover, all w/ diff themes, for education use as well
- hided w/ 2.5' -3' shrubs fence, kids scale. still visible for adults



Details see next page

3. Gathering space #1

- semi-hided(recess) gathering/teaching space

4. Rolling hill

- 1.5'-3' kid's scale gentle rolling hills, for exploration& increasing interests in topography
- a barrier to separate active path on right w/ the recess play area on left

Sec #2: Recess Play. (R-R')



3' path

Extention zone from Gathering spece #1

General description:

- curving path increase mystery
- 3 zones for kids to discover, all w/ diff themes, for education use as well
- each zones provided w/ diff sculpture/art works/ plants/ education boards; can change themes periodically
- hided w/ 2.5' -3' shrubs fence, kids scale. still visible for adults
- sense of identity

Various themes suggestion:



Choice #1: cartoon kingdom

- can provide cartoonish sculpture reflect diff native animal species, chance for kids learning animals.



Choice #2: artwork display

- can place good artwork done by students or teachers. encouragement of arts.



Choice #3: native bird edu

- may be placed near tree canopy, using bird bath/hand-craft nests, edu of protecting birds



Choice #4: native plants edu

- may be placed near entrance of sensory garden
- may display some typ. plants used in sensory garden

Per #2: Discovery path. (Recess)

