Big Changes Are Coming at St. James!

Introducing the St. James Campus Master Plan

With great joy and anticipation, we share this exciting plan to expand and improve our facilities

Building on our We Believe Strategic Plan, the Campus Master Plan outlines the facilities needed to bring our priorities to life. Through this plan, we will:

- Expand our middle school to a K-8 school by adding Kindergarten and Grades 1-3
- Improve accessibility and pedestrian pathways to connect buildings and green spaces, making the campus easier to navigate and use
- Build a full-size gym and auditorium as a hub for athletics, performances, and community gatherings





Dear St. James Community,

We hope this brochure provides a helpful overview of the Campus Master Plan. The full document is available on our website at stjamesphila.org/masterplan. There you can also learn how the plan was developed and who has been involved.

On these pages I want to convey our plans in the context of our goals so that you come away understanding the "what" and the "why."

The overarching goal is to serve the neighborhood with the same holistic intention with which St. James School has supported students and families since its founding in 2011.



Our Vision in Action

We want our future campus to be our Vision in action, creating spaces where education, relationships, and opportunity work together to bring us closer to "a world without inequities." We want it to be a Third Place – not home, not work – a community hub where all can gather, grow, and thrive together.

This plan preserves the best parts of the campus:

- Close connections among school, church, and community
- The nature of the campus as a green oasis
- The historic character of the campus and buildings
- The light-filled, welcoming interior spaces
- Visual connections between landmarks

The plan also addresses our highest priorities:

- Expand the school to serve four additional grades
- Develop a gym and auditorium
- Connect all parts of the campus
- Extend green space onto the former Royal Electric warehouse site
- Provide a safe and accessible route across Clearfield Street.





Funding and Construction

Funds to make these improvements are being raised through We Believe – The Campaign for St. James. We have begun by reaching out to individuals and foundations who may be willing and able to make major gifts. Everyone will be invited to participate at a later date.

We are grateful to have already received early support to get us started with Phase 1. We look forward to building on this momentum in the months ahead and keeping you updated.

Our current Phase 2 goal is to begin adding lower grades while advancing construction of a new gymnasium and auditorium, with an anticipated opening in the 2030–31 academic year. Timing will depend on fundraising progress and other factors.

I invite your comments. Please email them to dkasievich@stjamesphila.org or call 215-226-1276.

Dave

Dave Kasievich, Ed.D., *President & Head of School*

Start Here

This is the big picture. You will see more detail on the following pages. We refer to the area north of W. Clearfield St. as the **North Campus** and the area to the south as the **South Campus**. The North Campus remains a secure home for the School and Graduate Support, with controlled access. Students will only cross Clearfield St. to go to the gym-auditorium. The South Campus houses the Church of St. James the Less and the former Royal Electric warehouse, where The Welcome Table and Administration are already located. In this plan, we refer to the former warehouse as the "campus center." The South Campus will be a welcoming, open-access Third Space for the community, with buildings and grounds integrated for multiple uses and easy flow of foot traffic.

North Campus

South Campus

Campus Plan
Proposed Overall Campus Plan

North Campus: A Safe and Welcoming Space for Students and Graduates

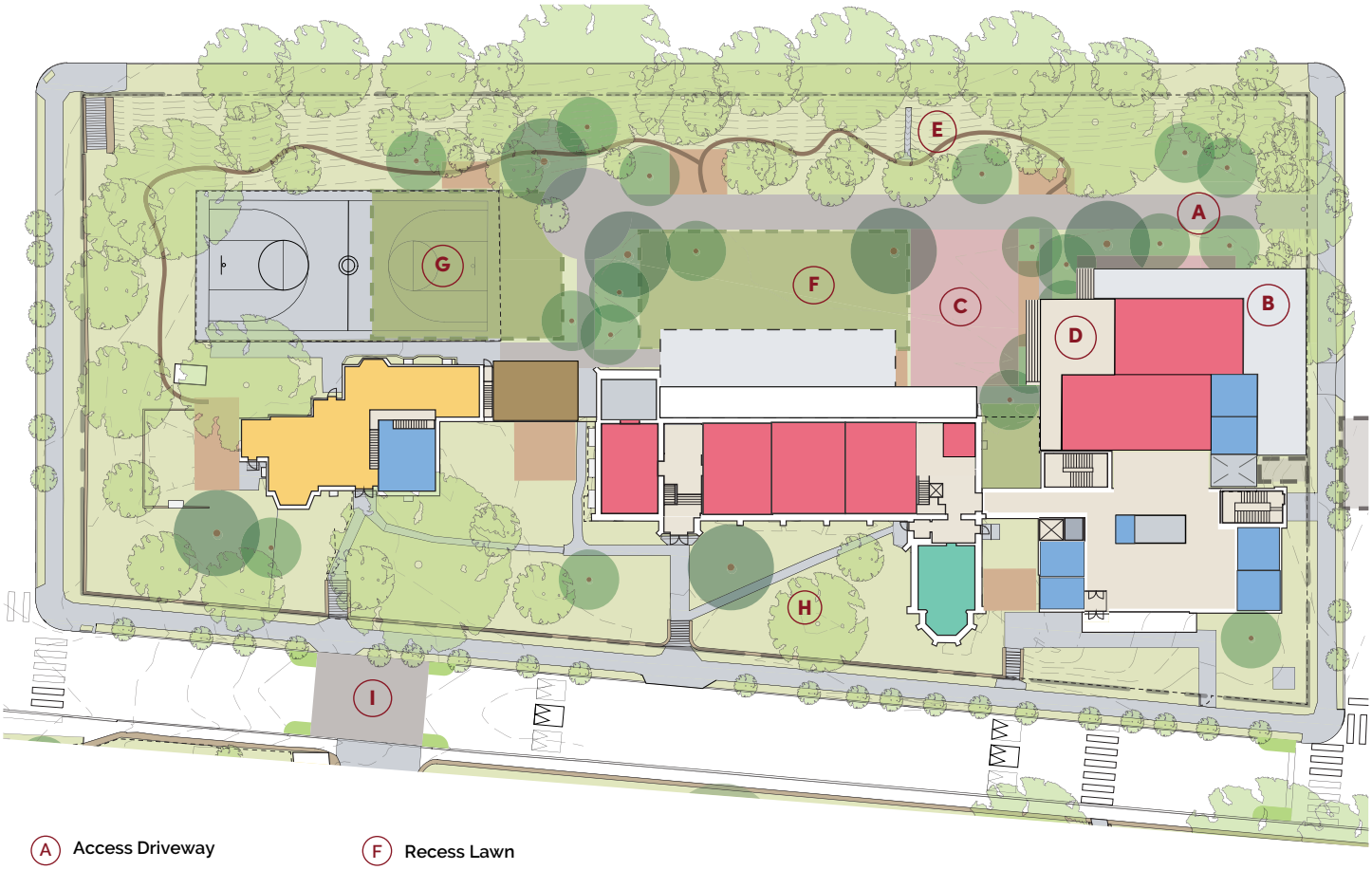
Fully fenced with controlled access through monitored gates

Outdoor improvements include two new playgrounds; one for Grades K-1, another for older students. Playing courts, fields, and a nature walk encourage physical activity while covered and open outdoor terraces invite quiet games and conversation. The covered terrace doubles as an outdoor classroom.

The Upper School and Lower School switch places. The historic Schoolhouse (currently the Lower School) is renovated and reconfigured as a state-of-the-art Upper School with classrooms for Grades 6-8 and a science lab.

The newer academic building (currently the Upper School) houses Grades K-5 and Graduate Support. With a three-story, 9,000 SF addition, the space accommodates six classrooms, Grades K-1 on the ground floor and Grades 2-5 on the second floor, as well as an expanded multipurpose entrance lobby, a new Wellness Center, a new Library/Learning Center, and rooms with high ceilings for choral and instrumental music.

All K-8 students can share meals in an expanded dining/community room on the ground floor.



- (A) Access Driveway
- (B) Grades K-1 Playground
- (C) Grades 2-5 Playground
- (D) Outdoor Classroom
- (E) Lippincott Nature Play Area
- (F) Recess Lawn
- (G) Possible Field Alternative
- (H) Existing Outdoor Spaces
- (I) Pedestrian Safety/Clearfield Crossings

North Campus Site Improvements
Proposed Site Plan

North Campus School Building Improvements
Floor Level Plan

2nd Floor

1st Floor

Ground Floor

South Campus: A Welcoming Space for the Community

Open access with paths to church and gym-auditorium

In the middle of the South Campus is the lychgate entrance to the churchyard and, facing that, a second floor entrance to the former warehouse (new campus center) through a lobby with bathrooms and elevators to the ground floor.

St. David's Field expands onto the campus center roof. The Yellow Brick Road, new garden areas, and accessible pathways connect the middle of the South Campus to entrances from W. Clearfield St. and W. Hunting Park Ave.

Part of the campus center roof is raised to accommodate the upper level entrance and a full-size gym-auditorium that can host up to 400 people for events. The campus center already houses The Welcome Table and Administration. It will also house a catering kitchen and lobby adjacent to the gym-auditorium, a Building Trades education and workshop suite, the facilities maintenance department, and storage space.

Raised table crossing and traffic-calming elements on W. Clearfield St. will provide safe passage between the North and South Campus. Parking spaces will remain.

The Church is the heart of the South Campus, with pathways and entrances oriented toward the lychgate and churchyard.

South Campus Site Improvements
Proposed Site Plan

Campus Center Improvements
Floor Level Plan

2nd Floor

Ground Floor



The Campus Master Plan is guided by our **Vision** of a world without inequities.

It further fulfills our **Mission** as a faith-based educational community deeply rooted in transformative loving relationships.

It is inspired by our **Values**:

- Belief that every person is a child of God
- Recognition that every moment is an opportunity for learning
- A deep commitment to listening, discerning, and growing together
- The determination to create disruptive change around educational, wealth, health, and other disparities
- Reverence for the dignity of every human person
- Partnership with other advocates for social justice

ST·JAMES SCHOOL

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