

CORNERSTONE ACADEMY



Our History

Why We Came to Be. The Need for Cornerstone Charter Academy (CCA)

- In 2006, representatives of Pine Castle Christian Academy and then Mayor Bill Brooks met to discuss the future of their school and possible options to become a charter school. By 2007, there were discussions of closing a variety of public schools including Pine Castle Elementary (PCE). Mayor Brooks approached Edgewood Mayor Mike Teague to inquire of their assessment of the public schools and their impact on their city. The mayors approached a group who were trying to save PCES from closure to offer assistance. Ultimately, they coordinated an effort to convert it to a charter, gaining support of the parents but not enough teachers, and they withdrew from the effort.
- Belle Isle validated in a mail survey that long time residents were moving to better school districts. Belle Isle and Edgewood communities were clearly being impacted by a lack of quality public school options that could serve the respective cities' residents. Many residents were reluctant to send their children to Oak Ridge High School. (Orlando Sentinel, June 5, 2009). Walker Middle was also not high performing. The elementary schools in the area, Shenandoah and Pine Castle were highly rated, but PCES was on the list of schools to be closed due to financial hardship.
- Mayor Brooks, with the support of Mayor Teague saw the need of having a quality, local "school of choice" that would strengthen the cities' neighborhoods and increase the sense of community. The idea of opening a new high-quality charter school was foundational to building a long-term, sustainable community for the children and families of Belle Isle and Edgewood as well as the unincorporated areas nearby. Additionally, the burgeoning Medical City in Lake Nona was another catalyst to creating a school of choice in a municipality.
- Academica, a nationally recognized educational service provider for public charter schools with a track record of success in serving high performing, financially sound schools, was chosen to assist in making this huge undertaking into a success.
- A cooperative agreement with Somerset Academy allowed the new school to participate in an established, accredited high performing charter school network.
- Consequently, in October 2009, the Orange County Public School Board gave the approval for two (2) new charters.

Chronology of Key Moments

- 08/03/2009 Charter school application for a charter in a municipality is submitted to Orange County Public Schools (OCPS).
- 10/13/2009 OCPS approves the charter applications for Pine Castle Academy.
- 1/25/2010 Not for Profit Charter School Governing Board is Incorporated.
- 1/27/2010 Governing Board approves Bylaws. (Article 2 Purpose stated: “Each School shall operate as a charter-school- in a-municipality, pursuant to F.S. 1002.33 (15))”.
- 2/2/2010 Governing Board approves submission of charter application as written. Also, the Governing Board decides to name the school “Cornerstone Charter Academy”.
- 3/16/2010 Lease of property (not including sanctuary) from Pine Castle United Methodist Church is approved by Governing Board.
- 3/30/2010 Contract executed between the Governing Board and OCPS for the two (2) new schools (K-8 and 9-12).
- 4/6/2010 Governing Board approves Academica as the Educational Service Provider.
- 4/28/2010 Governing Board approves Somerset Cooperating Agreement.
- 1/25/2012 The Cornerstone Governing Board unanimously approves the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Belle Isle, Governing Board and Orange County School Board for Waltham Avenue traffic control.

Chronology of Key Moments (continued)

- 6/13/2012 City of Belle Isle approves Resolutions 12-07 and 12-08 to issue bond to finance acquisition of former Pine Castle United Methodist Church property secured by a first mortgage and pledge of charter revenue.
- 6/27/2012 Governing Board approves the appointment of Dr. Renee Pancoast as Principal.
- 9/26/2012 Governing Board approves the adoption of the resolution to execute Revised Lease Agreement and Bond.
- 9/26/2012 Amendment to the Bylaws is adopted to remove the language that had previously included the City of Edgewood's involvement.
- 9/21/2015 The Governing Board adopts new Bylaws to reflect the Board's original intent for its organizational structure to remain independent of the cities and remain in full conformity with the bond sale, structure, charters and lease.
- 3,4,5/2016 Governing Board Chair Brooks, Belle Isle Mayor Pisano, OCPS Office of School Choice Director Dr. Chris Bernier discuss and agree upon revisions to Governing Board Bylaws to satisfy city's concerns, as adopted by the City.

Chronology of Key Moments (continued)

- 6/22/2016 Governing Board approves the changes to the Bylaws as negotiated with and approved by the City regarding selection of Governing Board seats. Changes were for then Mayor, Lydia Pisano, of the City of Belle Isle, Florida, to immediately join the Cornerstone Charter Board as a voting member. Upon Mayor Pisano leaving the Office of Mayor of the City of Belle Isle, Florida, the position of Mayor, City of Belle Isle, Florida will become a non-voting ex-officio Board seat on the Cornerstone Charter Governing Board. In April 2017, upon the expiration of the current terms of two (2) Cornerstone Charter Governing Board members, the positions will only be filled by nominations of non-elected individuals submitted for confirmation by the City Council of Belle Isle. These positions shall be subject to confirmation of the Cornerstone Charter Governing Board. If the nominees are not confirmed by the Charter Governing Board, the City shall submit new nominees for consideration by the Cornerstone Governing Board until the position are filled.
- 6/26/2019 Governing Board approves most recent City nominees to the Governing Board, Mrs. Charlyne Cross and Ralph Armstead.
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Cornerstone Charter Academy: What We Are All About

Mission

The mission of the Cornerstone Charter Academy is to provide a college preparatory educational environment with a curricular emphasis on biotechnology and life sciences that furthers the philosophy of respect and high expectations for all, enabling students to become confident, self-directed, and responsible life-long learners

Vision

To provide a top shelf, innovative, public education opportunity of choice in a safe, sound environment which:

- Has as its foundation a solid, core academic curriculum;
- Offers curricular emphasis on life sciences and biotechnology;
- Attracts families to live in our community;
- Employs talented and passionate teachers and administrators;
- Utilizes technology tools conducive to advanced learning;
- Substantially involves parents, community and corporate partners;
- Provides a full spectrum of extracurricular activities;
- Instills a sense of community service and pride; and
- Prepares our students for college and a fulfilling, meaningful career.

CORNERSTONE ACADEMY



Student Achievement, Data, & Comparative Analyses

Enrollment

March 2019

K-5	6-8	9-12	Total
600	399	471	1470

March 2019

FEDERAL RACE CATEGORY	Student Count	Percentage
American Indian/AK National	9	0.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	71	4.8%
Black	136	9.2%
Multiracial	54	3.7%
White	1200	81.6%
FEDERAL ETHNICITY		
Non-Hispanic	983	66.84%
Hispanic	488	33.16%

School Grades

	K-8	9-12
2010-2011	A	N/A
2011-2012	A	A
2012-2013	B	A
2013-2014	A	A
2014-2015	A	A
2015-2016	A	A
2016-2017	A	B
2017-2018	A	A
2018-2019	A	A

- **Special Note:** Approximately 23% of the students are from Belle Isle and 10% from Edgewood.
- 345 Belle Isle Residents = 23%
- 146 Edgewood Residents = 10%

Special Note (City of Belle Isle Demographics):

White	83%
Hispanic	11.1%
Black	2.7%
Multiracial	1.1%

Source City-Data.com from 2010 Census

Special Note: CCA High School has had a 99%-100% Graduation Rate for the last three years far surpassing the State & National figures.

Comparative Analyses (Overview)

	CCA	Orange	State
3rd Grade Reading	73	55	56
3rd Grade Math	69	60	61
4th Grade Reading	69	55	55
4th Grade Math	70	61	62
5th Grade Reading	74	53	54
5th Grade Math	70	56	57
6th Grade Reading	67	51	52
6th Grade Math	62	41	52
7th Grade Reading	61	49	51
7th Grade Math	71	48	53
8th Grade Reading	71	54	56
8th Grade Math	49	34	46
5th Grade Science	82	52	53
8th Grade Science	59	49	48
7th Grade Civics	83	66	69
Middle & K-8 Biology	99	90	91
Middle & K-8 Algebra I	86	80	86
Middle & K-8 Geometry	87	92	94
9th Grade Reading	64	50	53
10th Grade Reading	70	49	51
High School Algebra I	55	28	40
High School Geometry	50	50	52
High School Biology	76	64	64
High School U.S. History	91	66	68

CCA Outperformed the District in 22 of 24 (92%) state tests and outperformed the State in 21 of 24 (88%) state tests.

Source: FLDOE Website

Comparative Analyses Overview:
CCA vs. Orange & State

(5 year average – 2015-2019)

Comparative Analyses (continued)

AP School Summary					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total AP Students	138	178	174	152	141
Number of Exams	222	286	316	281	287
AP Students with Scores 3+	53	79	104	101	99
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+	38	44	60	66	70

In 2017-18, CCA High School had the 4th highest pass rate among all Orange County high schools and charter schools. The 57% pass rate far exceeded the national average of 24%

Source: Orlando Sentinel, February 2019 obtained from the College Board

Comparative Analyses (continued)

Neighboring Schools

Elementary/K-8/Middle		
	2018	2019
Passport Charter	B	C
Blankner K-8	A	A
Pershing Pine Castle Elementary	B	C
Conway Elementary	C	B
Conway Middle	C	C
Shenandoah Elementary	A	C
Walker Middle	D	C
Cornerstone Charter Academy K-8	A	A

High Schools		
	2018	2019
Oak Ridge	C	B
Cypress Creek	B	B
Boone	A	A
Cornerstone Charter Academy	A	A

Source: FLDOE Website

Additional Superlatives

Academic Awards

- 2014 Pine Castle Woman's Club Essay Contest 1st Place
- 2014 School Speech Contest 3rd Place District Competition
- 2015 Pine Castle Woman's Club Essay Contest 2nd Place
- 2016 Pine Castle Woman's Club Essay Contest 1st Place
- 2016 School Speech Contest 2nd Place District Competition
- 2017 Pine Castle Woman's Club Essay Contest 3rd Place
- 2017-18 FLDOE High School of Excellence – One of only three High Schools in Orange County
- 2017-2018 Duke Tips-Top 96%tile of FSA/Gifted-fifth grade-30 students and 7th grade-37 students in 2017-2018
- 2019 Pine Castle Woman's Club Essay Contest 2nd Place
- 2019-2021 National PTA School of Excellence

Athletic Awards/Extra-Curricular Awards

- 2012 Patriot Games Fast Pitch Classic 2nd Place
- 2014 Class 3A Girls Softball Champions
- 2014 Girls Basketball Class 3A Championship
- 2015 Class 3A Girls Softball Champions Runner-Up

- 2015 Class 3A Girls Volleyball Championship District Runner Up
- 2016-2017 Class 4A Girls Basketball District Runner Up
- 2017-2018 Girls Softball Championship District Champions
- 2018 Photographers Forum Magazine Competition Finalist-2 published in magazine and 1 hardcover book
- 2018-2019 Girls Softball 3A Championship District Champions
- 2018 Girls Softball State Runner Up
- 2017-2018 Girls Basketball District Runner Up District Competition
- 2018-2019 Girls Class 4A Basketball Champion Runner Up
- 2019 Tennis District Champions
- 2019 Bright Star- Applause Award for: Outstanding Musical, Cast, Outstanding Design
- 2019 K-12 Dance Marathon- Service Learning Club donates over \$32,000 to charity
- 2019 Jefferson Service Learning Gold Award in Washington, DC
- 2019 Winter Park Art Festival Multiple Awards of Distinction and Honorable Mention

Scholarships & Colleges/Universities

2017-2018 School Year

Post High School Placement

- 56% matriculated to 4-year colleges
- 37% matriculated to 2-year institutions
- 7% selected work, military service or technical instruction

Colleges Acceptances & Attended by Cornerstone Academy Graduates from the Class of 2018

- Airforce, United States
- Alabama, University of
- Arizona Western College
- Army, United States
- Bethune Cookman University
- Central Florida, University of
- Eastern Florida State College
- Flagler College
- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Florida, University of
- Florida Southern University

Awards and Distinctions, 2017-2018

- 21 National Honor Society Graduates
- 8 Certified Bio-technician Assistants
- 4 Theatre District Superiors
- 4 Theatre State Superiors
- Over \$700,000 in scholarship awards

- Florida State University
- Full Sail
- Georgia State University
- North Florida, University of
- Rollins College
- Stetson College
- South Florida, University of
- Texas A&M
- Valencia College
- Warner University
- West Florida, University of

2018-2019 School Year

Post High School Placement

- 41% matriculated to 4-year colleges
- 45% matriculated to 2-year institutions
- 14% selected work, military service or technical instruction

Awards and Distinctions, 2018-2019

- High School Disney Dreamer & Doer Award
- Disney Shining Star Recipient
- Jefferson Service Learning Award
- MLK Humanitarian Award Recipient
- National Merit Finalists (2017 and 1 upcoming 2020)
- 2 Associates of Arts degrees earned upon high school graduation (1 pending for 2020).
- Approximately 25% of our graduating students earn the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
- Over \$892,000 in scholarship awards

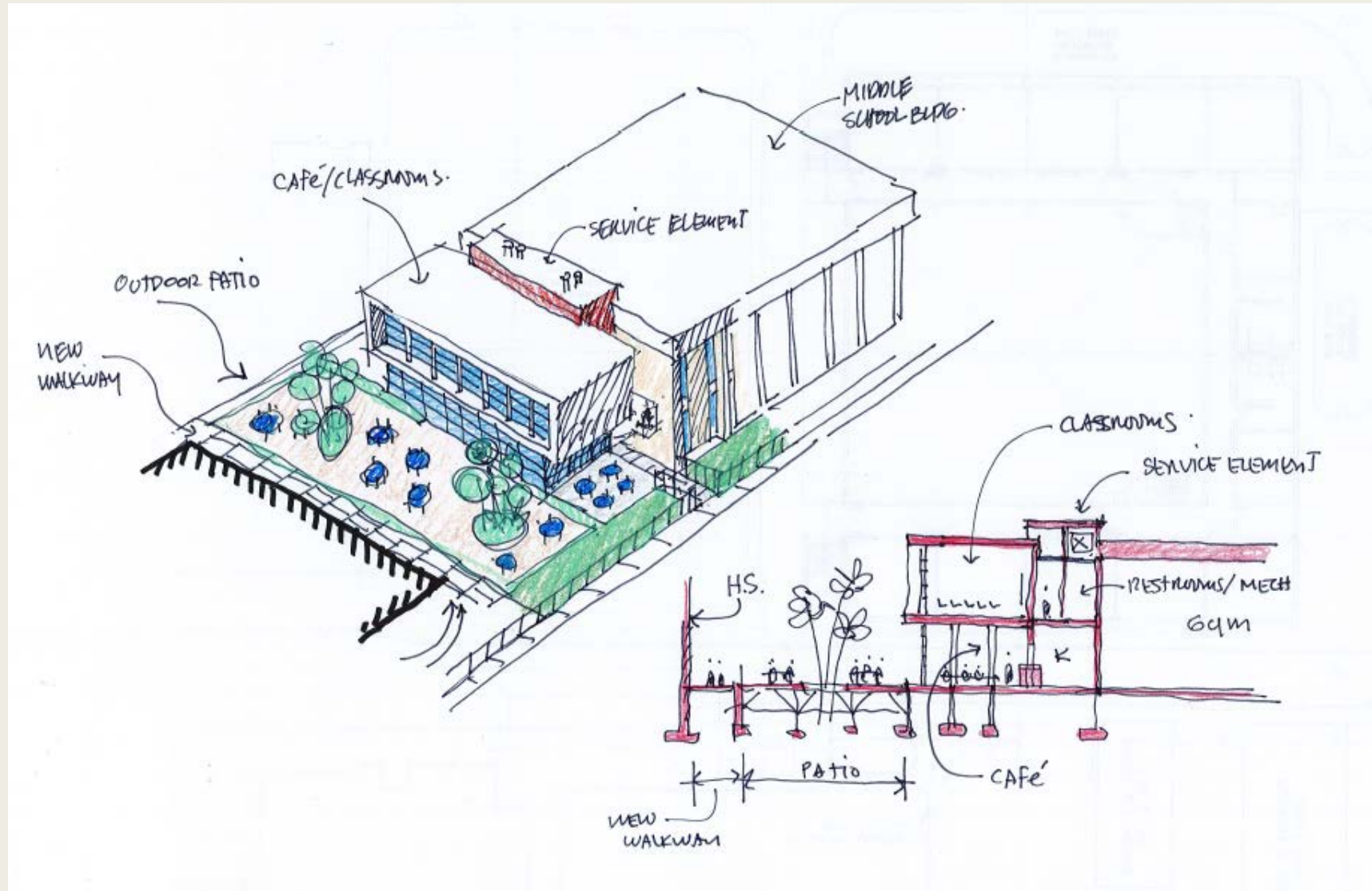
Colleges Acceptances & Attended by Cornerstone Academy Graduates from the Class of 2018

- Adventist University
- Air Force, United States
- Alabama, University of
- Army, United States
- Berklee College of Music
- Bethune Cookman University
- City of New York College
- Central Florida, University of
- Chatam University
- Eastern State College
- Emory University
- Florida Atlantic University
- Flagler College
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Florida, University of
- Florida Keys College
- Florida Polytechnic University
- Florida Southern University
- Florida State University
- Full Sail University
- Georgia State University
- Harding University
- Johnson & Wales University
- Louisiana State University
- Miami, University of
- Mississippi, University of
- Naval Academy, United States
- New York Film Academy
- North Carolina, University of
- North Florida, University of
- Ohio State University
- Palm Beach State College
- Polk State College
- Rollins College
- Rutgers University
- Santa Fe College
- Seminole State College
- Stetson University
- South Florida, University of
- Southern Vermont College
- Taylor University
- Troy University
- Valencia College
- West Florida, University

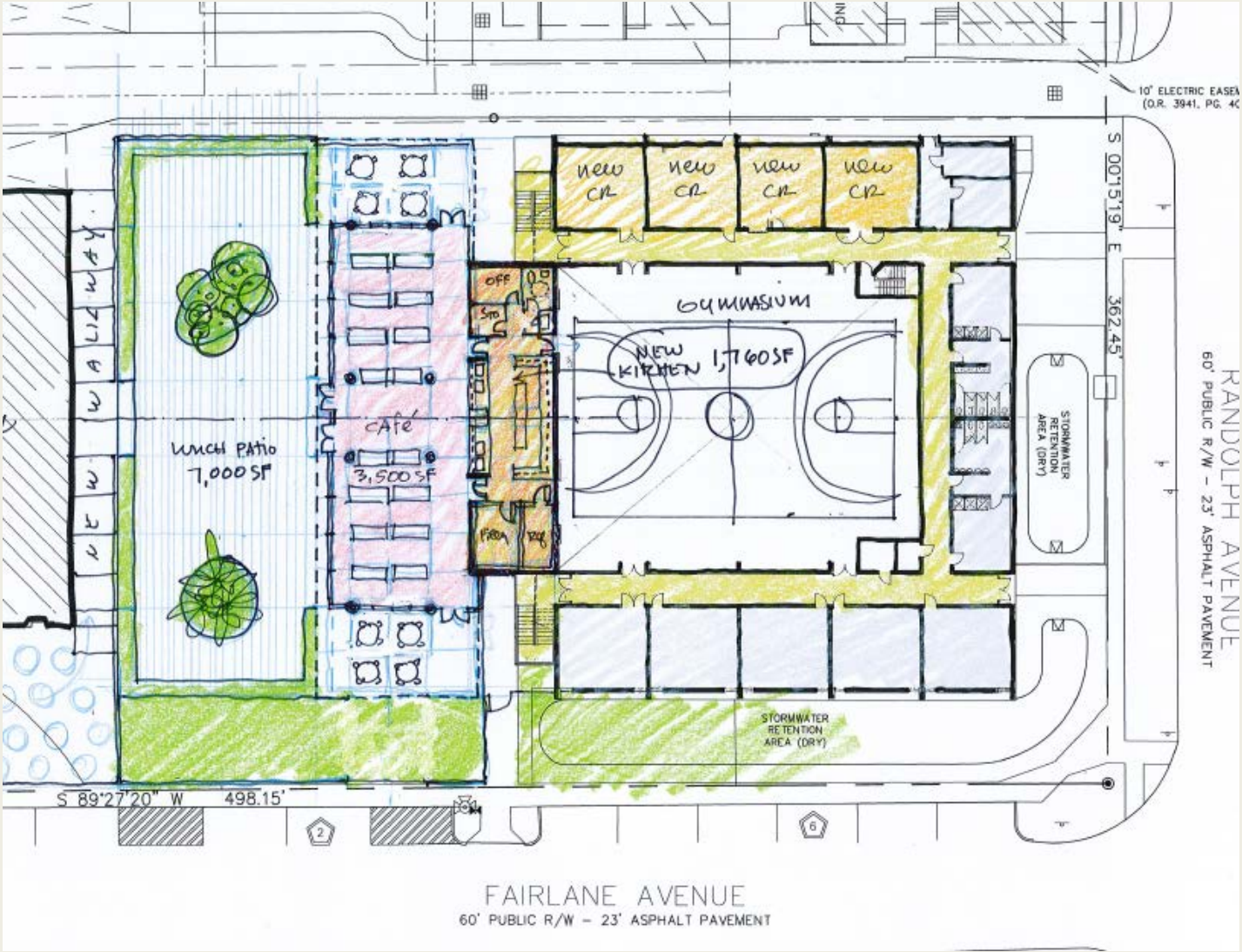
Cornerstone Master Plan



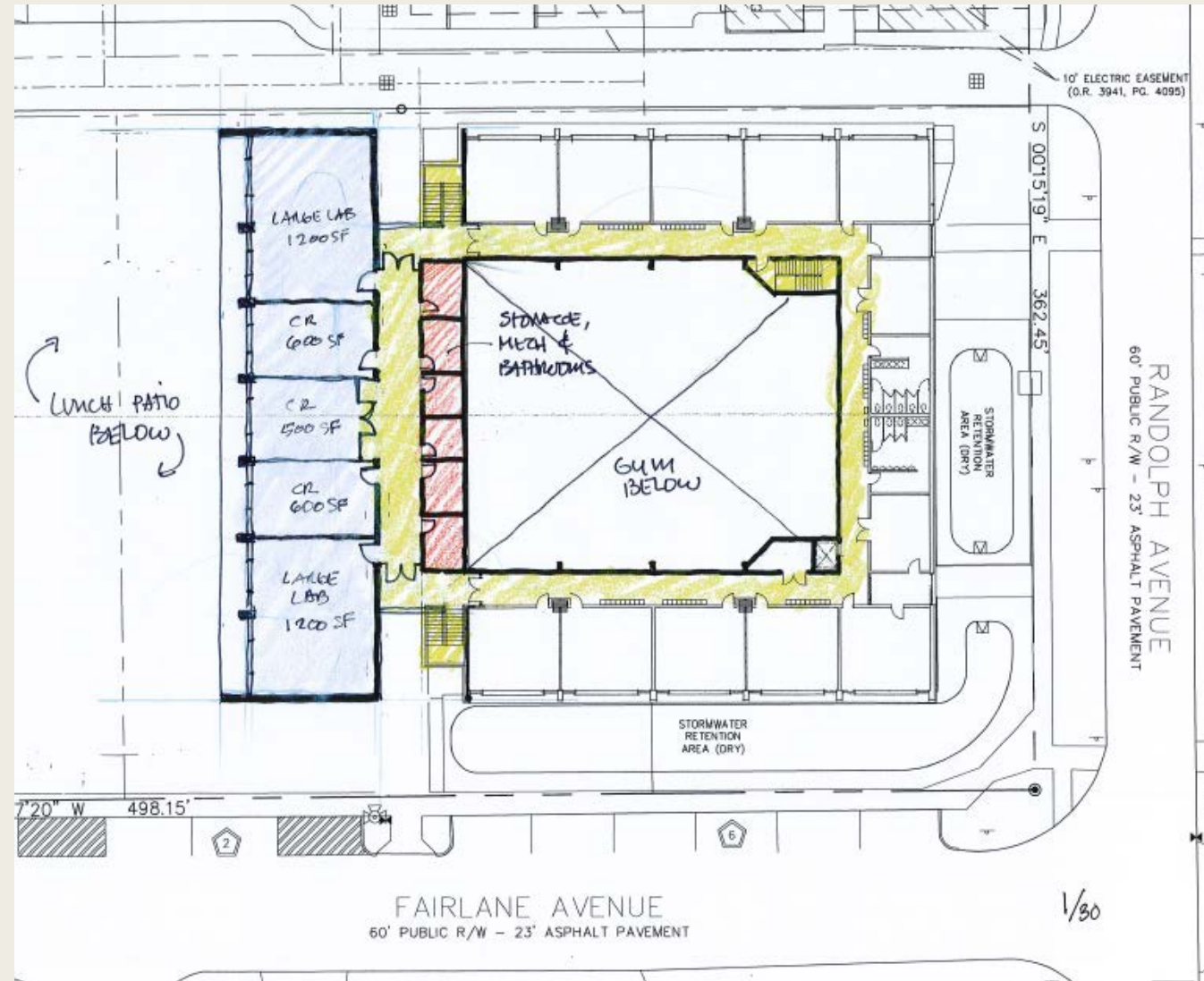
Middle / Multi Purpose Expansion



First Floor Middle / Multi Purpose



Second Floor Middle / Multi Purpose



Current Funding Proposals by Cornerstone to City

- The Governing Board has made the following offers to the City of Belle Isle to facilitate financing that would allow Cornerstone to maintain and expand to keep pace with our growth and vision:
 - • CCA Acquisition of Property from Belle Isle
 - • CCA Ground Lease from Belle Isle
 - • CCA-Belle Isle lease modification to allow CCA to refund existing Belle Isle debt, fund the expansion and assume maintenance of the school property, with Belle Isle remaining owner/landlord of the entire property.

CORNERSTONE ACADEMY



Unique Features

A unique challenge for Cornerstone is the expectation of our community to provide a rigorous educational experience that rivals, and often exceeds that of the neighboring public schools. This is balanced with a high expectation to serve the needs of a broad diversity of learners in a manner that individualizes learning for each student. Many of our parents are highly educated professionals who recognize the importance of education and maintain high expectations for the level of education their children receive.

Programs

- Students are met where they are academically challenged. Teachers use differentiated instruction and highly individualized learning so that every student will maximize their social-emotional and academic potential
- Providing a rigorous curriculum that prepares students for college and career with the following academic opportunities:
 - Gifted programs in K-12.
 - Honors and Pre-Advanced Placement Program in Middle School with the opportunity to take High School credit starting in 7th grade.
 - Advanced Placement courses at the High School level
 - Early college through Dual Enrollment in college courses while in high school and the opportunity to complete two years of college prior to high school graduation
 - Robust arts program K-12 that enhances the academic experiences
 - Extensive K-12 Project Lead the Way program.