

1. Why are we introducing multi-user, all-access restrooms?

Answer:

The move to create multi-user, all-access restrooms is driven by our commitment to improving the overall restroom experience for all students. Our goals are to:

- Enhance **safety** through improved supervision and design.
- Improve **cleanliness** by designing an easier-to-maintain space
- Improve **comfort and accessibility** for all students.

Feedback from surveys and Panorama data has shown that many students feel the current restroom experience could be better. This new design focuses on creating a more positive environment by enhancing supervision, promoting accountability, and ensuring improved cleanliness for all students. Our goal is to provide restrooms that are welcoming, safe, and meet the needs of every student.

Additionally, **SB 760**, signed into law in 2023, requires that by **July 2026**, all schools in California provide at least one **all-gender restroom** that is safe, accessible, and clean. This move aligns us with state requirements while prioritizing the needs of our students.

2. Will gender-specific restrooms still be available on campus?

Answer:

Yes, gender-specific restrooms will remain available throughout campus. The addition of multi-user, all-access restrooms is about **providing more options** to meet the needs of all students. This approach ensures that all students feel safe and comfortable using restroom facilities that suit them best.

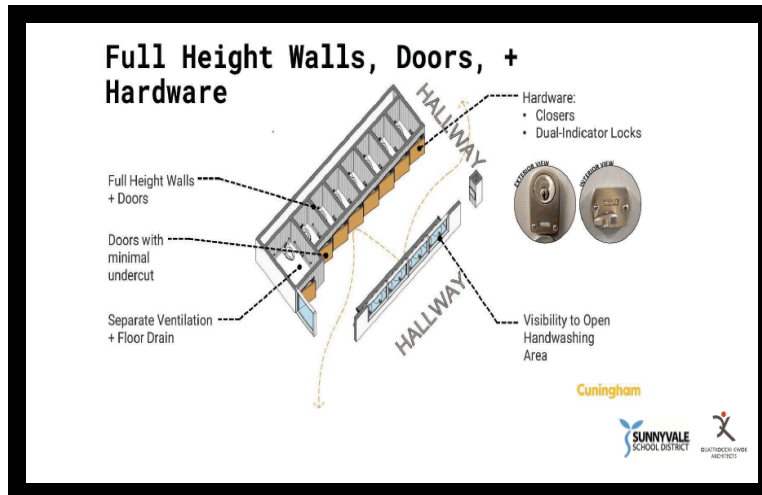
3. What will the design of these multi-user, all-access restrooms look like?

Answer:

The restrooms are designed with safety, privacy, and comfort as top priorities:

- Each stall will be a **fully enclosed space** with floor-to-ceiling partitions and doors, ensuring privacy.
- The stalls will not have gaps at the top or bottom, unlike traditional bathroom stalls.
- Shared sink areas will be located in **open, visible spaces** outside the stalls.
- Fixtures will be modern and easy to maintain, improving cleanliness.

This design promotes **supervision** while providing **maximum privacy** to restroom users.



4. How will safety and supervision be improved with these restrooms?

Answer:

The new restrooms are specifically designed to address common restroom issues such as vandalism, bullying, and inappropriate behavior. Safety measures include:

- Open and visible sink areas where staff can more easily monitor activity.
- Fully enclosed stalls that provide **privacy** without compromising safety.
- Strategic placement of the restrooms in areas with regular foot traffic and staff presence.
- Each door has a lock that clearly shows from the outside when a stall is vacant or occupied.

This approach allows staff to more effectively supervise restrooms, reducing incidents and creating a safer environment.

5. Are these restrooms required by law? What does SB 760 require?

Answer:

Yes, SB 760 requires that by July 1, 2026, all schools in California have at least one all-gender restroom that meets the following criteria:

- Safe, clean, and accessible for all students.
- Compliant with ADA requirements.

While this law mandates single-user all-gender restrooms, we are proactively designing multi-user, all-access restrooms to ensure the safety, comfort, and inclusivity of all students while addressing current campus needs for improved restroom experiences.

6. Will my student be forced to use an all-access restroom?

Answer:

No. Students will not be required to use multi-user, all-access restrooms. Traditional **gender-specific restrooms** will remain available throughout campus. The all-access restrooms are an **additional option** for students who feel more comfortable using them.

7. How will students feel comfortable using these restrooms?

Answer:

We intend to have focus groups, surveys, and collaboration meetings with both students and staff to make this process as transparent as we can.

The design also prioritizes **privacy** with fully enclosed stalls and no visibility into individual spaces. This layout ensures students feel secure while using the restroom. By also improving supervision we are creating a more comfortable environment for all.

8. Have these types of restrooms been successful in other schools?

Answer:

Yes, schools across California and other states have implemented similar restrooms with **positive outcomes**:

- Decreased incidents of bullying and inappropriate behavior.
- Improved cleanliness due to better supervision.
- Increased comfort for students, especially those who may not feel safe or comfortable using gender-specific restrooms.

We are designing these restrooms using best practices and lessons learned from other successful implementations.

9. How will privacy be ensured in multi-user, all-access restrooms?

Answer:

Privacy is ensured through fully enclosed restroom stalls, which feature:

- Floor-to-ceiling walls and doors.
- Locking mechanisms for security.
- No visibility gaps, unlike traditional stalls.

The shared sink area remains open and visible, but individual stall spaces are completely private.

10. How will the school address concerns about misuse or inappropriate behavior?

Answer:

The design of the restrooms, with open sink areas and improved supervision, reduces opportunities for misuse. Additionally:

- Staff will monitor high-traffic areas as part of their regular routines.
- Behavioral expectations will be clearly communicated to students.
- Security cameras are able to be installed and oriented at that common sink area to increase student accountability.

11. How do these restrooms support students who may have special needs or health concerns?

Answer:

The fully enclosed stalls provide added privacy for students who may require medical devices, health-related accommodations, or assistance. The design also complies with ADA accessibility standards, ensuring inclusivity for all students.

12. Will students have enough restroom options during passing periods?

Answer:

Yes. Multi-user, all-access restrooms are designed to accommodate multiple students at once, while gender-specific restrooms remain available. This ensures ample access during busy times like passing periods

13. Why can't cameras and drains (for cleanliness and safety) be added to separate male/female restrooms instead of implementing the more open-concept design?

Answer: The open-concept design enhances cleanliness and safety primarily through improved supervision and accountability. Traditional restroom designs limit visibility, making it difficult for site staff to supervise effectively. The open design, combined with the addition of cameras (if approved), allows for better monitoring, which helps address many cleanliness and safety issues inherent in the current setup

14. Will there be enough single-room, all-gender, handicapped-accessible restrooms scattered throughout the campus to meet legal requirements and provide adequate coverage?

Answer: Yes. Our design team will conveniently locate restrooms throughout the campus for students to use throughout the day.

15. Will extra time be given to students to access the restroom of their choice without being forced to use the closest restroom if it doesn't meet their needs?

Answer: At this time additional time during passing periods is not a consideration.

16. Has the design team considered implementing a reporting system (e.g., a button) for cleanliness and safety concerns instead of incorporating a lighting system for available stalls?

Answer: This has not been discussed as an option. Although the recommendation is good, there may be some operational issues with that approach on a middle school campus. Inaccurate or excessive use of that type of button could negatively impact the many other daily custodial responsibilities of our staff.

17. If cameras are approved for safety monitoring, has the additional staffing required to monitor them been considered?

Answer: The installed cameras would not be actively monitored. The camera footage would only be reviewed when there is an incident.

This approach will decrease the amount of staff time currently used to conduct interviews and investigations into incidents that happen on campus or in the restrooms.

18. How will you provide safety for the girls? How will you protect the girls from inappropriate exposure to male parts or being taunted by the boys?

Answer: The open concept allows for increased supervision; along with the addition of security cameras this allows site staff to monitor and maintain a safe environment for all users in the all-access restroom area.