# School Building Science Fridays™

Calming The Indoor Environment: Creating That Just Right Feeling

February 11, 2022 Welcome!





Better buildings. Better students.

# About GBRI





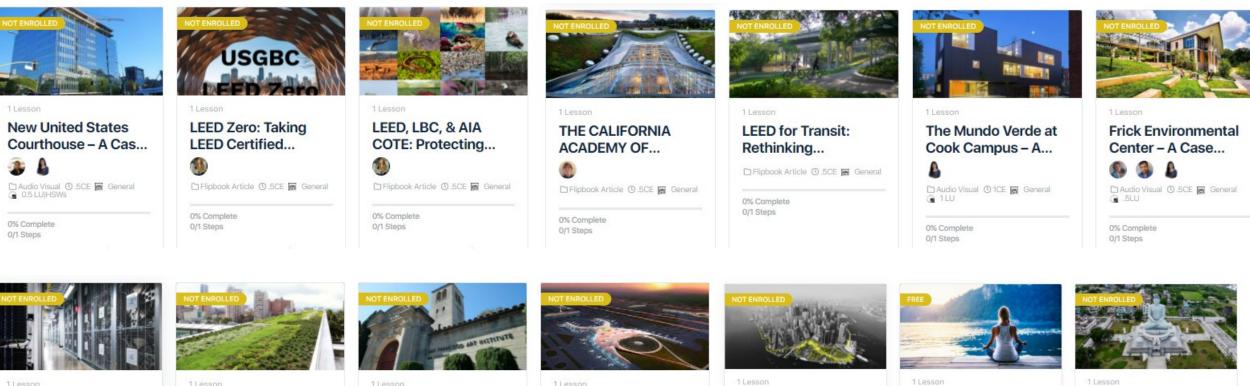




The American Institute of Architects



#### About GRRI



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#### Learn More: www.gbrionline.org/scholarship/

#### **GBRI Climate Change Games Are Here!**



Earn all our climate change badges

#### Sign up for free! Register Now! February 16 2022





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Become a Climate Change Ambassador







#### Approved for 1 HSW LU

Green Building Research Institute Provider Number: 40119134

A certificate of completion will be sent via email within 24 hours of today's session.

## With Gratitude to Our Sponsors



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# Housekeeping

- Reminder: This session is being recorded.
- Post questions at any time in Q&A box and comments at any time in Chat box.
- Please stay on mute and turn off your video.
- Recording and slides will be emailed to registrants and will be available on-demand on both CHPS and GBRI websites.
- Resources at end of deck for further learning.

# Today's Webinar

- Welcome & Introduction: Elisabeth Krautscheid, CHPS
- Speaker Presentations:
  - Aaron Jobson, Partner & CEO, QKA, aaronj@qka.com



- Irene Nigaglioni, President, IN2 Architecture, irene@in2arch.com
- Audience Questions



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CHPS aspires to make every school an ideal place to learn



Better buildings. Better students.

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# Our Values

- All schools can be high performance
- Schools are unique environments
- Working collaboratively produces the best results for our schools and students
- High performance schools bring real benefits
  - Healthier teachers and students
  - Better student performance
  - Reduced operating costs



# Our Impact

- Over **700** schools have been recognized as meeting the CHPS Criteria
- CHPS Criteria is in use in 14 states and has been adopted as the construction standard in over 60 public school districts.

Chartwell – Seaside, CA

## What Is School Building Science?

- The body of knowledge that informs the design, construction, operations, and occupancy of school buildings for the benefit of students, educators, staff, and the environment.
- The body of knowledge about the built environment that impacts how children learn and thrive.



Mapleton Adventure School – Mapleton, CO

#### Learning Objectives



- 1. Identify the built environment stressors on users, especially those with trauma, sensory processing disorder, and anxiety or other emotional disorders.
- 2. Define the characteristics and qualities of a high performance school.
- 3. List the attributes of the built environment that positively impact learning and user experience.
- 4. Assess existing schools and determine changes and alterations needed to improve the environment for users, incorporating the high performance schools criteria.

# What does it mean to calm a space?

The Goldilocks Principle:

not too hot, not too cold, not too big, not too small...

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#### Characteristics that inform us

#### Trauma or Anxiety

- Emotional outbursts or trouble paying attention when environmental conditions change or during a perceived threat
- Trouble relating to others or being near others
- Fear of certain spaces, like long corridors
- Crave quiet, alone time
- Fear of dim spaces

#### Sensory Processing

- Overstimulated by light, sound, temperature, or smells
- Disrupted when the environment changes
- Disrupted upon seeing visual textures or certain colors
- Overstimulated in crowded, loud spaces like cafeterias or gymnasiums
- Tendency to bump into things or to touch things
- Need to move or seek out stimulation

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Everyone!

Especially those with trauma, sensory processing disorder, and anxiety or other emotional disorder.

When we design for the sensitive ones, we benefit all.

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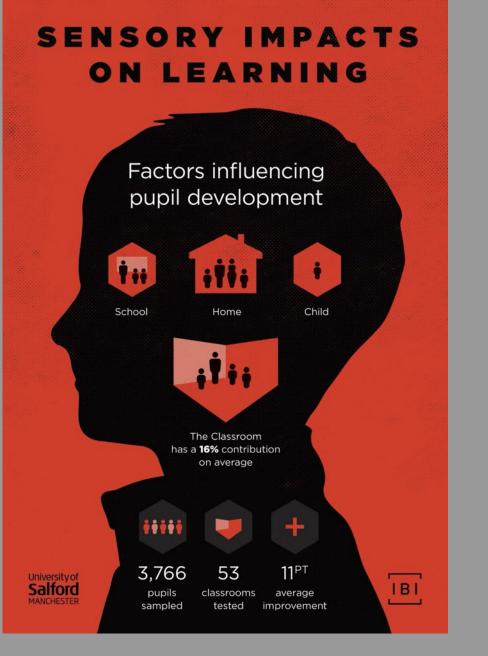
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#### High Performance = Low Stress

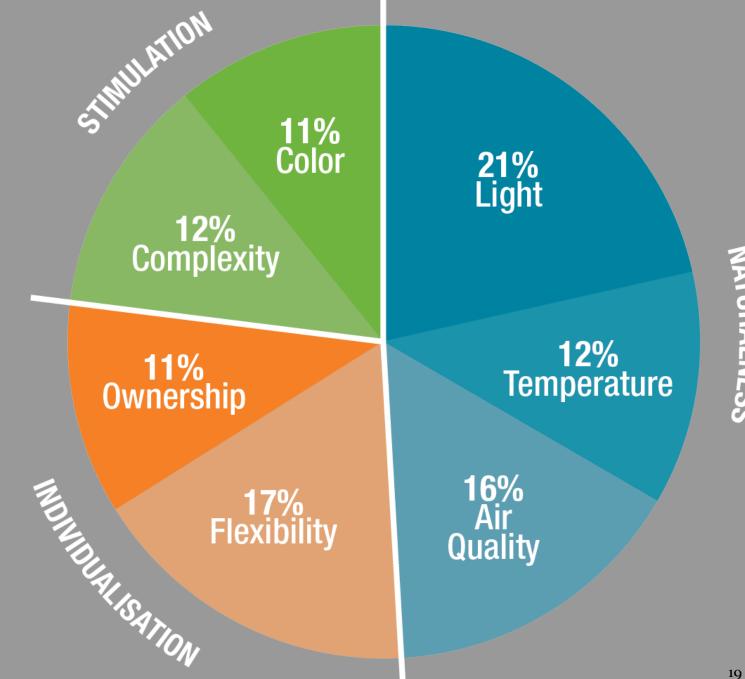
- Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)
- Ventilation
- Acoustics
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)
- Temperature
- Views to nature
- Daylight and lighting
- Safety and Security



Better buildings. Better students.



http://usir.salford.ac.uk/id/eprint/35221/



# NATURALNESS

**0.65** Impact, in grade levels, of moving an average child from the worst classroom to the best

#### Academic Achievement

Factors affecting the gap between the highest and lowest achieving students.

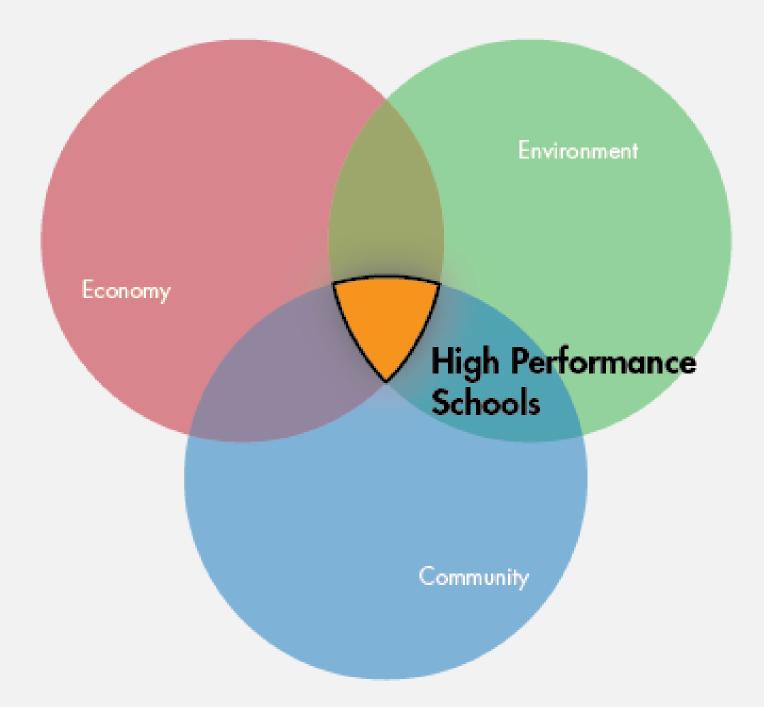
16% Quality of the Classroom Environment

 84% All other Factors
Socioeconomic
Teacher quality
Family Support
Nutrition
Sleep

o Etc.

## aylighting and Lighting

-



#### Balanced Daylight

- Multiple sources of daylight
- Light spread even throughout the room
- Skylights and Clerestory windows with translucent glazing



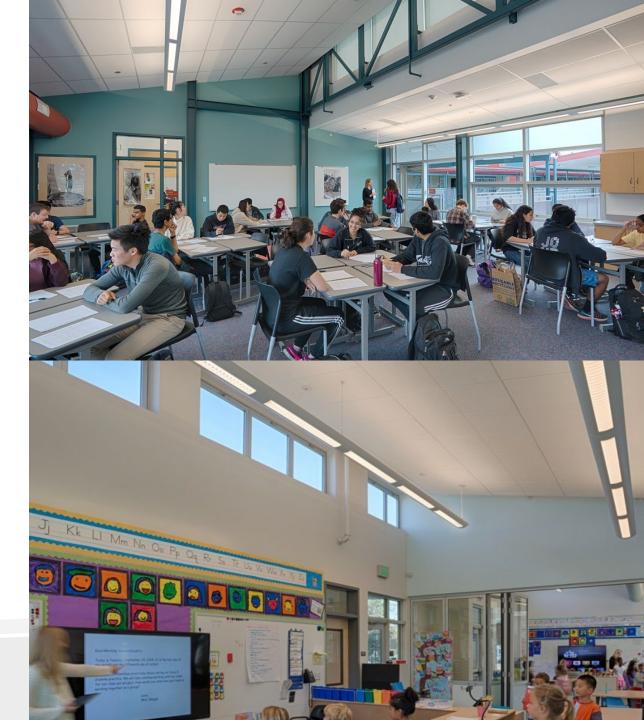
#### **Glare Control**

- Critical for effective daylighting
- Important for comfort and reducing stress factors
- Starts with exterior shading techniques
- Supplement with blinds/shades for difficult orientations and times
- Shades also important for security



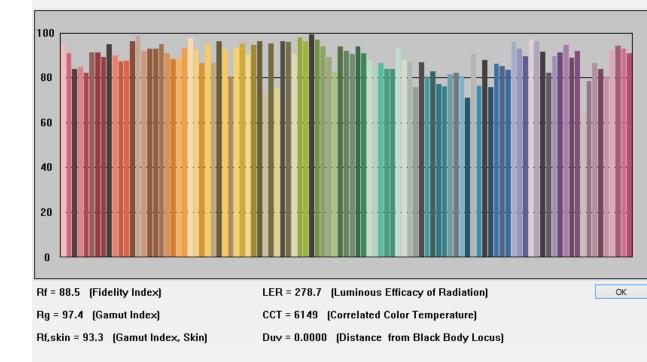
#### **Smart Electric Lighting**

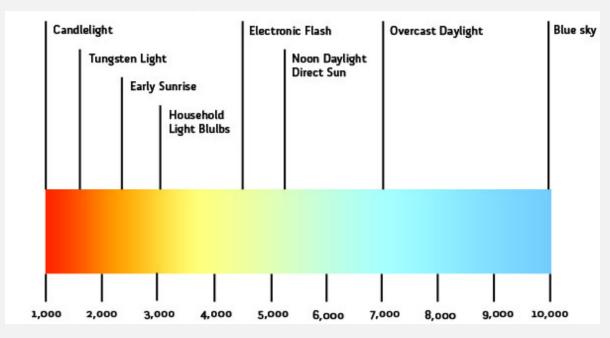
- Uniform diffuse light across the workspaces
- Avoid areas of high contrast and glare
- LED fixtures
- Linear, direct-indirect in classrooms
- Daylight harvesting and occupancy controls
- Teacher control

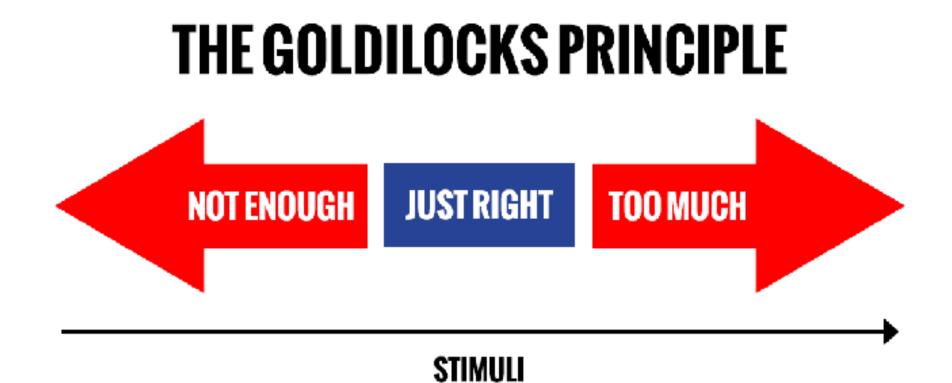


#### **Lighting Quality**

- Impacts brain and alertness as well as stress factors
- Color Rendition of light source as measured by the IES TM-30-15 standard
- Affects how colors are viewed and perceived
- Select fixtures that minimize flicker
- Circadian Lighting: adjust temperature and level of lighting to match needs of students and mimic natural light patterns











The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet it exercises it, tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it. Frederick Law Olmstead, 1865

• Most school buildings are institutional and can create undue stress in staff and students.





"As humans, we first learn how to survive, so our natural instinct is to study a space, locate ourselves within that space, and then define what our safe space or home base is."

**Cognitive Architecture** 

#### LEARNING

- Direct attention is energy intensive and mentally draining.
- Students experience stress in school due to high expectations of success and trying to make social connections
- When stressed, learning cannot happen.

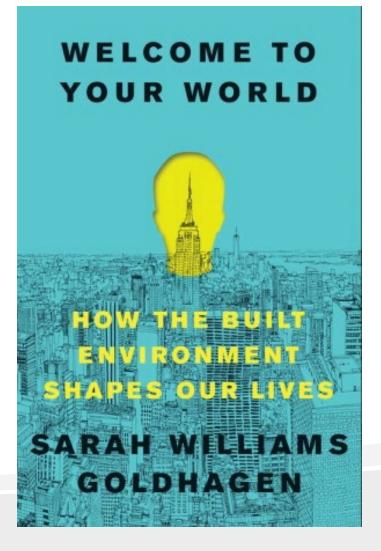


WHOLE CHILD

"There's no such thing as a "neutral" environment: your built environment is either helping you, <u>or it's hurting</u> <u>you</u>."

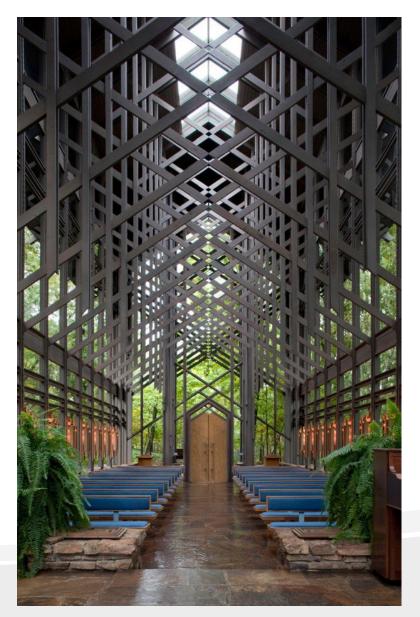
"...most of our experiences in the built environment are <u>nonconscious.</u> I use that word quite specifically. It's not unconscious, because that suggests something that we'd be unable to access. <u>Nonconscious refers to</u> <u>cognitions that we could access consciously, but</u> <u>mostly don't."</u>

Sarah Williams Goldhagen



#### **EVIDENCE BASED DESIGN**

- Intentional Architectural Design
  - Brain Activating
  - Shapes, Colors & Patterns
  - Beauty and Awe
  - Safe and Secure
  - Inclusive
  - Sense of Community
  - Biophilic Design









Brain Activating

#### Shapes, Colors & Patterns

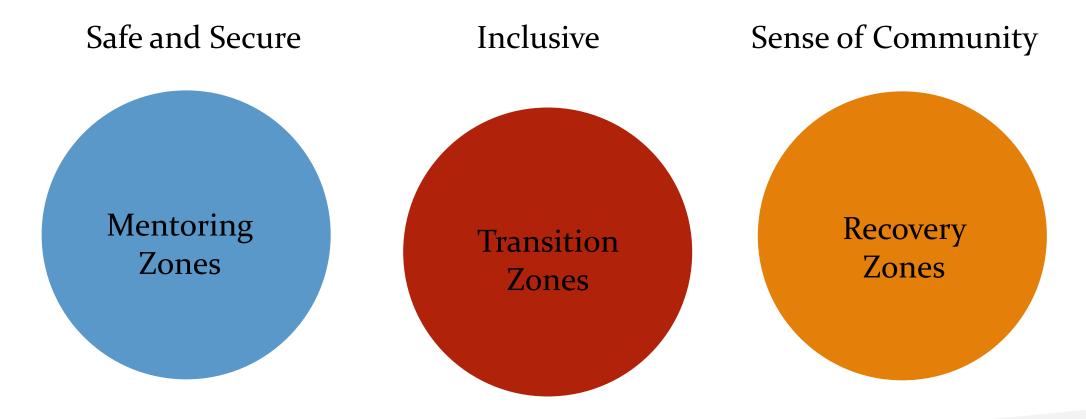
#### Beauty and Awe







### **Responsive Design**





Safe and Secure

Inclusive

Sense of Community



Mentoring Zones

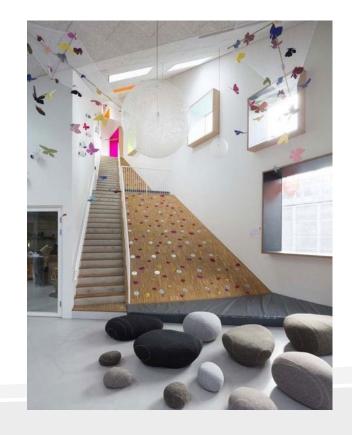


#### Safe and Secure

#### Inclusive

#### Sense of Community







Transition Zones

## **Responsive Design**

**Biophilic Design** 

- Design of buildings inspired by nature.
- **Neurological nourishment** depends upon engagement with information and its organization.
- 14 Patterns
  - Visual Connection with Nature
  - Non-Visual Connection with Nature •
  - Non-Rhythmic Sensory Stimuli
  - Thermal & Airflow Variability
  - Presence of Water
  - Dynamic & Diffuse Light
  - Connection with Natural Systems

- Biomorphic Forms & Patterns
- Material Connection with Nature
- Complexity & Order
- Prospect
- Refuge
- Mystery
- Risk/Peril

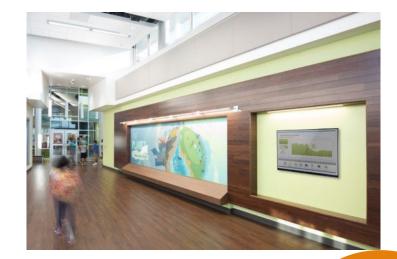
Recovery Zones



#### **Biophilic Design**







Recovery Zones



#### Biophilic Design



Zones





# Audience Questions

#### Please type your questions in Q&A box.



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### For More Information on Today's Topic

- CHPS Knowledge Library: <u>https://chps.net/knowledge-library</u>
- CHPS Construction Criteria: <u>https://chps.net/chps-criteria</u>
- CHPS Credit II C8.1 Biophilic & Responsive Design: <u>https://chps.net/integration-innovation#II\_C8.1</u>
- NAC Architecture publication *Designing for Special Education*: <u>https://www.nacarchitecture.com/publications/DesignForSpecialEducation.pdf</u>
- Teacher Magazine (Australia) article on biophilia: <u>https://www.teachermagazine.com/au\_en/articles/learning-spaces-biophilic-design-in-schools</u>

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### For More Information on CHPS

#### https://chps.net

- Studies & reports on high performance schools: <u>https://chps.net/knowledge-library</u>
- School Building Science Fridays Webinars: <u>https://chps.net/school-building-science-fridays</u>
- Our Criteria for New Construction & Major Renovation: <u>https://chps.net/chps-criteria</u>
- Membership info: <u>https://chps.net/join-us</u>



### Thank you to Aaron and Irene.

Thank you all for joining us today!

Please join us for the next free session in our School Building Science Fridays series:

Drinking Water Safety & Overall Health March 11, 2pm Eastern

Watch for registration link here: <u>https://chps.net/school-building-science-fridays</u>

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### Join Us for A Special Webinar

**Thursday, February 17, 11:00 am Eastern** *Designing Schools with Mental Health in Mind*, a presentation by Claire Latané, author of <u>Schools That Heal</u>

Info & registration: <u>https://www.gbrionline.org/schools-that-heal-design-with-mental-health-in-mind/</u>