

WHY?

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

Relationships

I love the people, the community, the kids

I spend my time there because PCS is my home place.

The mix of people (age, race, ethnicity, neighborhood, etc)

Competition

I've never wanted to stay at work after work. Now I do. Playing squash with members, driving students home at night, socializing.

To promote love of learning!

I chose to spend my time at Portland Community squash because it feels like home.

I spend my time at PCS because everyone is always happy to have me there and gives me support in all areas of life. I actually enjoy playing a sport.

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

Mentoring

I feel comfortable and supported at PCS

A great place to sweat with friends and smile.

They are family

Great energy!

A wonderful place to empower youth

It's my second home

All levels of competition available

PCS offers me a home where i feel comfortable and it also offers me a lot of opportunities

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

Yoga

Sharing food!

gives me time to exercise

Meet people from different backgrounds

The kids bring great energy, and the adults are awesome and encouraging, too.

friendships

Form long term relationships

Dedication for the kids

Outdoor space in the summer!

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

Place like home

I feel illuminated there

Friendly people and smiles. Great staff

Everyone always provides advice on improving their game or helping kids

Amazing place to hang out

I am safe

Open doors for others

Positivity

I support the mission and enjoy running cooking with middle school students.

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

mentor students who have language barrier

Community

Winter league- a great social activity

Diversity

Increased access

Unite our City

That the building reflects what an amazing organization this is

A place where the community to meet and catch up

Diverse group to bring community together

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

Create opportunities

It is welcoming and everyone is treated with respect

Positivity

Find a place that represents diversity for people to be proud of

I want see different art works in the walls that represent to the community

Celebrate differences

A place that represent the community

Support

Big community gatherings

Why do you choose to spend time at PCS?

Bringing people together to feel that Maine is Home

Host social events

What are your aspirational goals for PCS and this project?

Love to see more diversity and woman squash players!

A place where people feel invited without being invited

Reunite people from different backgrounds

To better my education and become a great squash player.

I'd love to keep seeing PCS thriving and staying a happy place.

Unite Portland

I hope that all types of communities can come together and grow relationships. I hope to have a community to stay at even though I graduated High school and can contribute to

To help create a space for community involvement and a place to relax

To have multiple generations playing and working together

What are your aspirational goals for PCS and this project?

To promote a more equitable community

Sit down and have a coffee with a family

Place to relax and make friends

A safe space for minorities

Teamwork in the classroom and on court

A place to comfortably hang out with a variety of folks after playing

A place to return when our students have gone away

A place people of all economic backgrounds can participate in

Space where community groups want to gather

What are your aspirational goals for PCS and this project?

to continue including everyone!

A place to do homework

Increased access!!

To create a space where people feel welcome and want to spend some of their free time

Build something beautiful that dignifies every member of our community

Watch our kids grow up and add to the vitality of our community as adult community members

better back yard for bon fires in SUMMER !

To make it easy to form friendships with people who do not look like you

To come back and see old friends and team mates

What are your aspirational goals for PCS and this project?

Goals - a multi-purpose space for all

A space for traditions

Place where they invest on students futur

A flexible space that can serve all purposes and people

Celebrate together after a good sweat

A space that represents the design aesthetic of its community

We REP the Shield

strong sense of place and community

What makes PCS unique / special?

The peoples

The people

Easy. The people!

Community

the memories that i made there

Mixture of kids, adults, relationships via mentoring, league between both

It is the first community I ever felt safe in and accepted and wanted to come back to. I actually enjoyed playing a sport

Diversity

the sense of family and belonging. Feeling like you have people to lean on

What makes PCS unique / special?

It's a place where kids aren't on their phones... because they choose not to be

The diversity, positive energy and support throughout the group, from leadership to members.

A community invested in its members

It takes the stuffy out of squash

All the different events and activities

We built this place together, it belongs to no one, so it belongs to everyone

their amazing staffs and mentors

The supporting community

They pursue including me even when I may be absent for awhile

What makes PCS unique / special?

Longterm connections

The energy

We get to serve the whole person, not just the athlete

The staff use their place to serve us not have power over us

The joy of feeling safe with kids of different backgrounds

They are always checking in and revising for the best space possible

They listen to my opinions and needs

Seeing and knowing people who part of PCS that I didn't even know came into the building

Meet new people

What makes PCS unique / special?

An informal space for coffee away from
thudding squash balls

A welcoming space people can see into
and join

What new opportunities for PCS would this new addition bring?

More opportunities to gather socially (off the court)

Host lectures, theater, dance etc.

bring more people in

parents connections

Include the whole family

Screen movies and cook together

A more comfortable place to hang out with the PCS family

Seeing people who are part of PCS that I had never met or didn't know participated

More capacity for programming of all types

What new opportunities for PCS would this new addition bring?

Bring in some natural light and make this the place to be in during the Maine Winter!

There will be a service aspect - PCS will be able to offer refreshments after a match or lesson. Workshops can go to the next level of involvement with a better kitchen space

Jobs

spaces that can be occupied simultaneously - for events

Make people feel part of the community

Members can bring guests for meetings, tea, events

inclusivity

A space for graduated high schoolers to come back to

Facilitated time together as a diverse community

What new opportunities for PCS would this new addition bring?

Families should feel that it's seamless to go to and stay in the space.

A space that people can feel invited to and be a part of

How can this Community Commons help PCS expand their mission? How can it help address social segregation?



An expanded space leaves room for everyone no matter who they are

I hope it will bridge the (proverbial and literal gap) between squash and students/programming

Space to better engage student families

Squash has a barrier to entry, sitting for a chat does not

An inviting space makes people want to get together

People can see how the community is first before having to play squash

if people are brought together and are told that pcs is a safe space, people wont feel the need to be uncomfortable

Opportunity for introductions to our group from folks who may not have heard about us

Families should feel like it's seamless to go to and stay in the space



How can this Community Commons help PCS expand their mission? How can it help address social segregation?



You have to reserve courts. There are no drop in opportunities currently. People are only able to see the people on the same court schedule currently

More community space means the community can come together more

The toughest part about Covid is missing all the inbetween time/space

Create a space for more junior parents to engage with PCS

The commons should attract a whole new array of stakeholders... mostly those with no interest in/connection to squash.

What's the most diverse space in the city?

It would probably help because if everyone is in the same space it is harder to know what background or group they are from and helps stop initial negative judgement so each person can be seen as who they are

Feels less awkward when you want to stick around

Meet all the needs that going to make people feel they belong to the amazing community



How can this Community Commons help PCS expand their mission? How can it help address social segregation?

Big welcoming windows. This place should be transparent

Making a space more inviting to all members is important.
Open tables spaces for larger groups