

DOCUMENT RESUME

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ABSTRACT

Located near an existing neighborhood health clinic, the John F. Kennedy School and Community Center provides a neighborhood base for numerous educational, health, and social agencies. The middle school can accommodate over 1,000 students in grades six through eight. The community center fills the need for civic and social organizations often found in more affluent neighborhoods, and also provides leadership for the solution of community problems. Photographs, floor plans, construction information, and a list of the people and organizations involved in planning the center are included. A related article is EA 501 571. (Photographs may reproduce poorly.) (Author)

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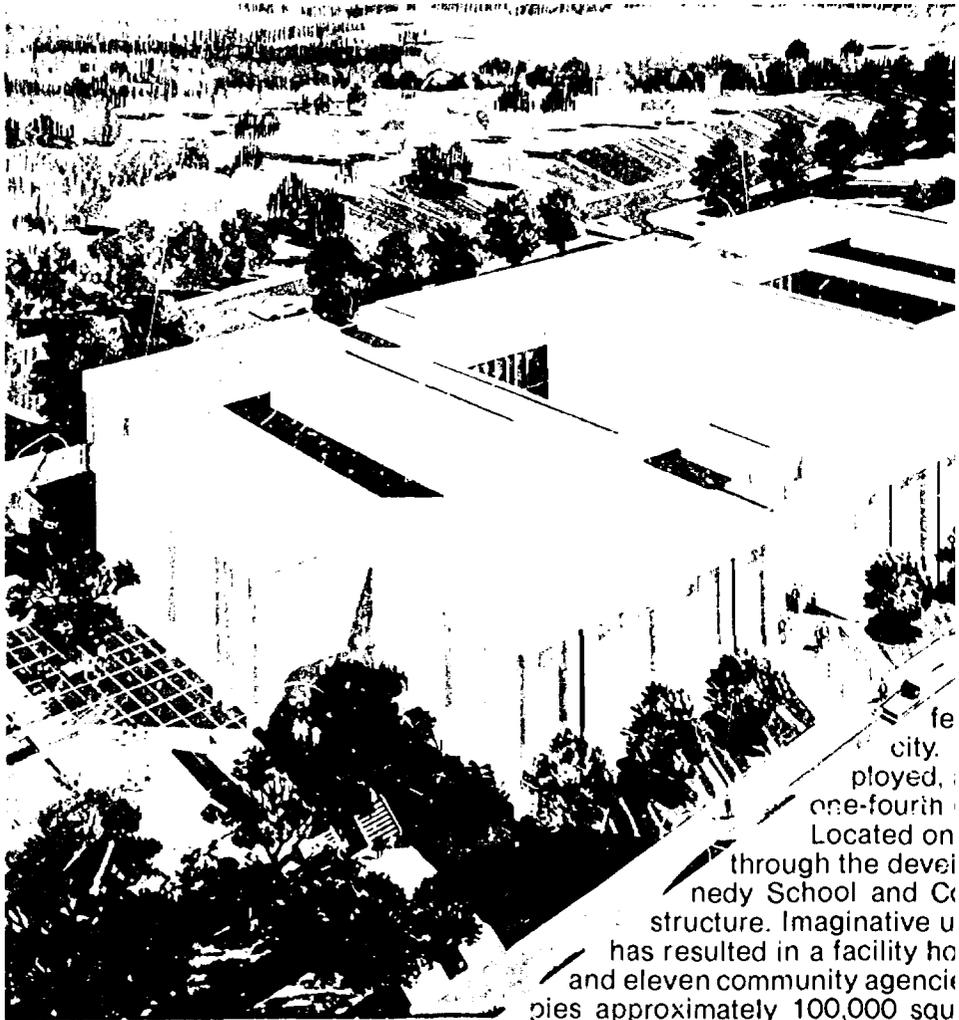
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**JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL  
AND  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

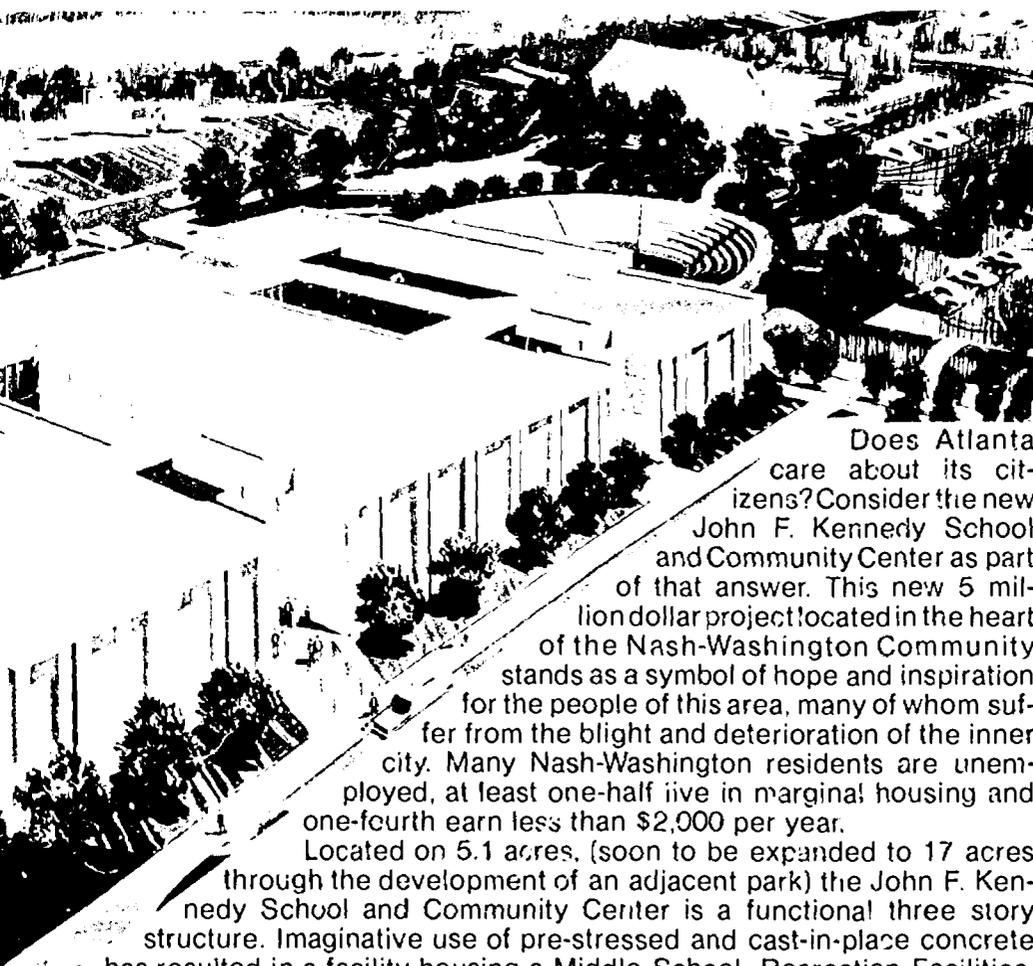
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agency offices, recreation services, and workshop area



Does Atlanta care about its citizens? Consider the new John F. Kennedy School and Community Center as part of that answer. This new 5 million dollar project located in the heart of the Nash-Washington Community stands as a symbol of hope and inspiration for the people of this area, many of whom suffer from the blight and deterioration of the inner city. Many Nash-Washington residents are unemployed, at least one-half live in marginal housing and one-fourth earn less than \$2,000 per year.

Located on 5.1 acres, (soon to be expanded to 17 acres through the development of an adjacent park) the John F. Kennedy School and Community Center is a functional three story structure. Imaginative use of pre-stressed and cast-in-place concrete has resulted in a facility housing a Middle School, Recreation Facilities, and eleven community agencies. While the Middle School (grade 6-8) occupies approximately 100,000 square feet, the community facilities, including nutrition services, and workshop areas, utilize an additional 125,000 square feet.



The inner city dweller today suffers many stresses and frustrations because of his inability to cope with the complexities of modern urban living. His needs are so many and so great that no one can do the full job of helping him meet them. Inadequate housing, lack of proper environmental conditions, high unemployment rates, scarcity of suitable work, crowded conditions, and limited financial resources are only a few of the problems. In addition, it is too often true that the inner city dweller has insufficient knowledge and resources available to him. In fact, many people who reside in such communities work full time at the job and cannot see how the multiplicity of needs of inner city residents be served?

Located near an existing Neighborhood Health Clinic, the John F. Kennedy School provides a neighborhood base for numerous educational, health, and social agencies on a year-round basis. The middle school can accommodate over 1,000 students in grades six through eight.



er today suffers many stresses and frustrations because of his inability to successfully cope with modern urban living. His needs are so many and so great that no single agency can hope to help him meet them. Inadequate housing, lack of proper environment for learning, high mobility, work, crowded conditions, and limited financial resources are only a part of the daily problems often true that the inner city dweller has insufficient knowledge of the helpful resources available. How many people who reside in such communities work full time at the job of surviving. How then can the needs of inner city residents be served?

Existing Neighborhood Health Clinic, the John F. Kennedy School and Community Center serve as a base for numerous educational, health, and social agencies on a seven-day-a-week, twelve-month-a-year basis. The middle school can accommodate over 1,000 students in grades six, seven and eight.

The community school attempts to fill the void of civic and social organizations which are often found in more affluent neighborhoods and provide leadership for the solution of community problems. Here at the John F. Kennedy School and Community Center are the people and the services, brought together in an effective manner, under the same roof.

Middle Schools provide flexible programs for the



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transition years from childhood to early adolescence. The program of the Kennedy Middle School utilizes the open plan cluster for learning. Large open spaces are shared by a team of educators planning and working together for effectiveness. The middle school also has science, music, home economics, business education, arts and crafts, industrial arts, special education, health, and physical education departments. The center of the multi-storied structure opens on two interior courts where

pre-school children may be seen at play.

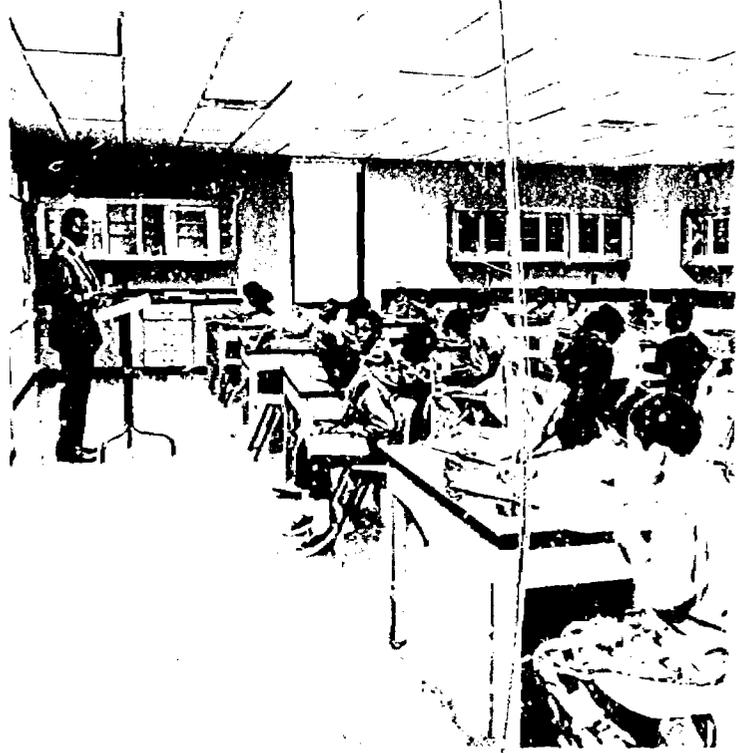
The educational program for grades six through eight is designed to serve the needs of young people who face the usual inner-city problems as well as the frustrations of pre-adolescence. Pupils are no longer elementary children, nor are they ready for the secondary school program. The middle school thus provides a program for young people at a time of physical and mental change. A time that is extremely important and formative for our



youth.

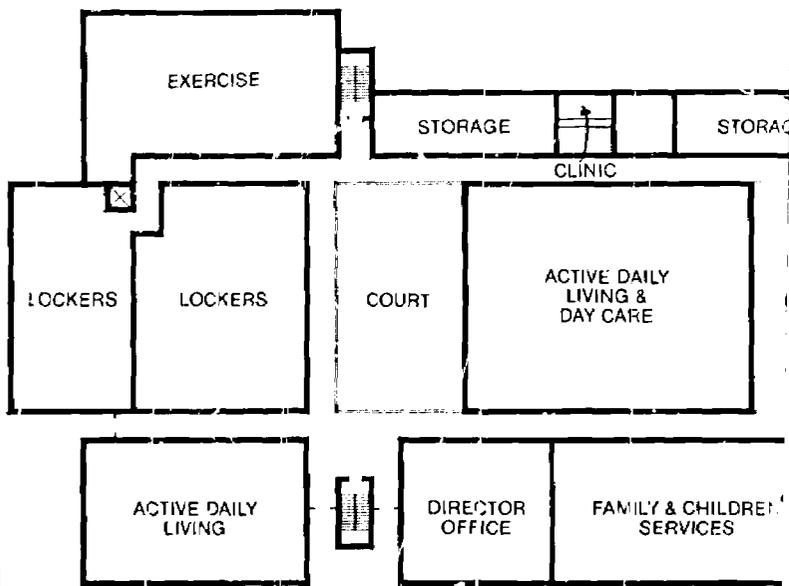
The operation and organization consistent with what research and development of your program for a high level of activity, a discovery approach to learning. Both the building and program needs of youth in a manner that provides another source of

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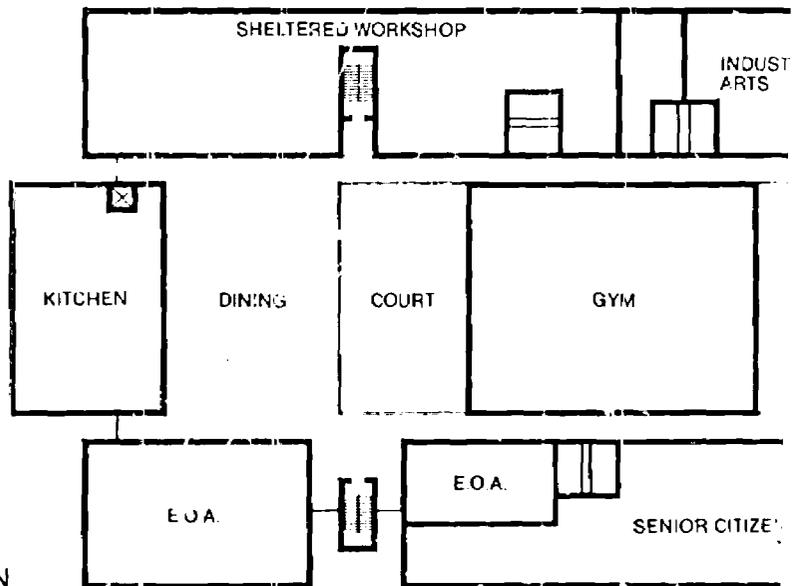


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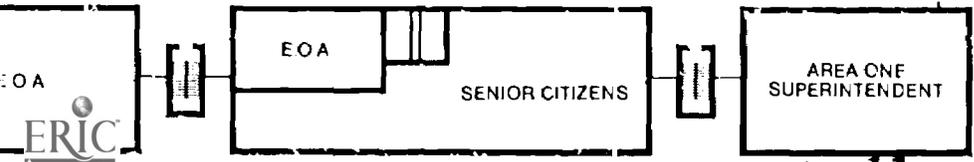
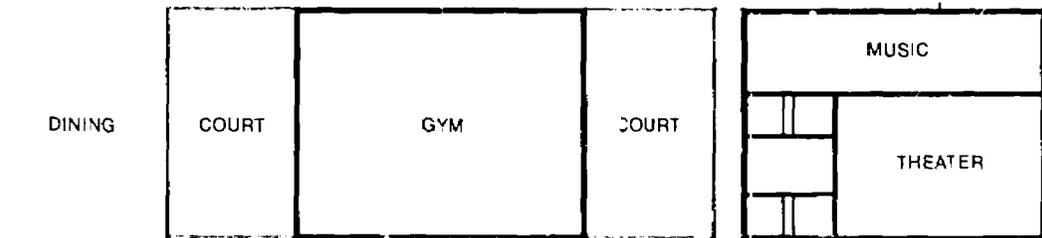
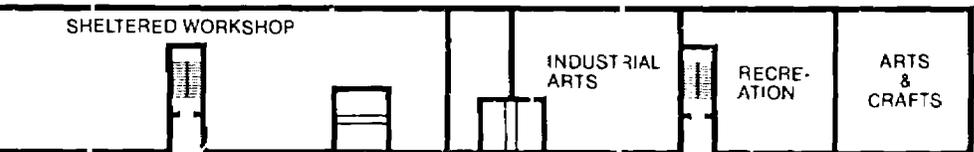
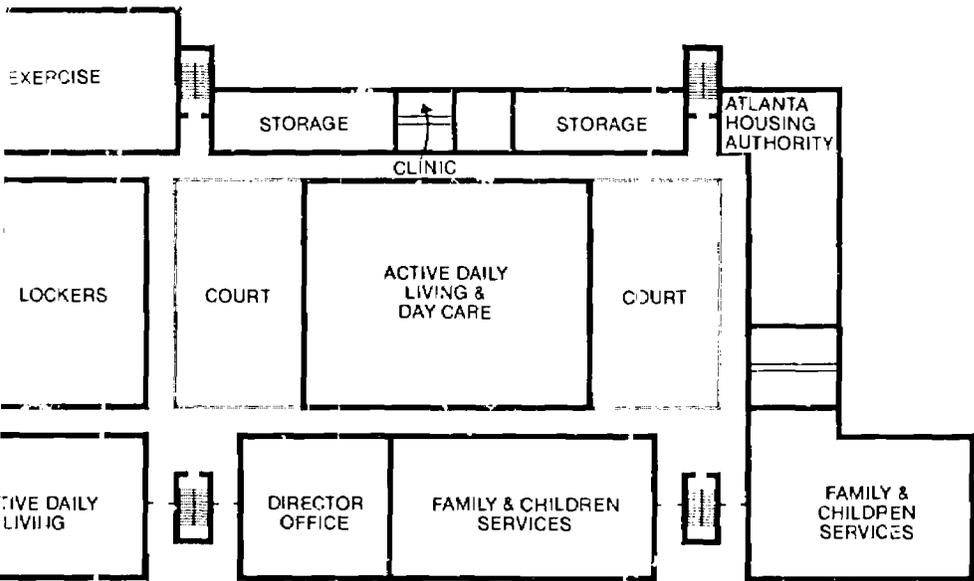
The operation and organization of the school is consistent with what research has indicated about the growth and development of young people. The school provides for a high level of activity, for some self-organization, and a discovery approach to learning and working together. Both the building and program are designed to serve the needs of youth in a manner which will avoid making the school another source of frustration.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



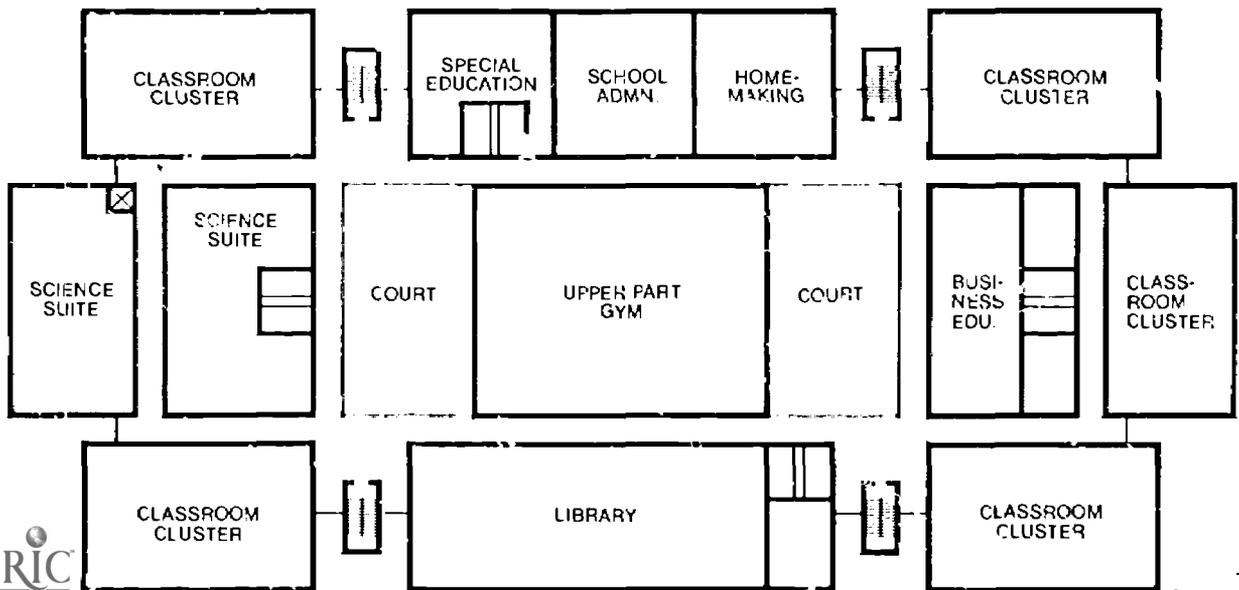
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



The design of the center was the result of one of the most extensive, cooperative planning efforts ever undertaken by a city. Many agencies were involved such as the Atlanta Housing Authority; Atlanta Parks Department; Atlanta Public Schools; Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.; Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services; Housing Code Division, Atlanta Building Department; Senior Citizen Services; Planning Department of the City of Atlanta; Georgia State Department of Education, School Plant Services; Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the State Department of Education; and Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. The new structure stands as an example of what can be accomplished through cooperative effort.

Services and programs provided separately or jointly by various agencies are:

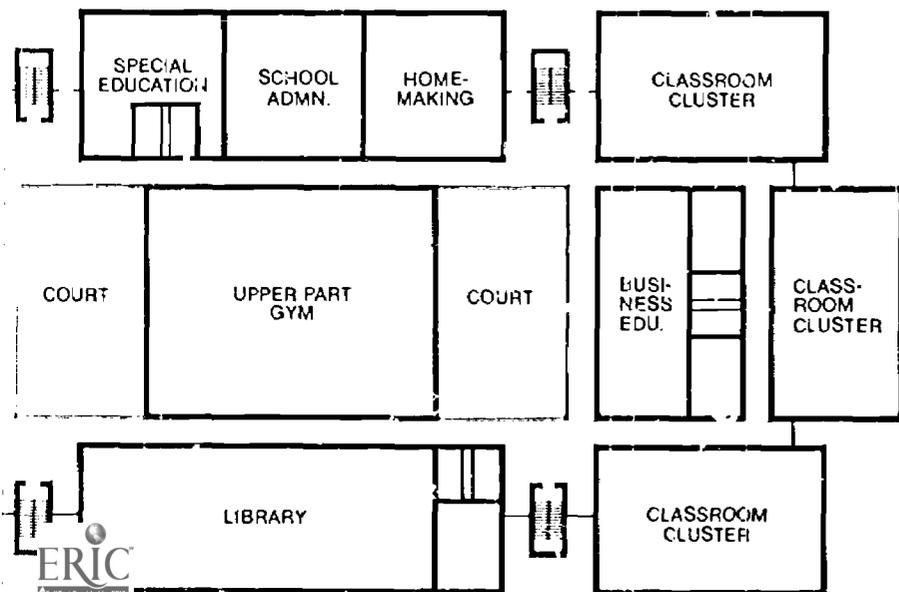
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|--|--|
| Activities for Senior Citizens                   | Legal Aid  |
| Adult Basic Education                            | Middle School Program (Grades 6-8)                 |
| Area I Superintendent of Schools                 | Municipal Information Services                     |
| Child Day Care Services                          | Pre-Kindergarten Program                           |
| Community Action Program                         | Recreation   |
| Educable Mentally Retarded Programs              | Sheltered Workshop for Trainable Mentally Retarded |
| Employment, Job Training and Counseling Services | Vocational Education Program                       |
| Housing & Home Management Services               | Vocational Rehabilitation Program                  |
| Housing Relocation Services                      | Volunteer Community Service Programs               |
| Housing Code Services                            | Welfare Casework Services                          |



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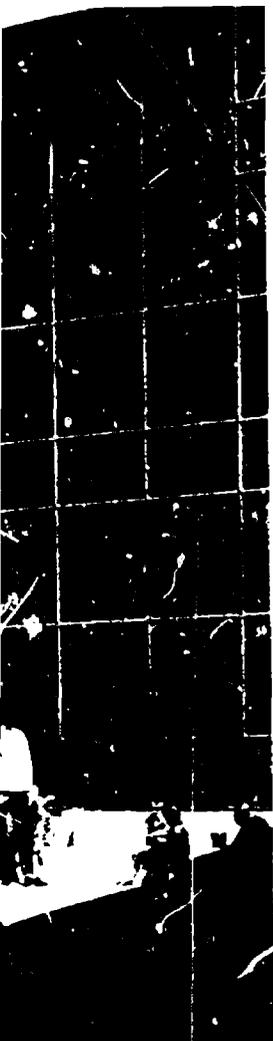
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- Schools
- Program
- Retarded Programs
- Training and
- ices
- Management Services
- n Services
- ices
- Legal Aid
- Middle School Program (Grades 6-8)
- Municipal Information Services
- Pre-Kindergarten Program
- Recreation
- Sheltered Workshop for Trainable Mentally Retarded
- Vocational Education Program
- Vocational Rehabilitation Program
- Volunteer Community Service Programs
- Welfare Casework Services



THIRD FLOOR PLAN



The community school director, at the first level, provide a liaison between the community and the program. Among his many duties is the responsibility for efficient use by agencies and the facility will be open approximately 100 days a year. In addition, the director will



The community school director's offices, located on the first level, provide a liaison between the members of the community and the programs offered at the center. Among his many duties is the scheduling of the spaces for efficient use by agencies housed in the center. The facility will be open approximately fourteen hours each day. In addition, the director will involve the people of



the community in order to initiate and change programs as required to best meet the needs of those served.

A large portion of the Center is devoted to space for school and community recreation. As the site is extended and developed to a total of 17 acres, many outdoor activities will be added to the program. The Department of Parks and Recreation will be the major contributor to these programs.





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gram. The Department of  
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### INVOLVED IN PLANNING

Active Daily Living Center: Dr. E. C. Henson, Assistant Superintendent. Miss Frances Cox, Coordinator of Elementary Education, Atlanta Public Schools. Mr. Burman Vinson, Vocational Rehabilitation Workshops and Facilities, Georgia State Department of Education./Area I Superintendent: Mr. J. Y. Moreland, Area Superintendent. Dr. Hilliard A. Bowen, Assistant Superintendent./Atlanta Housing Authority: Mr. Lester H. Persells, Executive Director. Mr. Robert Barnett, Project Director./Atlanta Parks and Recreation Department: Mr. Jack Delius, General Manager. Miss Virginia Carmichael./Day Care Center: Mr. T. M. Parham, Director. Miss Mahalah Harrison, Georgia Department of Family & Children Services. Miss Frances Cox, Coordinator of Elementary Education, Atlanta Public Schools./Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services: Mr. Gilbert G. Dulaney, Administrator./Economic Opportunity Atlanta: Mr. William W. Allison, Executive Administrator. Mr. William A. Fowlkes, Director of Planning. Mrs. Sujette F. Crank, Director of Division Neighborhood Service Center Operations./Senior Citizen Services: Mr. Albert E. Horvath, Executive Director./Sheltered Workshop: Dr. Jack P. Nix, State Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Burman Vinson, Vocational Rehabilitation Workshops and Facilities, State Department of Education.

Funding of the Kennedy project was a difficult task. The financial plan as finally put together reflected the cooperation of many individuals and groups including the Superintendent and Board of Education, a private foundation and the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Atlanta. Plagued by inflation and a cutback in federal funds, the final project was a result of continual re-study and re-design. The final cost sharing was as follows:

School Board Funds . . . . .	\$3,162,000
Private Foundation Funds . . . . .	600,000
Neighborhood Facilities Grant . . . . .	<u>1,300,000</u>
	<u>\$5,062,000</u>

#### ATLANTA BOARD OF EDUCATION

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| Mr. Jerry Luxemburger           | Mrs. LeRoy A. Woodward  |
| Dr. J. A. Middleton             | Dr. Asa G. Yancey       |

Dr. John W. Letson, Superintendent

**INVOLVED IN PLANNING**

Dr. E. C. Henson, Assistant Superintendent. Miss Elementary Education. Atlanta Public Schools. Mr. Rehabilitation Workshops and Facilities, Georgia State Superintendent: Mr. J. Y. Moreland, Area Superintendent. Atlanta Housing Authority: Mr. Robert Barnett, Project Director. Department: Mr. Jack Delius, General Manager. Miss Center: Mr. T. M. Parham, Director. Miss Mahalah of Family & Children Services. Miss Frances Cox, Atlanta Public Schools. Fulton County Department Services: Mr. Gilbert G. Dulaney, Administrator. Mr. William W. Allison, Executive Administrator. Mr. Planning. Mrs. Sujette F. Crank, Director of Division Operations. Senior Citizen Services: Mr. Albert E. Sheltered Workshop: Dr. Jack P. Nix, State Superintendent. Vocational Rehabilitation Workshops and Education.

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- Superintendent Dr. W. Letson





### CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

Capacity of Middle School ..... 1,050 pupils  
 Size of Building ..... 454' x 214'  
 Size of Site ..... 5.1 acres  
 Area of Building ..... 222,735 sq. ft.  
 Volume of Building ..... 3,118,290 cu. ft.  
 Construction Cost ..... \$4,485,000  
 Square Foot Cost ..... \$20.05  
 Cubic Foot Cost ..... \$1.43  
 Structure ..... Prestressed and poured concrete

Date Construction Began ... February 21, 1969  
 Completion Date ..... February 26, 1971  
 Contractor ..... J. A. Jones Construction Co.  
 Architect ..... John Portman & Associates

### PLANNING COORDINATORS

Atlanta Public Schools:  
 Dr. Darwin W. Womack, Assistant Superintendent  
 Dr. Jarvis Barnes, Assistant Superintendent  
 Mr. Ralph Long, Director of John F. Kennedy School

Architects:  
 John Portman & Associates, Architects (formerly Edwards & Kelcey)  
 Mr. Emilio Coirini, Project Manager.

City Planning Department:  
 Mr. Collier Gladin, Director  
 Mr. William Kennedy, Chief of Current Planning

Educational Consultants:  
 Dr. John W. Gilliland, Director, Center For Educational Research,  
 University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida  
 Southeastern Regional Center for Educational Facilities

### FORMER BOARD MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN PLANNING AND INITIATING THE PROJECT

Mr. T. Charles Allen  
 Mr. William T. Beebe  
 Dr. Rufus Clement  
 Mr. Ed S. Cook, Sr.

### CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

Capacity of Middle School ..... 1,050 pupils  
Size of Building ..... 454' x 214', 3 stories  
Size of Site ..... 5.1 acres  
Area of Building ..... 222,735 square feet  
Volume of Building ..... 3,118,290 cubic feet  
Construction Cost ..... \$4,465,000  
Square Foot Cost ..... \$20.05  
Cubic Foot Cost ..... \$1.45  
Structure ..... Prestressed and poured-in-place  
concrete

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University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida  
Southeastern Regional Center for Educational Facilities Laboratories, Inc.

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Mr. T. Charles Allen  
Mr. William T. Beebe  
Dr. Rufus Clement  
Mr. Ed S. Cook, Sr.

Mrs. Sara P. Mitchell  
Mr. Robinson W. Schilling  
Dr. Horace E. Tate



ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
224 CENTRAL AVENUE, S.W.  
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MARCH 23, 1971

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