Vision:
In partnership with our community, Palmer’s vision for its campus is a dynamic place celebrating diversity. A Geographical theme will be the foundation for learning about diversity in the neighborhood, city, state, nation and world.

Goals:
1. Create a foundation that utilizes geographical elements including maps of city, state, nation and world to promote multi-disciplinary learning.
2. Create a multi-functional space that fosters school and community gathering.
3. Provide a wide variety of places for students, teachers, and neighbors to be interactive and inventive both academically and physically.
4. Create flexible places that can adapt to a wide variety of uses and programs.
5. Create a welcoming, safe, fun and aesthetically pleasing playground.

Aesthetic Ordering System
Man has imposed patterns upon the earth that ignore physical geography. The tension between this Euclidean geometry, found in the form of the school and the grid of the surrounding neighborhood, and the geometry found in our natural surroundings can be utilized to organize the site. Euclidean geometry can be used to determine the shapes of play areas while natural geometry can connect these spaces. As seen in the rightmost photo below, a “river” could function as the connecting element and provide the needed circulation throughout the site.

Needs and Concerns
Photos Taken By Students of Desired Elements

Photos Taken By Students of Desired Elements

Problems with tetherball use
Concerns for elements that promote aggressive behavior
Graffiti in neighborhood and school
Retaining wall falling down
Litter on playground
Need for gates and locks at all entrances
Concern for water feature maintenance
Positive view of size
Enthusiasm for playground improvements

Program Wishlist

List of Programmatic Elements

Soft Surface Elements
Engineered Wood Fiber
Rubber tire matrix
Grass Areas  (field)
Sand
Breeze running track/obstacle course

Hardscape Areas
Asphalt
Paths/Walkways
ADA Ramps
Retaining Walls
Stairs

Hardsurface Play Elements
Basketball
Tetherball
Funnel Ball
Jump Rope Areas
Outdoor Classroom
Game Tables
Hopscotch

Playground Equipment
ECE Play Set - add’tl swings
Primary Play Set - add’tl swings
ADA Play Equipment
Swings
Climbing Equipment
Benches
Trash Cans
Drinking Fountain

Community Gathering Area
Art Pieces
Globe Sculpture
Rose Compass
Murals on retaining wall
Shade Structure
Gateway
Maps of CO, USA and World
Quotes around maps
Fabric to weave through fence
Banners & Tiles

Vegetation
Grass Areas (non-Field)
Planter
Turf Field
Community Garden
Xeric and Native Learning Garden
Trees
Artificial Turf
Irrigation
Miscellaneous
parking
dog cleanup bags
Climbing Boulders
rain garden
mining activity area

Spatial Diagram

Grape Street
Palmer ES
Dine
Bldg/203

[Map of Palmer ES with labeled elements]