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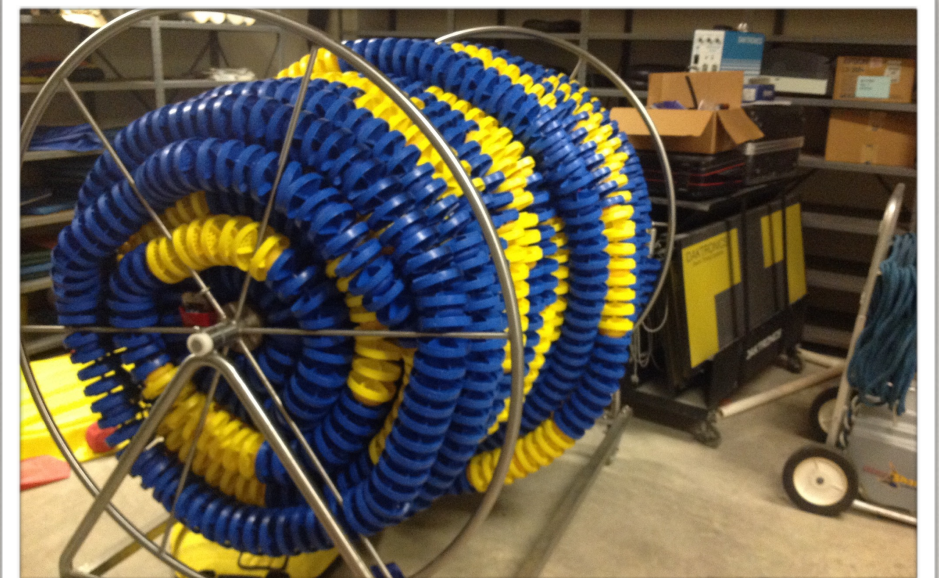
# PPS Community Schools + Aquatics = Greatness

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*Five in 2017-18 school year*

Opportunity to make a splash.

From [mark@rauterkus.com](mailto:mark@rauterkus.com)  
Swim & Water Polo Coach





*Executive summary, part 1 of 2*

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## Contract for Coach Mark Rauterkus as Aquatics Director for PPS Community Schools

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- Expand Summer Dreamers Swim & Water Polo to Year-Round Aquatic Achievers
- Grow Varsity Club, Sports Camps, and enrichment programs with sponsors and wide-reaching participation
- Exclude aquatics from PFT contract





## *Executive summary, part 2 of 2*

*New start-up budget, as line of credit:*

**\$100,000 staff**

- 1 Aquatic Director/Head Coach
- 6 Lifeguards/Assistant coaches
- 3 sites
- 4 hours per day
- 6 days a week
- Year round



*Swim pools, equipment, sponsorships and user fees available and expected.*

*Projects, planning and procedure to come.*



**AMERICAN  
WATER POLO™**





*What is a community school?*

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# Opening questions

Philosophy, perspectives,  
public duty, agents of change,  
mission, teamwork



You Must **ENGINEER**  
Your Success!



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# Definition:

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- Community Schools partner with local community agencies to provide an integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, and community engagement.
- Many operate year-round, from morning to evening.
- Many serve both children and adults.







*Our city of Three Rivers loves sports!*

# Pittsburgh

We are a sports town. Sports excite our community and its kids. Sports passions can build transferable skills to academic scholarship, spirit, goal setting, wellness.



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# Sports: In or Out?

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*Sadly, in urban Pittsburgh, we sometimes forget and discount the positive role athletics, sports, and recreation can have in students' lives*

**We know just how impactful athletics, sports, and recreation can be in our students' lives**

- Sports helps our students grow in and outside the classroom
- Athletics and recreation create healthy lifestyles that can last a lifetime
- Sports can be the best bridge among communities for PPS Community Schools



*Throughout the last 8 years we have seen the positive role of sports, athletics, and recreation every year at our PPS Summer Dreamers Swim and Water Polo Camp*



*All American and WPIAL Record Breaker, Sead Niksic, of PPS Obama Academy give an interview.*

# Swimming can lead the way

- Foundation sport
- Build upon success
- Year round
- Physical education and health in schools
- Citiparks facilities and people
- Drowning prevention, safety
- Lifeguard jobs, CPR, nursing too
- All age groups, even adult and seniors
- River town
- Lifelong skills
- Popular among students





*Let's use our pools!*

## PPS Community Schools are endowed with great aquatic facilities

- Swim pools are the learning laboratories for the discovery of personal and group excellence
- Resource exists (3 of 5 original community schools have pools)
- Most capital investments have been made
- Swimming is cheap
- Water does not wear out

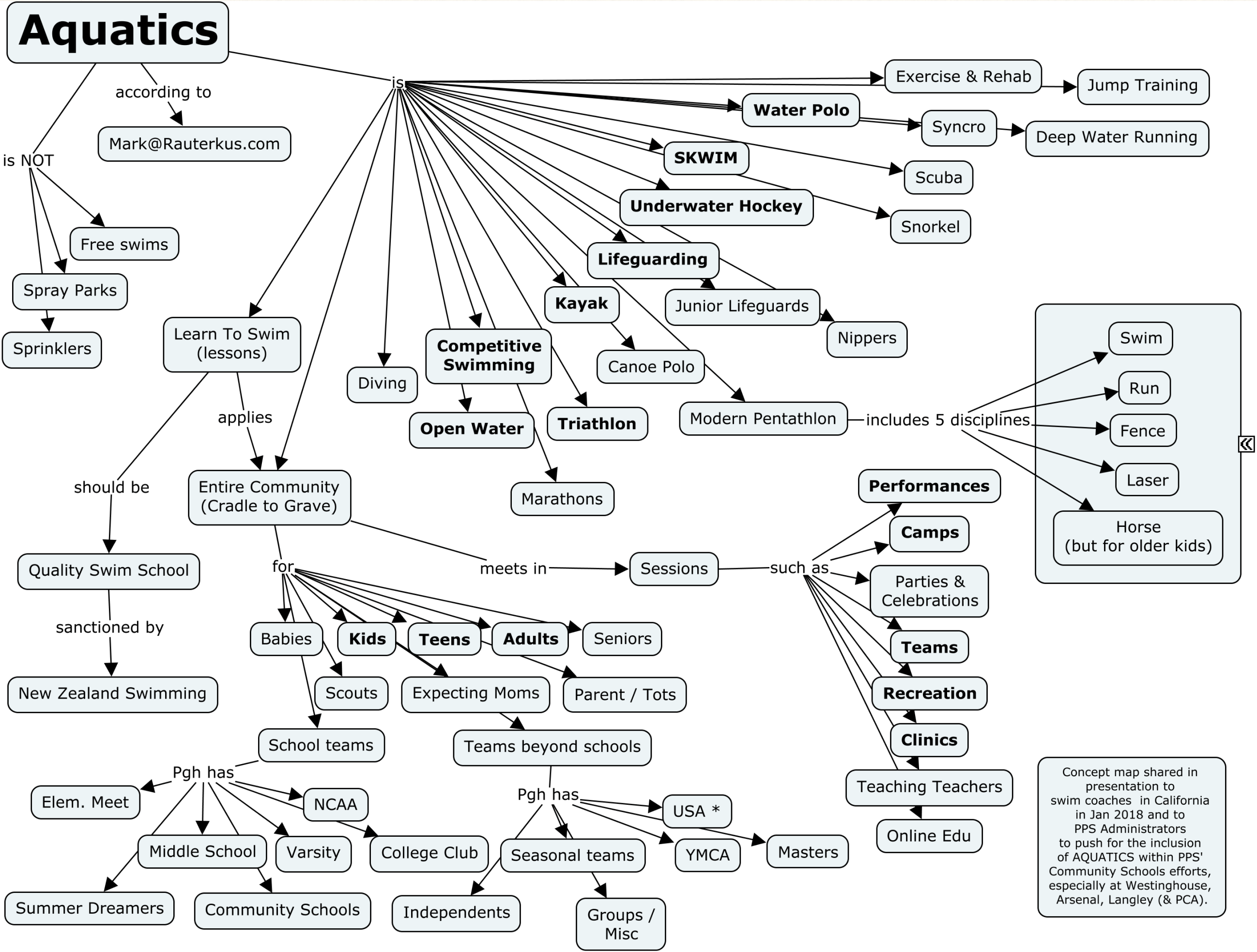




# Expect great things with PPS Community Schools aquatics







Concept map shared in presentation to swim coaches in California in Jan 2018 and to PPS Administrators to push for the inclusion of AQUATICS within PPS' Community Schools efforts, especially at Westinghouse, Arsenal, Langley (& PCA).



*PPS Community Schools is an opportunity for our schools and communities to better embrace our pools*

*What type of changes are expected?*

Process  
&/or  
Projects

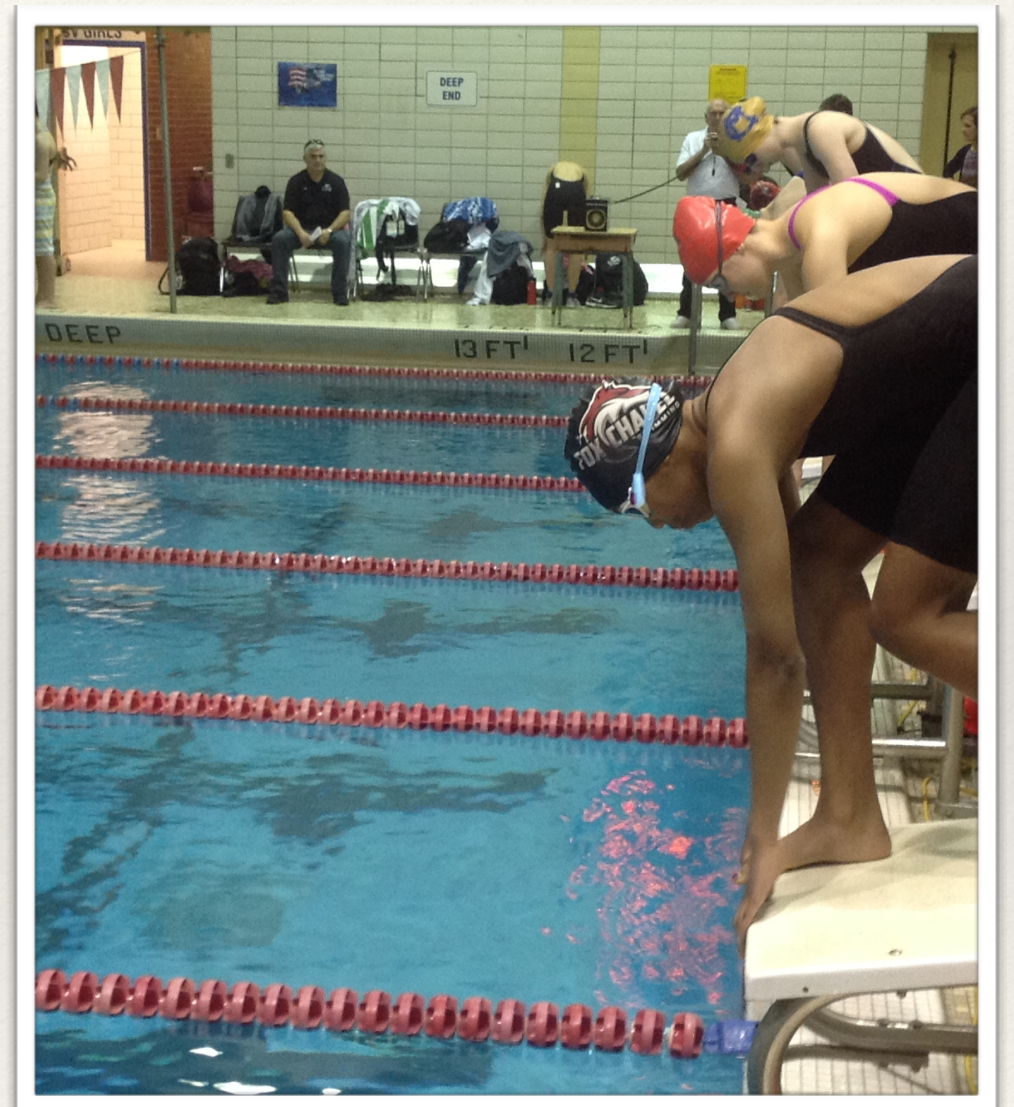




# PPS Community Schools can be a disruptive change

**By integrating athletics, sports, and recreation with these Community Schools we can create an even bigger impact**

- For me, integrating aquatics into Community Schools can create positive dividends
- Just like the positive dividends our aquatic programs have created for PPS Summer Dreamers



*For this to be successful we must create a two way partnership that removes restrictive and harmful barriers*





*Aquatics at PPS Community Schools can help change Summer Dreamers  
to Year-Round Achievers!*

Let's improve BOTH  
process and projects

Goal: Build and lead  
programs suitable for my own  
children



# Been there. Done (and doing) that.

- Success with Swim and Water Polo Camp at Summer Dreamers from the start
  - More than 1,500 PPS students have participated in our camps in past 10 years
  - Learning success in the pool has lead to success out of the pool
  - Our campers school attendance rates are always higher than average rates
  - Our campers often go on to join their school swim teams or find other ways to stay active after camp participation
- After coaching more than 10,000 swimmers, 10 years in PPS, 9 years at NCAA level, in addition to a variety of WPIAL and PIAA programs, we have developed an aquatics curriculum that has proven success for city students





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PPS Community Schools gives us the opportunity to turn these summer successes into wide-reaching, year-round, robust activities.

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# To create year-round success we must address ownership and coordination

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## Historic barriers:

### Lack of aquatics leader

- People are busy - without someone dedicated to aquatics things don't happen or don't happen as well

### Lack of district wide coordination

- Athletic initiatives and ideas can get siloed

### Lack of successful coordination between district and year round aquatics programs

- This is a big district and coordination can be hard, however, as we have seen with aquatic programs during Summer Dreamers - when aquatics (and sports at large) are successful integrated with academics - great things happen

## Our solutions:

### Create an aquatics director role

- Someone who can focus on creating diverse and integrated district wide aquatics programs - as I have done within PPS Summer Dreamers

### With one aquatics director - coordination is easy

- Athletic initiatives and ideas can grow and thrive - helping students thrive in many ways

### By building on and consolidating our current success we can create a vibrant year round aquatics program that supports the district's goals for Community Schools

- By creating a person that can coordinate and support the success we are already having - we can provide our students with increased opportunities with year round aquatics - Community Schools gives us a unique opportunity to carry out these goals

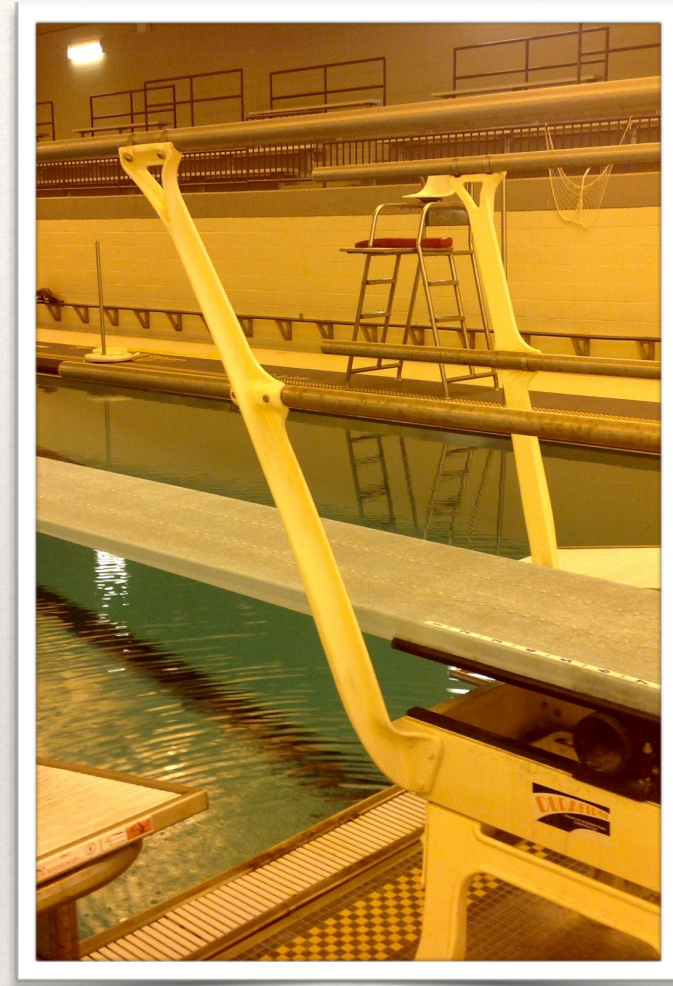


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# Coach Mark's coordinated aquatics program delivers an Aligned Instructional System

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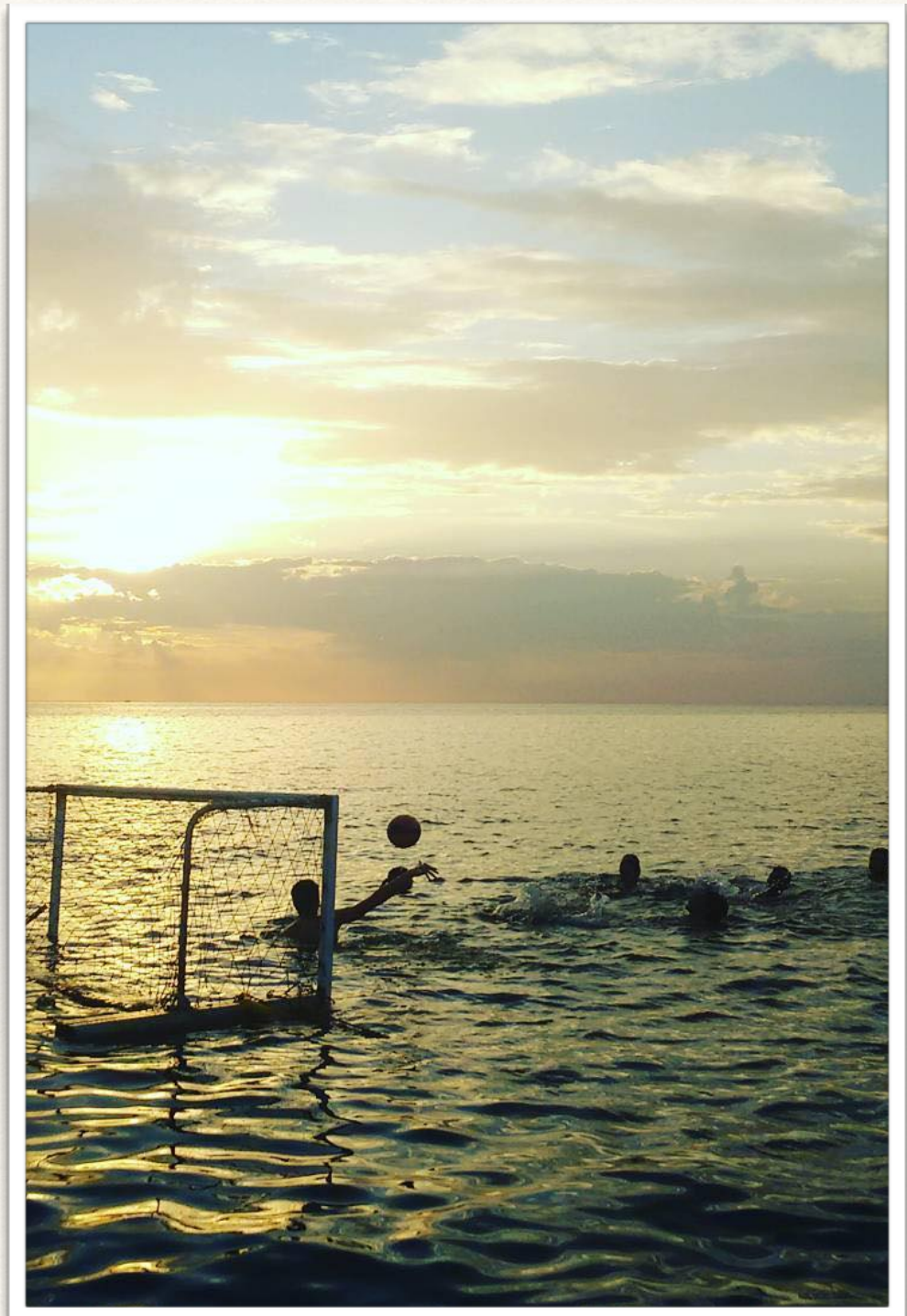
- Let's align city-wide aquatics, raise expectations, cooperate and compete
- With a coordinated focus we can align our aquatics goals with our academic mission
- We must move beyond building-based decisions that have not been successful in supporting or funding dynamic aquatic programs
- In addition, our aligned instructional system can create tailored solutions that fit specific communities, pools, equipment, coaches, and players
- Let's start with core district-wide programs to reside within PPS Community Schools





# Summary: The solution needs:

- ❖ Exclude the coaching positions within aquatics (competitive swimming) from the scope of the PFT contract.
- ❖ Assign an administrative post, PPS AQUATICS DIRECTOR responsibilities.
- ❖ Staffing and programming of after-school aquatic efforts (including interscholastic swimming) in certain PPS facilities\* resides within the authority of the Aquatics Director.
- ❖ PPS Aquatics Director manages pools and programs and leads a coordinated approach with principals, custodians, coaches, lifeguards, staff, athletic coordinators, site coordinators, nonprofit providers, sponsors, families, students and community participants.





*Well begun is half done.*

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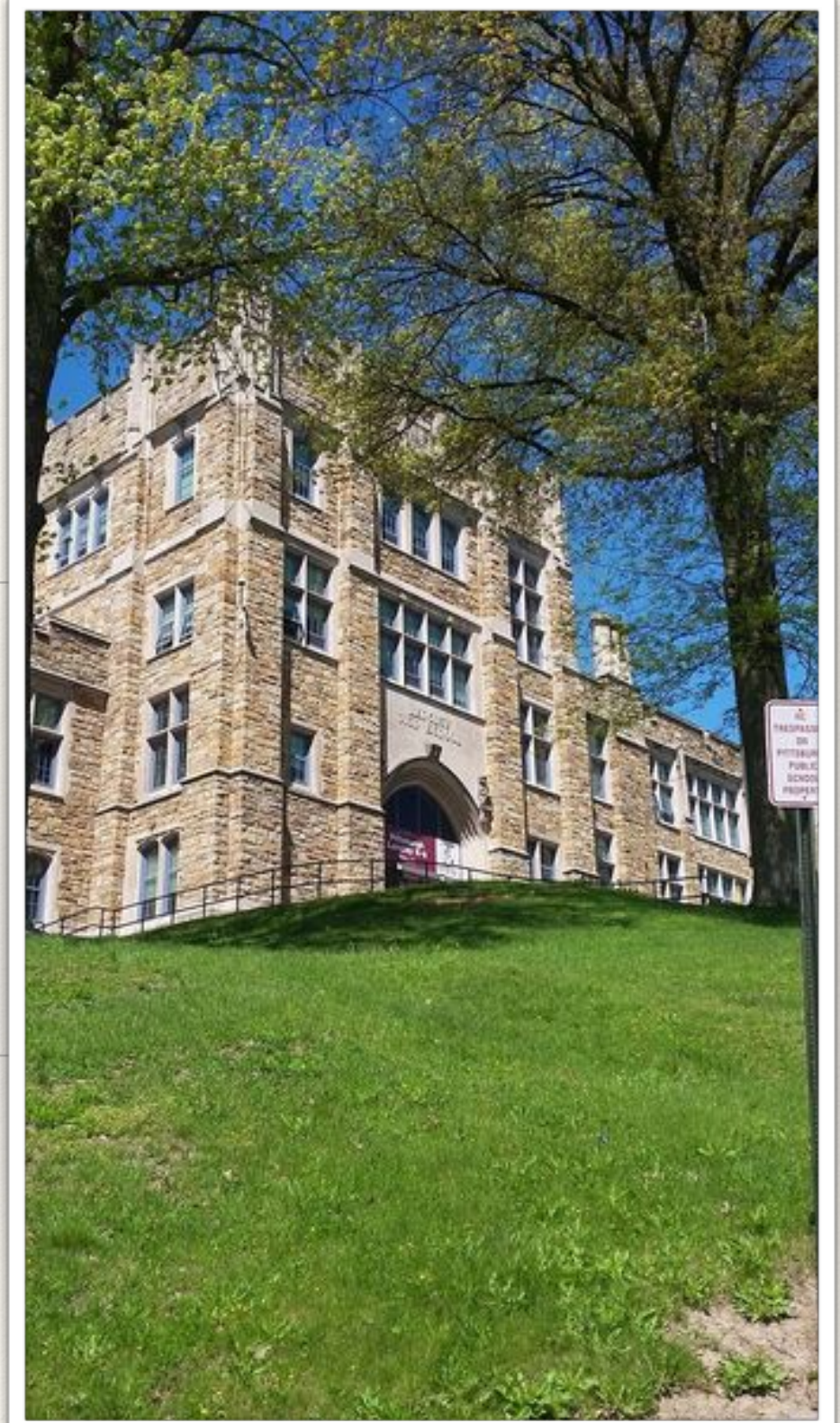
# Less desired: Last minute challenges.

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I can start now, at  
Brashear, Perry, Allegheny.

Can we begin?

Began a decade ago.





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# Question of Ownership or Partnerships

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- ❖ Control matters.
- ❖ Who is in charge?
- ❖ Who gets access?
- ❖ Who gets invited to planning meetings, as it isn't found within the framework of Summer Dreamers Activity Providers
- ❖ Administration, Union, or outsiders



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# Where are the boundaries? What sandbox?

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- ❖ PPS: Own and invest in a Rec Center model that energizes aquatics and athletics around the PPS Community Schools.
- ❖ Existing school pools serve as the prime setting.
- ❖ The sandbox should be owned, operated and controlled by PPS.
- ❖ Reverse the tide of closed facilities.



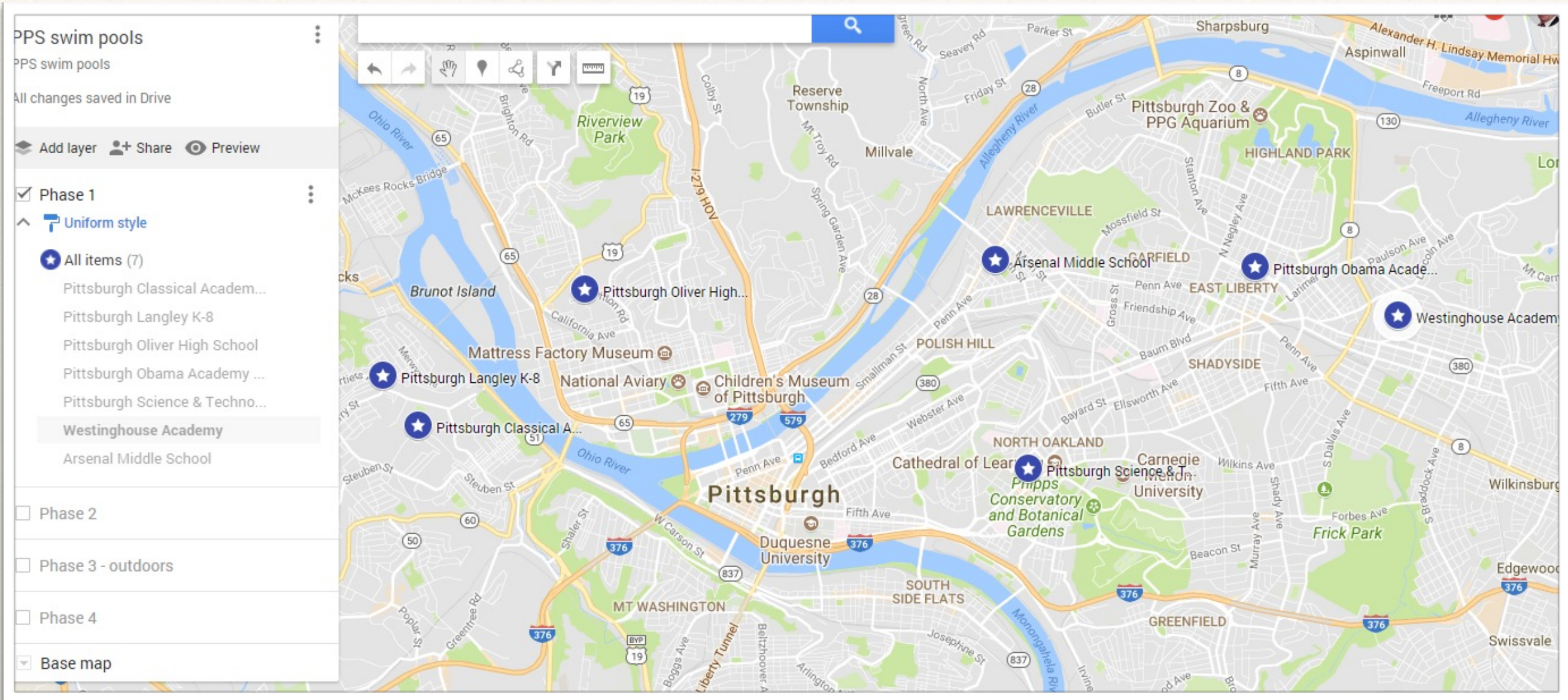
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# Suggestions for this sandbox

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- ❖ Let's launch and spin out programs, incubator style.
- ❖ Let's form common sense partnerships.
- ❖ Let's grow and manage services and programs for enrichment and economic energies.
- ❖ Let's embrace and obtain control of some strategic pieces.
- ❖ Let's learn and practice "Playing Well with Others."
- ❖ Let's progress in deliberate, measured, proactive acts of leadership.



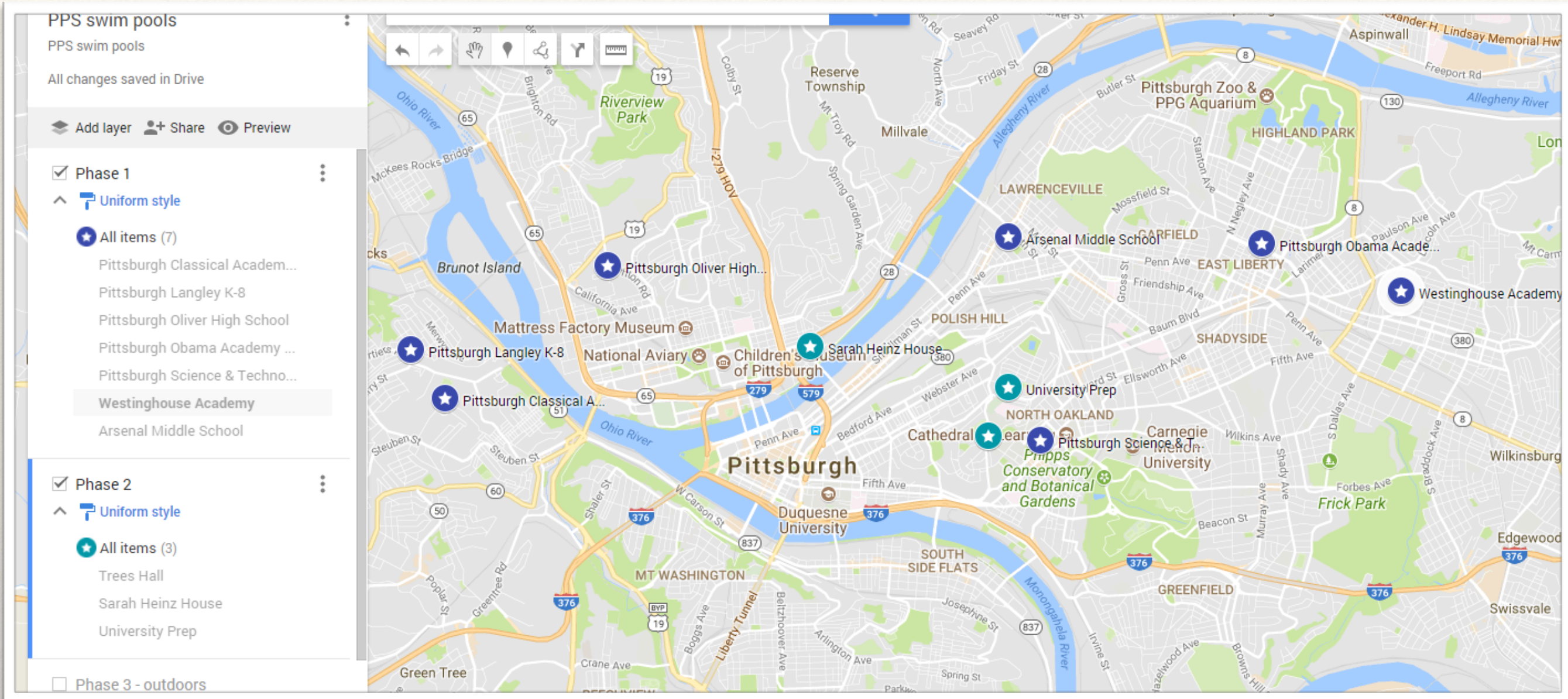


*Begin with PPS Community Schools plus Obama, Sci-Tech and Oliver*

# Phase 1

Places where Coach Mark currently operates, and PPS Community Schools



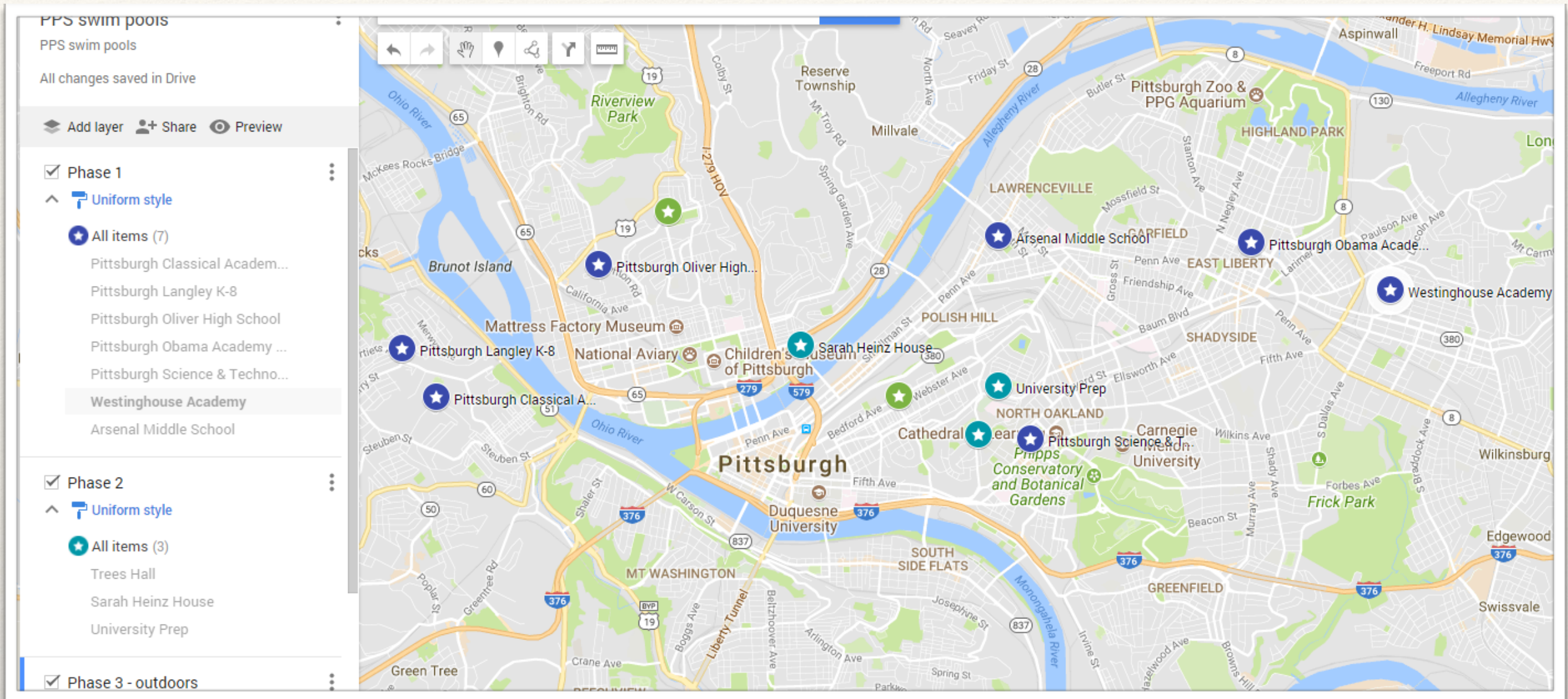


*Add partners: Trees Hall = Team Pittsburgh at Pitt, Sarah Heinz House and PPS UPrep*

# Phase 2

USA Swimming's new FLEX MEMBERSHIPS help, plus it's Diversity & Inclusion efforts.



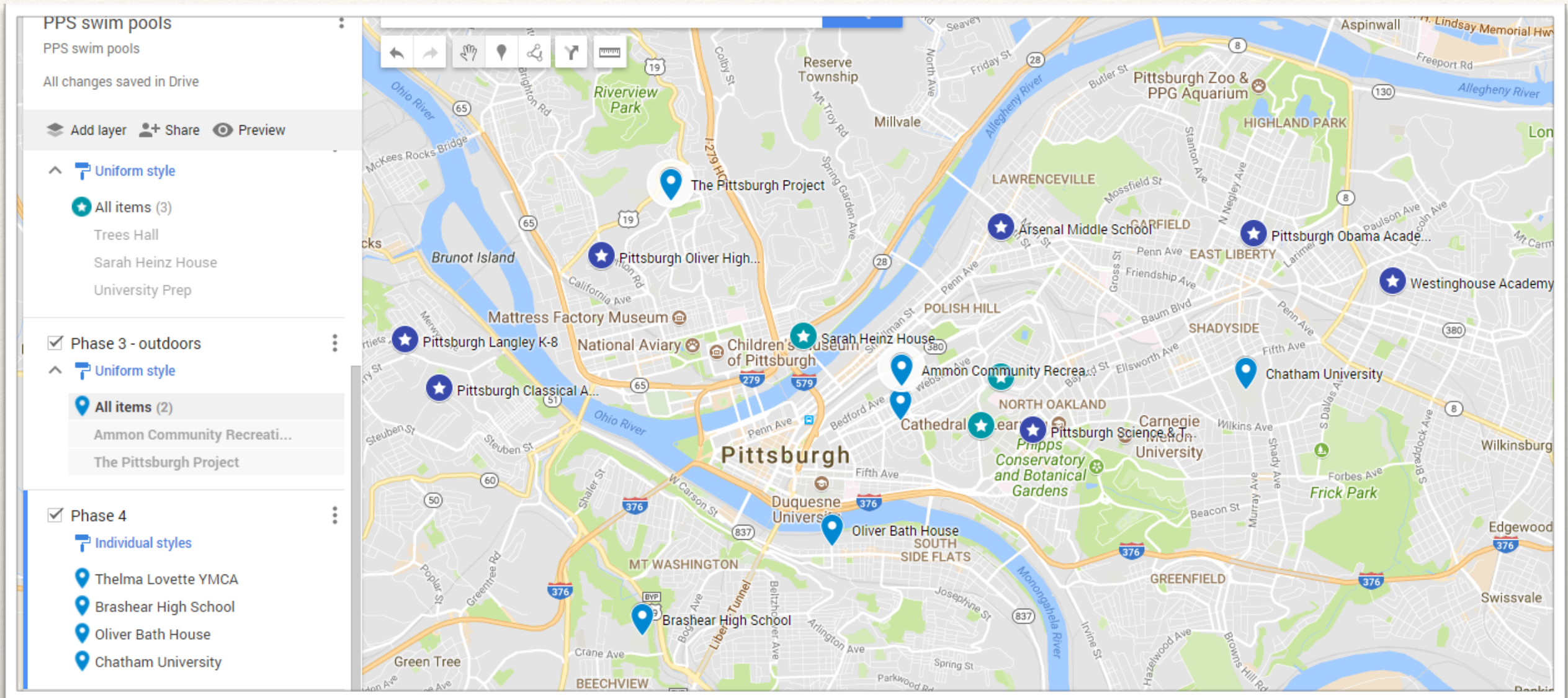


*The Pittsburgh Project on Northside and Citiparks Ammon in The Hill District*

# Phase 3

Outdoor pools used for past summers.





*Growth, expansion, capacity building with different populations*

# Phase 4, expectations

Chatham University, Thelma  
Lovette YMCA, Citiparks  
Oliver Bath House, PPS  
Brashear



*Does PPS aim to grow or preserve equity?*

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# Offense or Defense?

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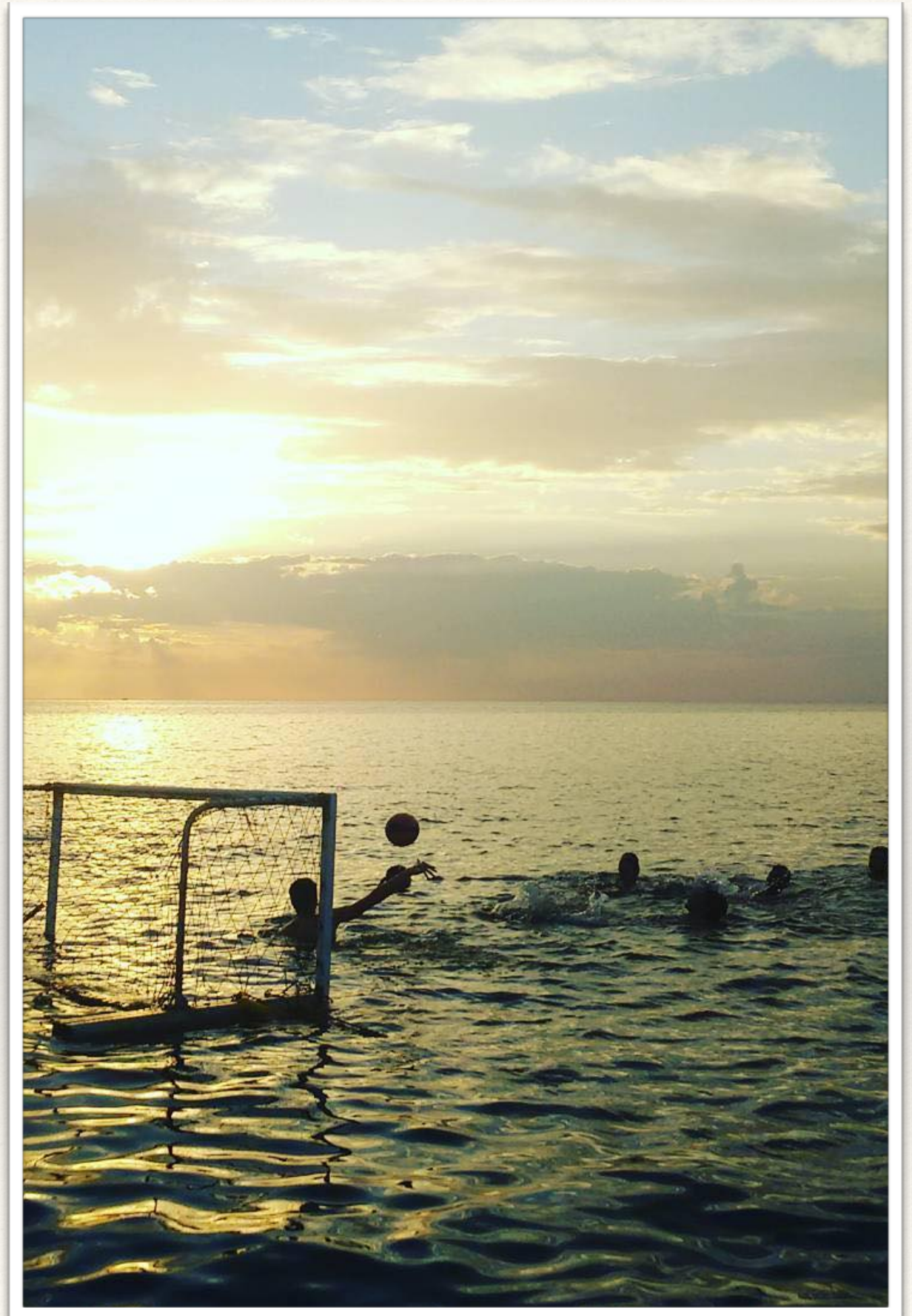
Make gains or guard?

Open or close?

Of course, PPS needs to be sensible and prudent.

I hope PPS goes on the offense.

Let's expand facility use in under utilized assets.





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# Play offense!

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- ❖ The swim pools are a wonderful place to play offense, refine communication methods and engage with a wide-reaching community.





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# Experiences

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- ❖ PPS steering committee, Parent Education Resource Centers, PERCs
- ❖ PPS Athletic Reform Task Force
- ❖ PPS Summer Dreamers, from start
- ❖ Sprout Fund, Digital Badges grant, Remake Learning
- ❖ Afterschool, YMCA, Clubs, Parks
- ❖ Take A Father To School Day, committee 10+ years
- ❖ Coach more than 10,000 swimmers, 10 years in PPS, 9 in NCAA, 6 states, WPIAL



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PPS.CLOH.org

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Community Learning Outreach Hub

Creating Literate Olympians Here

Come Live Over Here

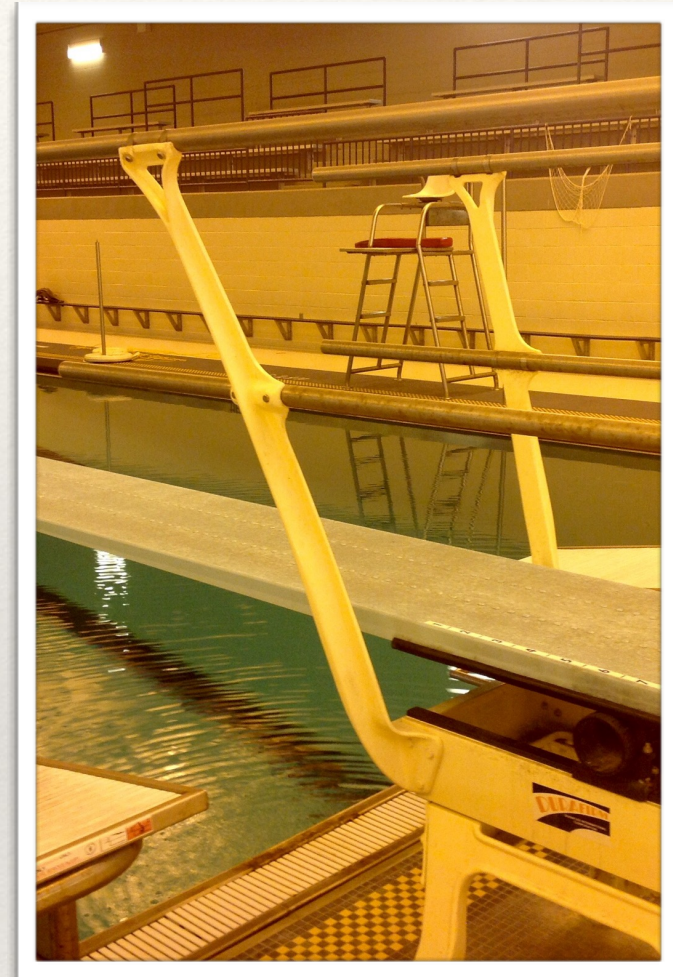
Caring, Loving, Open, Honest





# Aligned Instructional System

- ❖ #Fail: Building based decisions have not been successful in supporting nor funding dynamic aquatic programs.
- ❖ Services must fit specific pools, equipment, coaches, players.
- ❖ Let's align city-wide aquatics, raise expectations, cooperate and compete.
- ❖ Let's start with core district-wide programs to reside within PPS Community Schools.







An aligned instructional system, a PPS goal, requires:  
Ownership, operation and oversight of key elements.

- ❖ First year objective: Aquatics.
- ❖ Aquatics leads to Athletics, Sports, Recreation.
- ❖ All-City Varsity Club
- ❖ All-City Sports Camps
- ❖ S6



*Sport, Spirit & Soul, Song & Story Summit*

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## S6 . CLOH.org

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Sports lecture series with spotlight events.

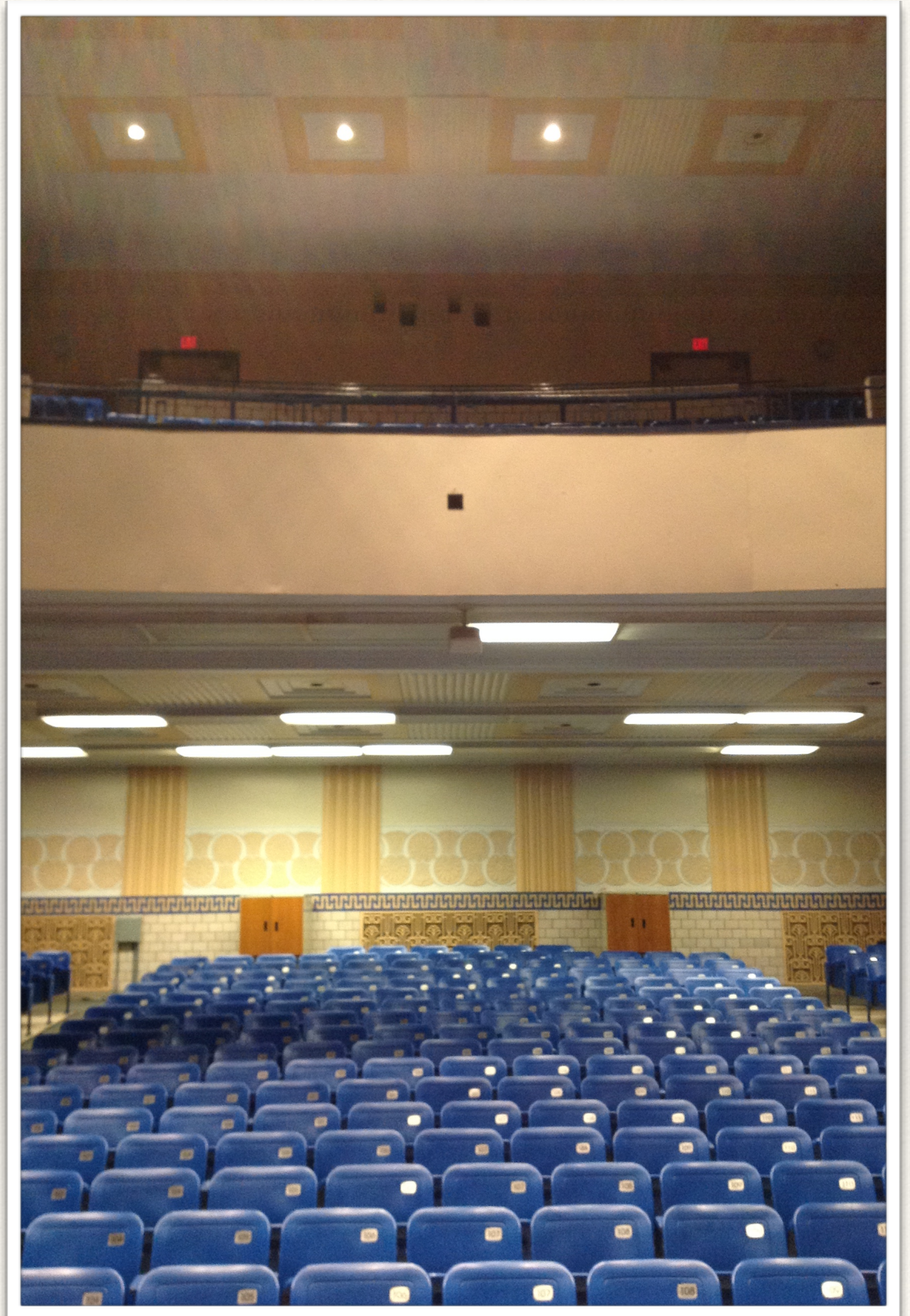
Includes music on stage.

Sell season subscriptions and sponsorships.

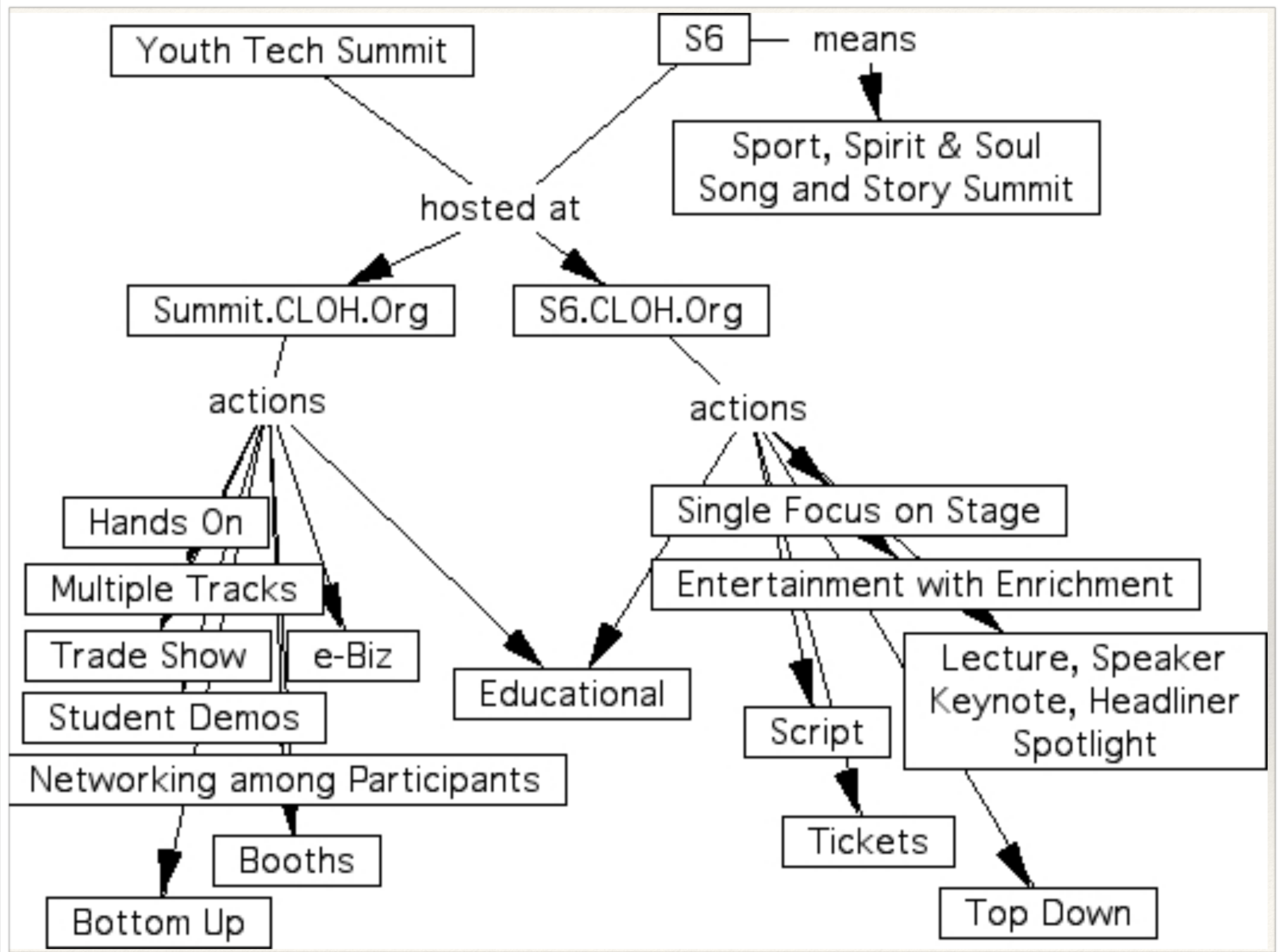
Planning events.

Technology and literacy components.

Projection: \$200k per year.









*Examples:*

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# Inorganic growth, co-op, fortify, mergers

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- ❖ CAPA's "Centers" on Saturdays formed to seed string talent
- ❖ PPS Parent Education Resource Centers (PERCs) steering committee
- ❖ Allderdice has JCC Sailfish using pool
- ❖ Gifted Center had a Summer Gifted Camp
- ❖ Freedom School at Westinghouse, Weil
- ❖ Activity providers at Summer Dreamers
- ❖ APOST, "The Zone" (UPrep)
- ❖ Neighborhood Learning Alliance's Reading Warriors
- ❖ BGC's College and Career Readiness Program
- ❖ Promise Readiness Corps
- ❖ 4-H
- ❖ Urban Impact
- ❖ The Pittsburgh Project
- ❖ Hosanna House
- ❖ Sarah Heinz House
- ❖ Learn & Earn



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# Projects include:

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- ❖ Staffing (recruit, cultivate, train, manage)
- ❖ Recruitment of kids and families
- ❖ Recruitment of boosters
- ❖ Recruitment of community participants
- ❖ Refine lessons (digital badges)
- ❖ Plan competitions: home and away
- ❖ Seek finance support (grants, sponsors, events, fees)



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# Process and procedure tasks:

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- ❖ Internal communication (BOE, buildings, faculty)
- ❖ Permits / facilities (Long term commitment, micro hurdles)
- ❖ Outreach to wider PPS and region
- ❖ Career (lifeguard, future teachers, CPR)
- ❖ Varsity Club (database, NCAA, PIAA, ethos, socialize)
- ❖ HPERD (health, p.e., recreation, dance)
- ❖ Remake summers and vacations (parks)
- ❖ Travel teams
- ❖ S6, (teach tech, talent visitors, literacy enrichment)



# Will it play in Peoria?



❖ Story time.