

Dilation-Contraction

A Continuous and Open School

The project begins with the concept of dilation and contraction. Continuous loops are modified to create spaces of differing qualities and behaviors. A continuous and open structure is inserted at the center and connects to the existing building creating an open space experience for the whole project. Loops running north-south support large programs, which face the two public streets. The loops that run east-west engage the existing wings as public circulation space at the ground and classrooms above. The open negative space created between the loops provides large areas for the children's outdoor activities. Children need sunlight in which to run, and will enjoy the different slopes of these open areas. Small programs such as platforms for plantings and platforms for resting enrich and enliven the continuous space. The west wing is developed and connected with large programs including a gym and auditorium, whose roof provides a generous outdoor area. The facade of the project enlivens the local streetscape, inviting the public to engage with the life of the school.























