Covid Consultancy

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The Challenge 2020
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Defining the Problem

- What about COVID-19 is causing a “new normal”?

Social distancing keeps us safe, but has led to hardship for many of America’s small businesses (Image from Bloomberg)

Experts recommend wearing a cloth face mask to prevent transmission of the coronavirus, and some people have sought to look stylish as they social distance (Image from USA Today)

- What effect is COVID-19 having on public spaces, specifically schools?
The Cafeteria: Eating and Socializing

- Who uses the cafeteria?
- How does interaction occur in the cafeteria?
- What are the physical characteristics of the cafeteria?
- How does social distancing make using the cafeteria difficult?

The lunch period is just as much a time to socialize as it is to eat (Image from The Queen's Journal)
“Typically when I think of a cafeteria the first thing that pops up in my mind is the large seating area where everyone is socializing and talking to friends. I think of how loud and crowded it is every day. I don’t think I could ever picture a cafeteria being this large room where no one is talking and everyone is sitting apart from each other.”

- Faith Leigh
Keeping it Safe, but Normal

- What was our creative/design process?
- What did we come up with to adapt and update the cafeteria?
- How will we implement the solution?
- What types of engineers do we need to implement our solution?
- What about our solution is innovative?

Our group brainstormed various potential problems and solutions in the cafeteria before deciding on our final recommendations (Image from Wrike)
Parts 1 and 2:

A restaurant-style tab will allow cashiers to register purchases without any money or cards changing hands (Image from HashMicro).

Outdoor seating allows sunlight to kill the coronavirus on contact (Image from Pinterest).
Parts 3 and 4:

Drawing depicting a potential design for a table top sneeze guard taken from the notes of consultant Sevren Jackson.

Drawing of the design for a condiment dispenser made by Vibha Kannan.
What Must be Overcome to Implement Our Solution

- How much will each part cost?
- What do schools need to implement our solution?
How Will Our Solution Change the Cafeteria

- Changes for students and faculty using the cafeteria?
- Ethical considerations - positive and negative changes?
- How will the function of the cafeteria change?
What Our Team Learned

● Successes?
● Failures?
● How will we improve in the future?
Sources


