

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

SCENARIO ONE

CONSIDER

My family came to the US when I was in elementary school and I'm currently a sophomore at CHS. I speak English fluently but with an accent, so sometimes I feel judged for it.

It can be hard to relate culturally, so I'm most at ease when I'm attending meetings with my affinity group or hanging out with fellow members because I don't feel like I have to explain myself – I can just be.

I'm still getting used to being at this school and finding my way around. The layout can be confusing and I don't always feel comfortable asking adults for help directly. The ones I do feel safe around aren't always in the same place throughout the day and it can be challenging to track them down.

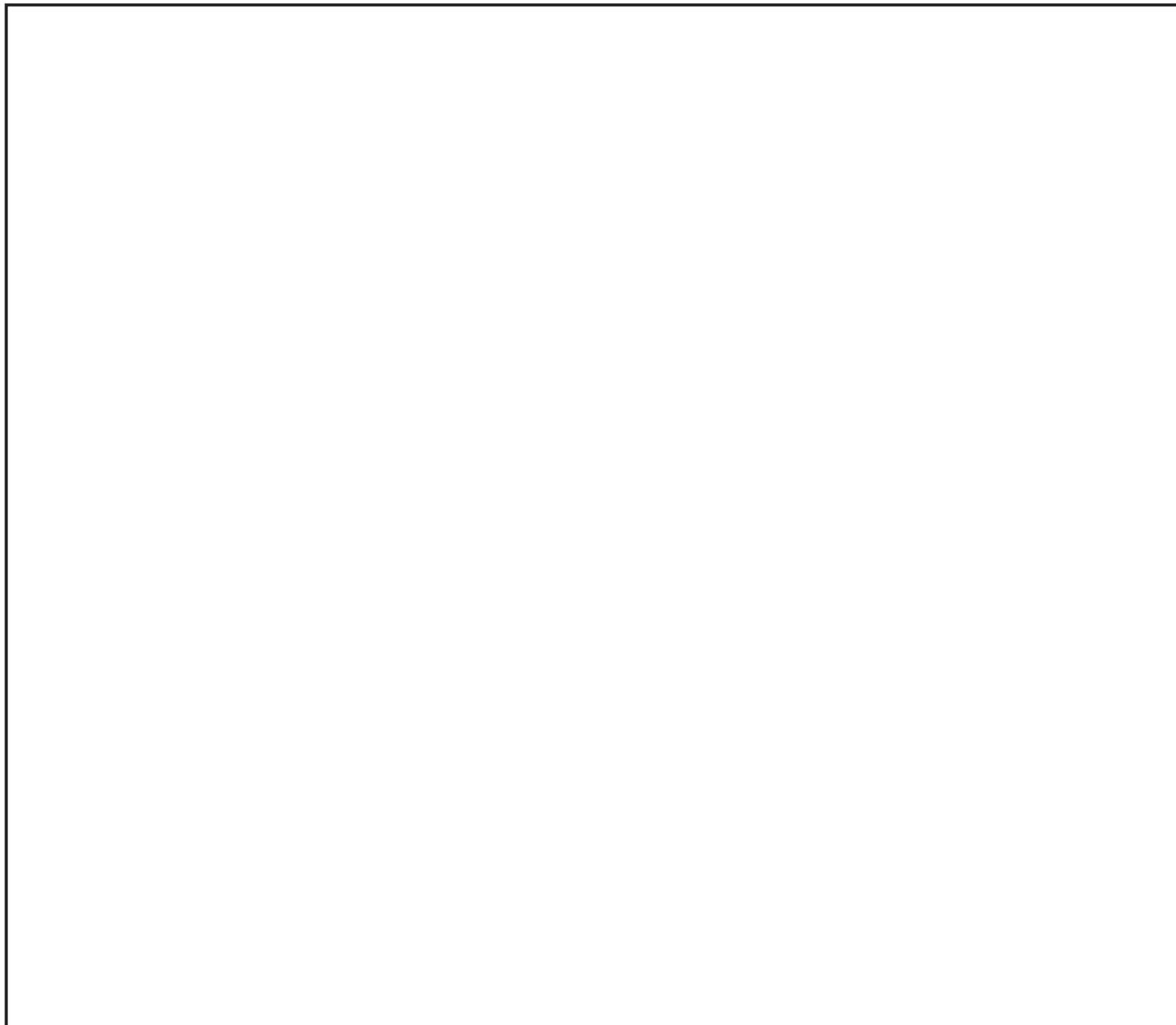
My prayer practice is very important to me and is intrinsic to my family's cultural identity. The other day I was trying to find a space that's clean and appropriate for me to practice my prayers. I couldn't access the spaces I normally use because they were being used by other groups and I missed the timing, which was really tough to bear.

When my family came to discuss the situation with the school, they had a hard time finding the office they were supposed to go to.

What about the building might be contributing negatively to this experience?

How do you know where to go, especially if navigating - literally and figuratively - a high school in the US as a new experience?

How might you identify how to get the help you need and who might be able to help you with any of these challenges?



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SCENARIO TWO

CONSIDER

Our affinity group is made up of people whose backgrounds are from different regions but we all share a common holiday.

The group wants to host a celebration for an upcoming special holiday to reflect the things we've learned about all of the different ways we've learned how it's celebrated.

Members also want to host smaller cultural events throughout the year. The special holiday will be a bigger event, possibly over the course of multiple days and we hope to get a lot of visibility and school-wide attendance.

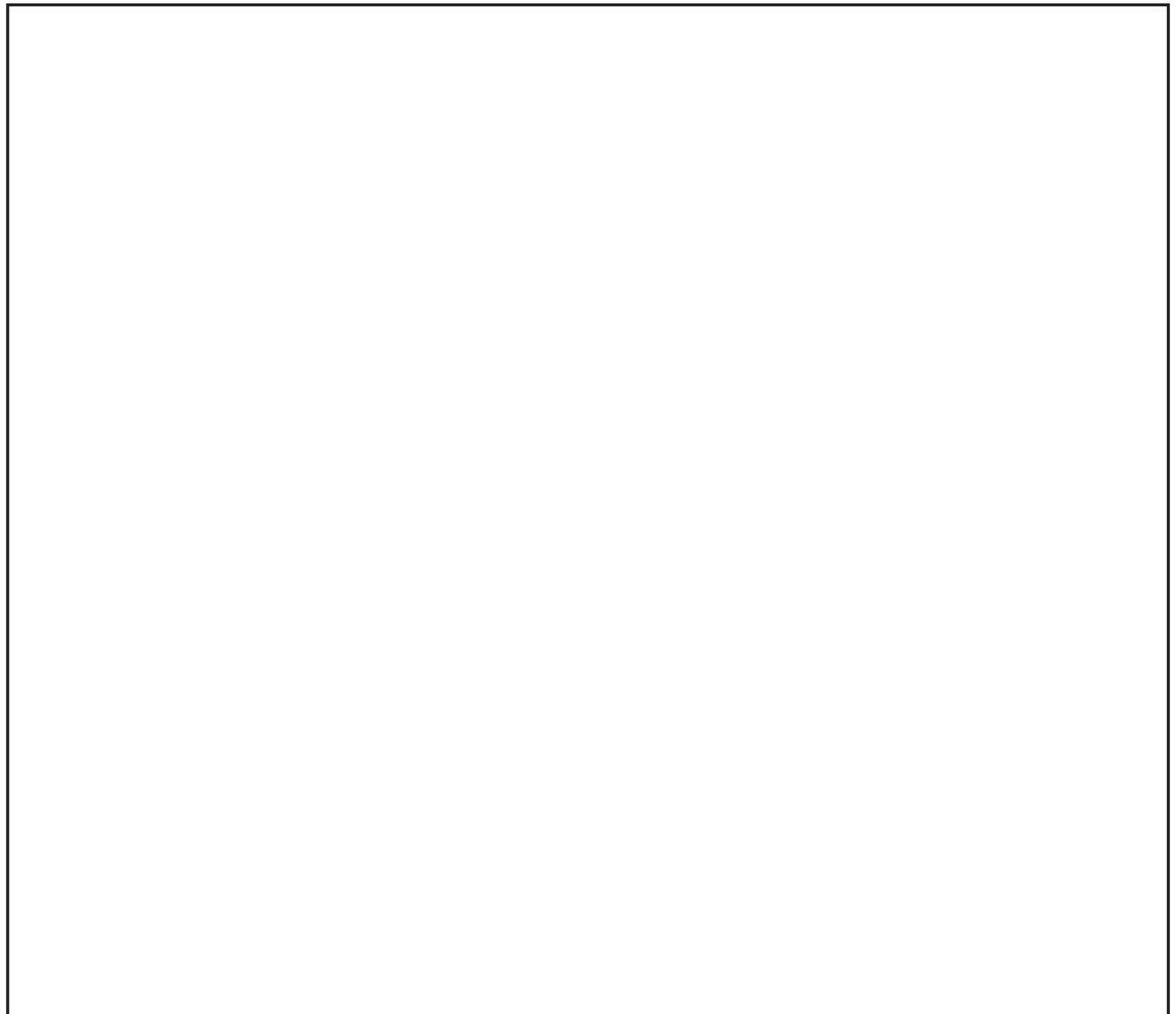
The smaller events will happen more often and take over over a day or a block of hours, so the goal won't be to accommodate as many people, we're planning to include food for both events.

For the special holiday, we're thinking of possibly inviting some speakers or community leaders to lead workshops or activities. We have equipment and supplies we want to use for these events and need a place to keep them.

What kind of space might you want to host these events?

How is the space potentially used during other times of the year or by other groups?

Would they be the same space or different? Describe the space and what else might be nearby



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SCENARIO THREE

CONSIDER

My parent got into a bad health situation that had a big impact on us financially. Our housing situation is impermanent at the moment, and we're currently living in an RV.

Mornings are difficult because we're both getting ready to leave and the bathroom is very small. I don't always have access to a shower or laundry, so having those at school is helpful because sometimes I feel self-conscious when I access them.

I also use resources from the food pantry and clothing closet from time to time. I try to get to school early before the other kids because I'm worried about being stigmatized and bullied if I'm seen accessing these resources.

What location or placement of resources like a food pantry or clothing closet might feel safer for people who need them?

What other resources or services might be helpful to have nearby?

What placement of a shower and laundry space might be ideal for people who need to use them and who experience stigma for doing so?

