1. Action Zone: The primary zone is in the front of the classroom from where the majority of lessons will be taught. Seating is arranged to maximize the amount of students occupying the action zone. The secondary zone is the second chalkboard on the far-right side of the room. Lessons can be taught from this area when needed. In this way, it is possible to bring students located in the back directly into the action zone.

2. Teacher Proximity: It is important for the teacher to be as close as possible to the largest number of students for the greatest amount of time. Therefore, this room is set up to facilitate that proximity as much as possible. The primary and secondary action zones reach the majority of students. The teacher's desk is placed in this corner of the room. This provides for the teacher to be closely associated with this group during seatwork times or whenever the teacher is not moving about the room for various tasks.

3. Arranging Student Desks: It is very important to facilitate discussions and to incorporate a variety of cooperative and group assignments. The cluster pattern allows for that type of learning environment. Desks are available for 26 students. Another cluster of four can be added in the rear of the class if necessary.

4. Traffic Patterns: This design incorporates as much freedom as possible when moving about the room. The action zones are clear of any unnecessary clutter. The audio/visual equipment is located convenient to one corner between the two action zones so that it is readily available when needed. The teacher's view is unrestricted from any point in the room. Additionally, the teacher can be at a student's desk within seconds. The teacher's desk is placed near the rear of the room to facilitate proximity to the students who prefer to be out of the action zone, it affords some privacy when in a private conference with a student, and it is near the computer station for effective monitoring.

5. Identifying Activity Boundaries: The rear right corner of the room is a clearly delineated boundary area. This area is partitioned by bookshelves and has multiple uses. The activity center is located here. Small groups can use this area during these rotated activities. The area doubles as a privacy area for one or two students when not in use for activities and can be used for quiet reading during free time. It is also in a clear line of sight of the teacher when at the desk or from the left corner of the primary action zone. The secondary action zone is close enough to hear any excess commotion coming from the area. The computer area is not partitioned because often students need considerable attention when this area is in use.

The ambiance of the room has some of functional characteristics as well as to give some feeling of home. Plants are placed at the rear of the room under the windows on the storage area, which are aesthetically pleasing and can also be used to assign some responsibility to students.

Maps and posters of relevant subjects will be displayed on vacant wall space.

The placement of the pencil sharpener is between the storage cabinets and the computer station. The area is fully accessible and should not cause traffic problems or noise distractions.

Adapted from: http://www.schoolmarm.org/portfolio/CMP.html