

Suggested Layout and Equipment Specifications for a Reading Recovery/IPLÉ Teacher Training Centre

CONSTRUCTION

AIR CIRCULATION:

Since the space allocated for modification may not have windows, and all training sessions are 2 ½ hours long, the distribution of fresh air on both sides of the soundproof wall is critical.

SOUNDPROOFING:

The wall between the rooms and the ceiling above the tutoring/office areas must be soundproof. The teacher and child being observed should not be able to hear the observers on the other side of the glass, or the second child and parent(s) in an adjacent waiting room area. A minimum wall thickness of 8" is advised with studs that do not go all the way through (see Diagram 1). Wallboard thickness should not be less than ½". Double door systems should be installed between seminar room and office areas and between waiting room and tutoring area. Solid wooden doors, even with draught excluders and weather stripping fitted, are poor barriers to sound transmission.

ONE-WAY-GLASS:

The glass should be 48" x 96" with both panes set into the soundproof wall at a height of 28-30" off the floor (see Diagram 2). The expanse of glass must be barrier-free with no vertical supports. A light ratio of 1:10 is required. The tempered glass should be installed at an angle so that the bottom edge is 2" closer to the mirrored pane than is the top edge. A minimum 4" separation between panes at their bottom edge is required for effective soundproofing. Desiccant-silica gel placed along the base plate between panes prevents "moisture bloom".

SOUND SYSTEM:

A small microphone is recommended for installation in a central position on the wall just above the one-way-glass on the tutoring side. This microphone is connected to a low wattage amplifier and two stereo speakers on the seminar room side of the glass. The teacher leader requires a volume control on the wall at the either end of the one-way-glass (see Plan).

Amplifier, discrete Microphone,
Two Speakers
Volume control

LIGHTING:

The seminar room lighting has to be independent of other areas and have the capability of being completely blacked-out when observers are watching through the one-way-glass. The tutoring area has to be exceptionally well lit. In addition to ceiling lights, adequate lighting directed down on the counter top, ought to be placed on the wall immediately above the one-way-glass.

Adequate Lighting System recommended

COUNTER TOP:

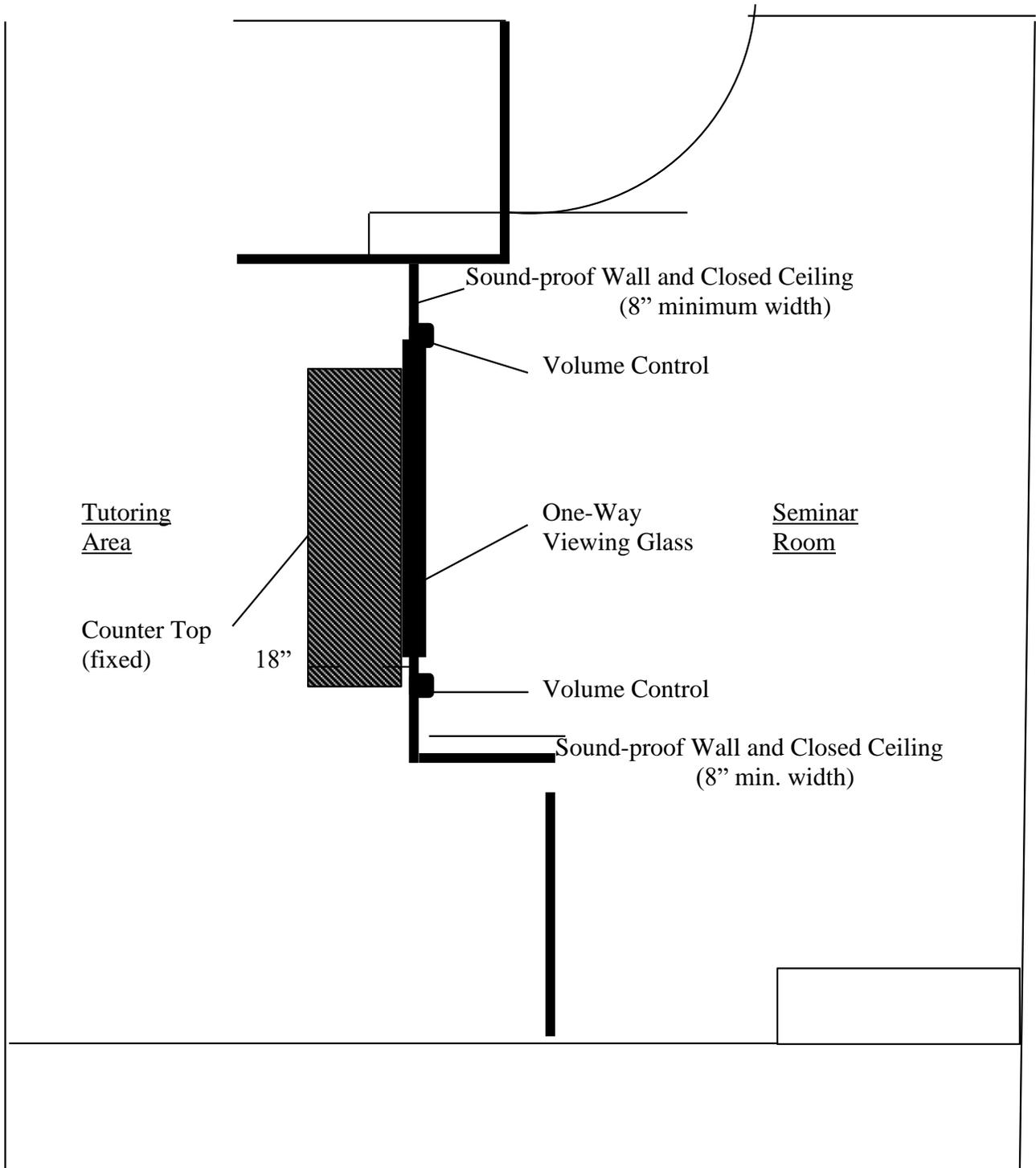
The counter top on the tutoring side of the glass (see Diagram 1) extends out horizontally 18” into the room, flush with the bottom of the glass. Its length should extend the length of the mirror plus the mirror casings. Although piano hinges may be used to attach the inner edge to the casings, the tops should be permanently mounted in the horizontal position using three 45-degree wooden brackets. The top should have a durable surface.

18” x 98” Counter Top – Rounded front edge

ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

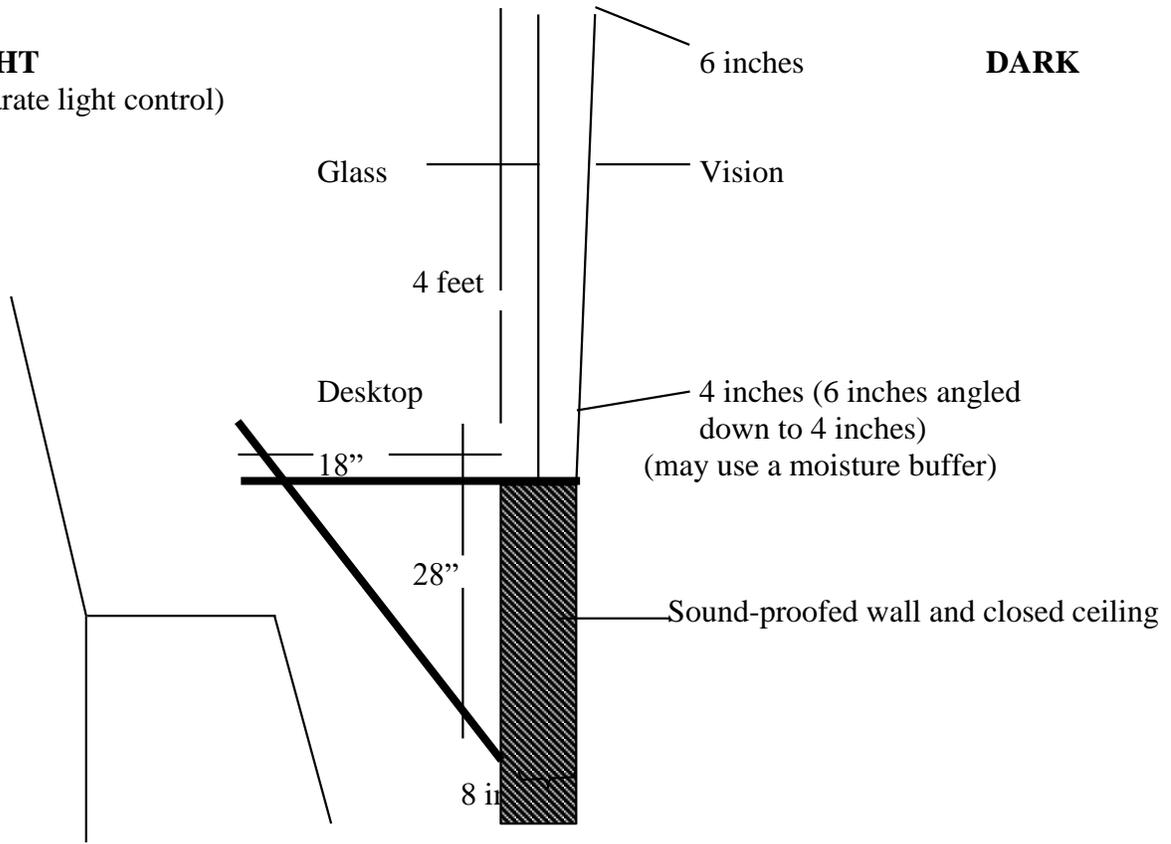
1. High stools: 6 high stools - 29” high
2. Stacking Chairs: 18 Chairs – without arms
3. Magnetic Whiteboard:
4’ x 6’ Magnetic Surface Marker Board

Plan for Centre's Internal Construction Requirements



LIGHT
(separate light control)

DARK



Example of Layout

