OPEN CLASSROOM CONCEPTS
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Participants will understand the history of *Open Plan* schools through reference literature and case studies.

- Participants will learn how to re-structure the conversation around transformational learning environments by exploring current shifts in pedagogy specifically relating to learning activities, learning tools, and learning group sizes.

- Participants will define space types that support current and future pedagogy through small group exploration.

- Participants will diagram space type usage to best support future-oriented skill development.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- A child-centered, self-learning environment
- Teacher in the role of catalyst and guide
- Long-term commitment to exploration of new concepts and practices
- Needs and growth of children as the chief concern
- Progression of each child at his/her own rate
- Reinforcement of open, original modes of behavior
- Emotional/intellectual atmosphere encouraging exploration, experimentation and innovation
Baron, Barbara. The Open Classroom Approach in the Kindergarten. Penn. State Dept. of Education. 1971

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PAST —
WHY IS *open* SUCH A LOADED TERM AND HOW CAN WE CHANGE THAT?

- allowing access, passage, or a view through an empty space; not closed or blocked up.
Why is *open* such a loaded term and how can we change that?

- Characteristics of open schools
  - No whole class lessons
  - No standardized tests
  - Organized around “interest centers”
  - May be multi-age
  - Active learning rather than passive
  - Expression in a variety of media
  - Self-directed, student initiated more than teacher-directed
  - Multiple classes, multi-age gathered together
Public perception that academic standards had slipped
Perception that urban schools were becoming violent
Call for a “return to the basics”
Conservative backlash against cultural and political changes of the 1960s and early 1970s
States tried to raise academic standards by implementing minimum competency tests for graduation
- Homes used to be single-functional and separated
Schools are single-functional and separated
- Homes are open-connective-multi-functional

- ESPN Sport Center
- Harrison on iPad
- Allie's Art Projects
- Teen on Phone
- Parker & Friends on Wii
- Homework Station
- Helping Cook
- Maggie on Computer
Schools are open-connective; multi-functional
and student centered

Traditional classroom is teacher centered...what if?

we open one of the walls...opened, connected

PRESENT

Houston Independent School District
SHWGroup
FanningHowey
the entire building **becomes** a continuous and flexible *educational environment*
TODAY – GOOGLE WORK ENVIRONMENT
PAST – 20TH CENTURY EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
TODAY – 21st CENTURY EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
PRESENT
PRESENT

- Practice
- Audiovisual
- Read
- Demonstration
- Teach Others
- Discuss
- Lecture
### Present - Questions

- **What spatial solutions have you implemented/seen?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Future Proofing: Top 4 Traits of “Future Proof” Employees, According to 1,709 CEOs - Forbes

- Collaborative: 75%
- Communicative: 67%
- Creative: 61%
- Flexible: 61%
- Opportunity seeking: 54%
- Analytical/quantitative: 50%
- Technology-savvy: 41%
- Globally oriented: 41%
- Assertive: 25%
- Disruptive: 16%
FUTURE — DRIVERS + OUTCOMES OF PEDAGOGY
FUTURE – DRIVERS + OUTCOMES OF PEDAGOGY
ACTIVITIES

INSTRUCTING

CREATING

SIMULATING

PRESENTING

COLLABORATING

The LEARNER
ACTIVITIES

THE LEARNER

THE EDUCATOR
ACTIVITIES

THE LEARNER & EDUCATOR

INSTRUCTION

STUDENT WORK

LEARNING HUB - ADVISORY

PROJECT LABS

STAFF PLANNING

OPEN OFFICE - ADVISORY

C T E & SPECIALS

ART / MUSIC / ATHLETICS
**Future - Questions**

- What learning **activities** do we see today/future?

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FUTURE — DRIVERS + OUTCOMES OF PEDAGOGY
GROUP SIZES

30 LEARNERS
GROUP SIZES

60 LEARNERS
GROUP SIZES

15 LEARNERS
GROUP SIZES

1-5 LEARNERS
GROUP SIZES

480 LEARNERS
**FUTURE — QUESTIONS**

- What group sizes are being used today/future?

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- [Image of a group of people]
FUTURE — DRIVERS + OUTCOMES OF PEDAGOGY
Furniture

- **individual tablet**
- **individual desk**
- **individual desk**
- **double student table**
- **project table**
- **technology table**
- **mobile lounge**
- **media bar**

Additional options:
- Single + tablet surface
- Double + casters
- Double + casters
- Double with divide
- Group + swivel chair
- Perch high + small or large
FUTURE — QUESTIONS

- What **tools** are being used today/future?

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FUTURE – DRIVERS + OUTCOMES OF PEDAGOGY
**FUTURE — QUESTIONS**

- What **settings** support the desired learning activities?

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FUTURE – DRIVERS + OUTCOMES OF PEDAGOGY
FUTURE — QUESTIONS

- What **organizational** shifts are we seeing occur?
FUTURE — QUESTIONS

- Delivery Method Analysis
  - Project Based Learning
  - Blended Learning
    - School of One
    - San Francisco Flex
    - Carpe Diem
  - Flipped Classroom
  - Open-Ended Schooling
    - Zoo School
    - The Met
**Future — Activity Mapping**

- Assessing: 10%
- Colloborating: 10%
- Simulating: 10%
- Studying: 10%
- Movement: 10%
- Creating: 10%
- Researching: 10%
- Socializing: 10%
- Lecturing: 10%
- Performing: 10%

= 100%
FUTURE – ACTIVITY MAPPING

- Allocate time to equal 100%
FUTURE – ACTIVITY MAPPING

- Stack = simultaneous
- Group = relationship
## Future — Activity Mapping

- **Elaborate**

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