



Key Questions

Each Strategic Planning Team will identify and address key questions. The overall focus of each team is to look critically at its assigned topic and to establish a five-year plan to better prepare our students for success.

Listed below are the initial key questions for each team's consideration. These questions reflect the vision and needs identified during the Feasibility Study and are presented as they relate to the five continuous improvement domains that drive our efforts. Additional key questions will be identified by the teams during their initial meetings. Early team meetings will also focus on creating a timeline of priorities to be completed before programming changes go into effect in 2019-2020.

7/8 Programming Model Key Questions

Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

1. What will the instructional model be for math, science, English, reading, and social studies for grades 7 and 8? (departmentalized, elementary format, junior high?)
 - ❖ Students will be assigned to a team of academic teachers focusing on the core subject areas.
 - ❖ Depending on student needs and ability levels, students will be with Core Academic Teachers a minimum of four periods and a maximum of six periods.
2. What supports do we currently have that work for students in academics?
 - **Meeting individual student needs:**
 - ❖ Individualized and differentiated instruction for all performance levels (high ability, on-level, below-level performance)
 - ❖ Smaller class sizes, teaching teams, ability grouping, and remediation.
 - ❖ Literacy teachers to provide instruction to students struggling in reading.
 - ❖ High ability class offerings
 - ❖ Virtual Learning Opportunities
 - ❖ Allied Arts Courses
 - **Delivering high quality instruction:**
 - ❖ Chromebooks 1-1 Ratio
 - ❖ Multimedia to deliver instruction.
 - ❖ Project-Based Learning.
 - ❖ Professional Development on Best Practices
 - ❖ Instructional Coaches
 - ❖ STEM Opportunities
 - ❖ Flexing of Time

- **Collaboration:**
 - ❖ Collaborate with teacher teams, within departments, and across the curriculum.
 - ❖ Collaborate other grade levels
 - ❖ Working within a team of teachers was a major theme in the responses to the survey.
 - ❖ Collaboration time to communicate with parents and community
 - ❖ Team Teaching and Co-teaching
3. What college and career readiness, STEM, fine arts, high ability and related arts experiences are recommended for our students?
 - Art
 - Gateway Courses (Automation and Robotics, App Creators, Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, Design and Modeling)
 - Health & Wellness
 - Digital Citizenship
 - FACS
 - College and Career Readiness
 - STEM Related Courses (Ozobots or Comparable Experience)
 - Exploratory Music
 - Band, Choir, and Orchestra
 - Foreign Languages
 4. Considering the above questions, what daily schedule do we want to follow for grade 7 and grade 8?
 - ❖ Flexible Schedule which includes collaboration time for teachers
 5. What academic programming and resources could be shared between grades 7 and 8?
 - ❖ Allied Arts offerings listed in question #3
 6. What Special Education disabilities will we serve in grades 7 and 8? What are the program needs that should be included in the implementation plan?
 - ❖ All Special Education Disabilities that are currently addressed
 - ❖ Close collaboration with Special Education Cooperative
 7. What technology do we want our students to be using in order to prepare them for future success?
 - ❖ 1-1 Technology
 - ❖ Interactive White Boards
 - ❖ STEM Related Technology

8. What extracurricular experiences do our students have, and what needs to be deleted or added, in order to meet the needs of all students and prepare them for future success?

- ❖ Academic Teams
- ❖ Athletic Teams
- ❖ Clubs & Organizations

Safety

1. What supports are needed to ensure the physical and emotional safety of students and staff at the new intermediate site?

Physical Safety

- ❖ Traffic Flow → Separate Bus and Parent Drop Off/Pick Up
- ❖ Cameras in Halls, Classrooms and Office Areas
- ❖ Double Entry Way
- ❖ Master Lock System
- ❖ Administrators and Athletic Director

Emotional Safety

- ❖ The need for a gradual transition from elementary to high school with different arrangement of students at the 5/6 and 7/8 levels
- ❖ Advisory Period as supported by Lilly Grant
- ❖ Character Education Programs
- ❖ Guest Speakers
- ❖ Counselors and/or Social Workers

Professional Development

1. What professional development is needed in each domain in order to successfully make the transition to the new intermediate programming format?

- ❖ Professional Development Focused on the Five Learning Domains
- ❖ Intermediate Instructional Coach
- ❖ Teacher Collaboration
- ❖ Data Collection and Analysis for all Five Domains
- ❖ Technology as an Integral Part of Instruction and Building Safety

2. What training/education will be provided for parents and staff regarding special needs programming?

- ❖ Consultation and collaboration with the Special Education Cooperative will determine the training/education needed for parents and staff.

3. Where will time be “carved out of the school day” to provide guaranteed curriculum coordination and professional development?

- ❖ Collaboration Time and Needs will be determined by the Instructional Programming

Goals/Feedback

1. What goals will we set to assure that the committee is successful in preparing the way for the programming changes to begin in the 2019-2020 school year?

- ❖ Professional for All Stakeholders Focused on the Five Domains of Continuous Improvement

2. What data is available to establish a baseline of success which can, in the future, be used for measuring successes after transition to the 7/8 configuration?

- ❖ Five Domains Core Team Products

Parent/Community Involvement

1. How are parents engaged in the planning process?

- ❖ Parents on 7/8 Planning Committee
- ❖ Community Surveys
- ❖ Site Visitations

2. How are businesses engaged in the planning process?

- ❖ Business Representatives on 7/8 Planning Committee
- ❖ Community Surveys
- ❖ Site Visitations

3. How are businesses and parents engaged in the learning of our students?

- ❖ Career Fairs
- ❖ Business Partnerships as supported by Lilly Grant
- ❖ Mentor Programs
- ❖ Guest Speakers
- ❖ Outreach Programs (Parks, Library, Community Business Partners)
- ❖ Community Donations
- ❖ Parenting Assistance and Workshops as supported by Lilly Grant