



FAQ



- **How will students be grouped?**
Students will be grouped into one of 16 neighborhoods. All core courses (Math, Science, English and History) will be delivered through the neighborhoods.
- **How many students will be in individual neighborhoods?**
Approximately 200 students will be assigned to each small learning community, or neighborhood.
- **How will students eat lunch?**
Food distribution sites are housed in each neighborhood for easy access. We are working with District food service leadership to design cutting edge food service options that students will like.
- **How will instruction be delivered?**
Teachers will continue to use the flipped classroom approach to provide background information before students arrive to class, and will then work with students in smaller groups to provide more individualized instructional support and facilitate collaborative, real world work.
- **Which courses will be included in the neighborhoods?**
Courses that all students take, core courses such as English, History, Math and Science, will be delivered by a team of teachers within the neighborhood. Specialized courses, such as fine arts, career and technology, and physical education will be delivered in state of the art facilities designed especially for the program.
- **Will students still be able to take fine arts classes and be involved in athletics?**
Students will continue to have access to all of our current fine arts and athletics programs. These fields of study will continue to be delivered during the school day as one of the courses outside the neighborhood setting.
- **How are that many students taught by teachers?**
Teachers currently have a similar student load. This is not a change in load, but rather a more collaborative approach to helping students connect the things they learn in one discipline to the things they are learning in the other disciplines.
- **How is content delivered?**
We will continue to offer rigorous academic courses to provide a strong foundation in the varying disciplines, but will utilize a concept-based, interdisciplinary approach to help students use the tools of the disciplines to engage in purposeful real-world work. We will continue to utilize the flipped classroom design for first line instruction, but will follow up with more personalized attention in smaller cohorts within each neighborhood.
- **What if my child is struggling? How do they get help?**
Lamar continues to offer additional supports such as tutoring and will continue our partnership with Communities in Schools. We will utilize the team teaching model to identify and intervene more quickly through our Intervention Assistance Team, and will continue to offer in-class support for students in Special Education and accommodations for students identified under 504.

- How will accommodations/modifications work?**
Our special education staff will continue to provide in class support through a co-teacher model, as well as support teachers in delivering accommodations for students who need them.
- Will students have the same choices as they currently have? Will programs be eliminated?**
No programs are being eliminated. Lamar will continue to offer the same wide range of fine arts, athletics and unique career and technology programs.
- How will student's social needs be met?**
Students will continue to meet and socialize with students who have similar interests through our fine arts, athletics and career and technology courses. Students will have opportunities to work closely with peers within their neighborhoods, and we are continuing to develop opportunities for students to engage in social settings before, during and after school.
- How will the teacher-student relationship/rapport be developed?**
Small learning communities support a "small school feel" and a stronger partnership between teachers for offering support and building rapport with students. We expect the neighborhood model to help teachers and students build a more supportive relationship.
- Will seniors still have off campus periods?**
We do not have any reason to believe that seniors will lose their off-campus period if they have met the graduation requirements prior to senior year.
- Will Lacrosse and other club sports be incorporated into the school day?**
We hope to eventually have greenspace for all of our athletic programs on campus. Our athletic facilities will be completed for the 2020 school year, with the support of our Alumni Association.
- What about the noise level in the neighborhoods?**
As with any shared space meant for collaborative and cooperative learning, we expect there will be the low hum of productivity, however students will be expected to maintain a level of respect for others who are working.
- Can students be IBDC + athlete + fine art?**
Absolutely! There are a number of options to ensure time within the student's schedule for a well-rounded high school experience. Students should discuss their learning goals with the advisor during our in school advising visits.
- How are GT students going to be served?**
Students will continue to be provided with curriculum and instruction that matches the student's academic needs. Students who are ready for advanced course work will continue in the work, while students who need a little more support will be given the additional support.

