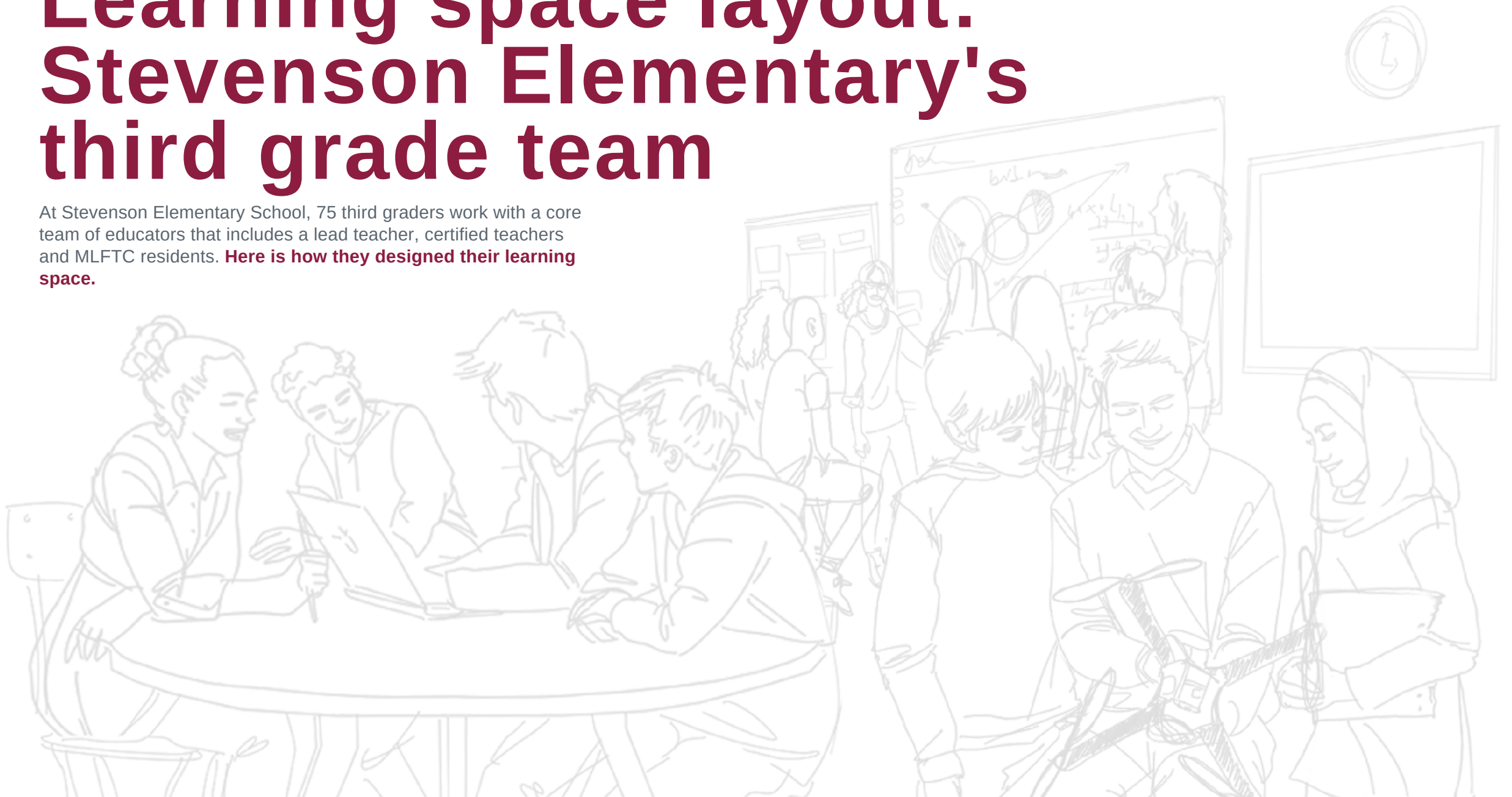
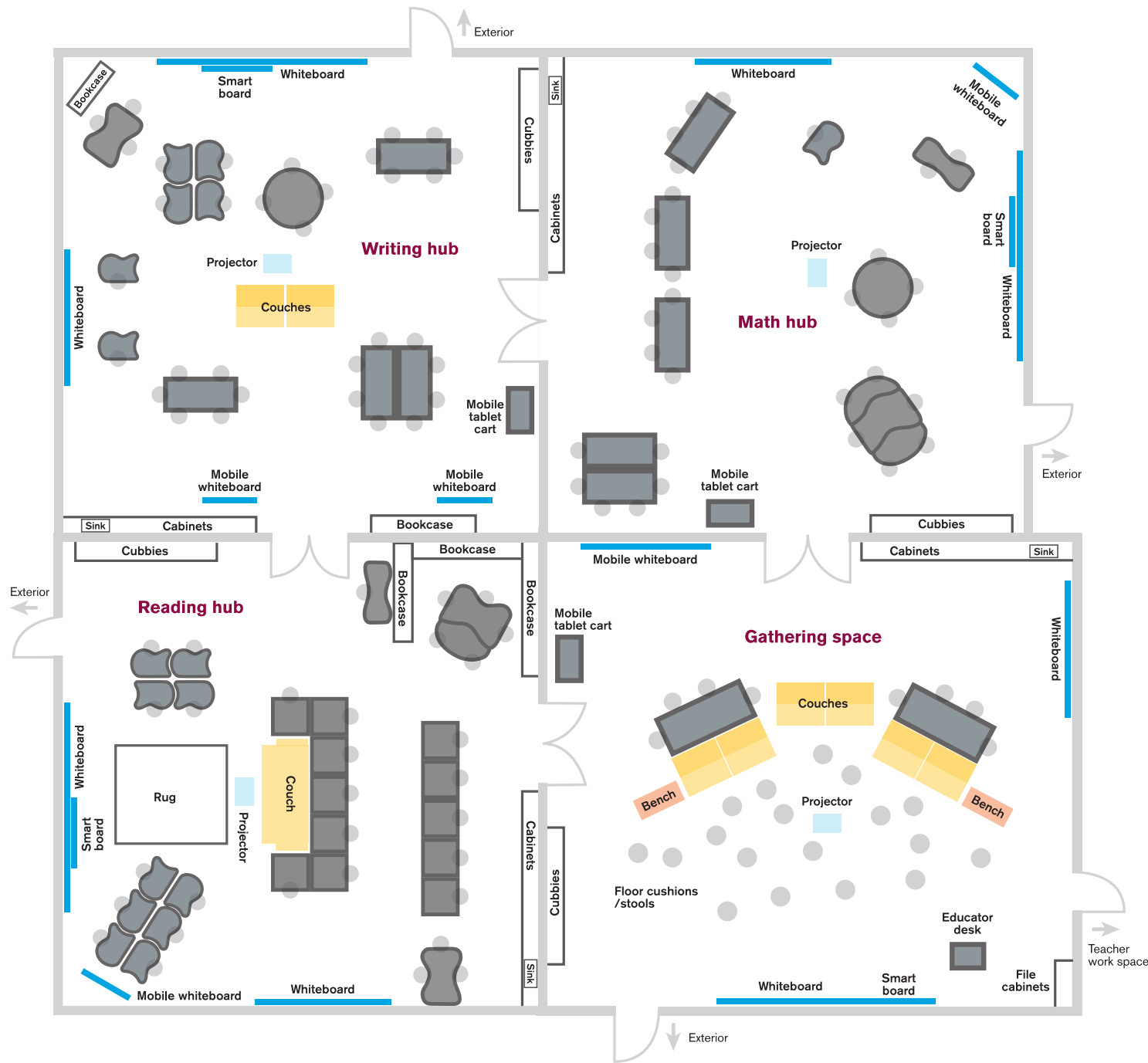


Learning space layout: Stevenson Elementary's third grade team

At Stevenson Elementary School, 75 third graders work with a core team of educators that includes a lead teacher, certified teachers and MLFTC residents. **Here is how they designed their learning space.**





Key elements of the learning space

Stevenson's third grade team leverages four connected rooms: the writing hub, the math hub, the reading hub and the gathering space.

► Furniture that supports flexibility

The learning space includes seating types that support independent, small-group and large-group work. Educators regularly reconfigure the space to support the purpose and structure of the lessons and the needs of both educators and students. To facilitate reconfiguration, much of the furniture at Stevenson is mobile.

All four rooms—the writing hub, math hub, gathering space and reading hub—have whiteboards on wheels that can be moved around to better meet the needs of small groups of learners, and smartboards on sliders that can be rolled over a whiteboard to reveal (or hide) whiteboard space, thereby increasing the overall surface area for projecting content, communicating notes and showing work.

The writing, math and reading hubs each have interlocking desks and tables on wheels that can be separated for individual work time and reconfigured in small, interlocking groups for collaborative work time.

The writing hub and gathering space include soft modular couches that can be separated for individual reading or small-group work and connected for large-group gatherings.

Notably, the four rooms lack stationary educator desks. Rather, educators sometimes utilize small, mobile carts for storing their belongings, reflecting the team's commitment to truly sharing the space.

► The gathering space

Each morning, students and the educator team come together in the gathering space for family meeting, during which time they celebrate birthdays and achievements, share announcements and give shout-outs. Additionally, they use this space for whole-group presentations and as a small-group meeting space during regular instruction.

► Team library

The team library is located in the reading hub and contains an extensive collection of fiction and non-fiction books at varying levels for students' self-selected reading.

► Materials management

Each student has their own assigned cubby located in the writing, math or reading hub where they store their belongings. Students typically visit their cubbies at the start and close of the day.