

Learning space layout:

Kyrene de las Manitas Innovation Academy

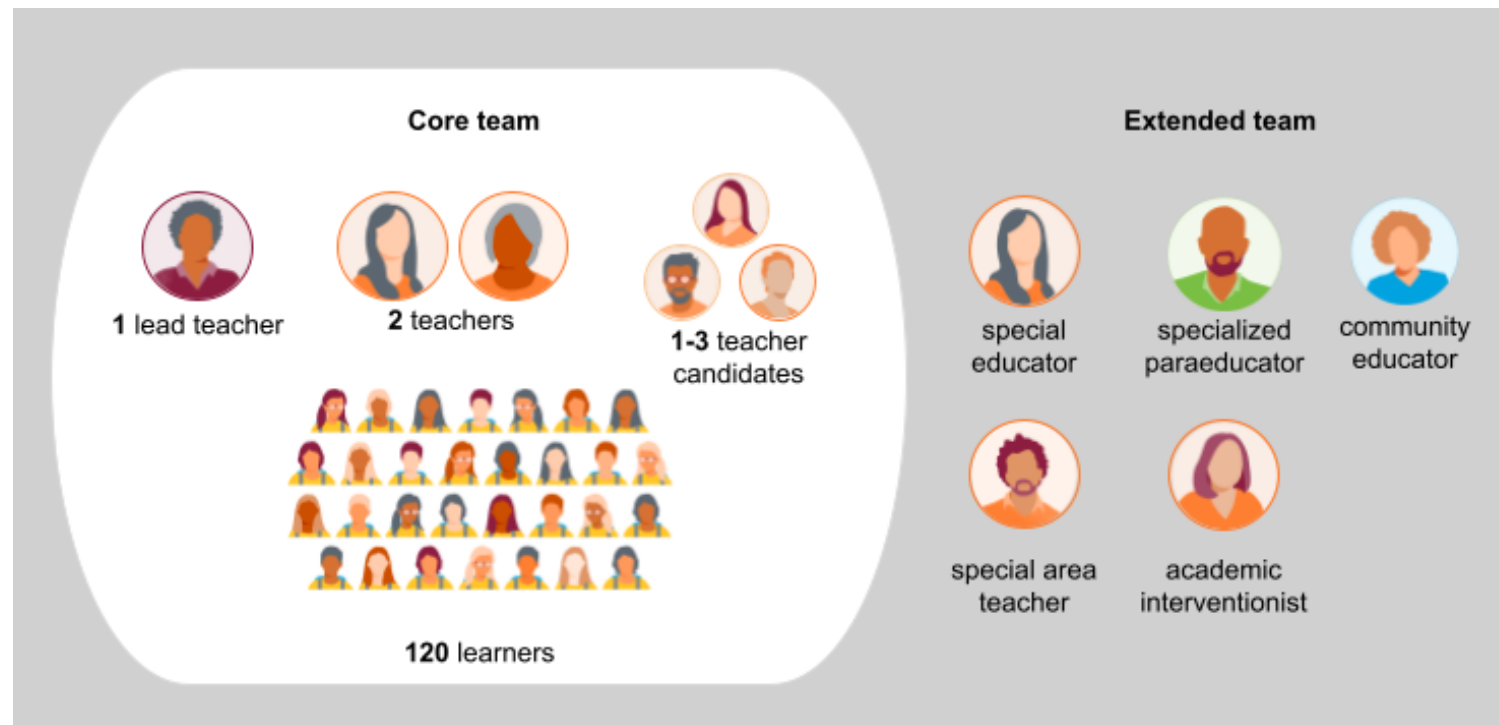
At Kyrene de las Manitas Innovation Academy, about 400 students in Grades K–7 in multi-aged grade bands work with core teams of up to six educators: one teacher executive designer, two team teachers and one to three teacher candidates. Additionally, special education teachers, special area teachers, specialized paraeducators, academic interventionists and community educators join the core educator team to support learners.

This core and extended team shares the learning space illustration on page 2.

Read on to learn about key elements of their learning space.

Who uses this learning space?

See illustration on page 2



Key elements of the learning space

Moveable furniture

Most furniture – everything from desks to whiteboards and monitors – is on wheels, and educators regularly reconfigure the space to support the purpose and structure of the lesson and the needs of both educators and students. For example, during a mock trial, students conducted as part of an interdisciplinary English language arts/social studies unit, a learning space was reconfigured to mimic a courtroom. When students engage in a virtual meeting with an industry expert, they typically gather in a learning space using tables, couches and floor space.

Additional learning spaces

Kyrene de las Manitas educators and students also make use of additional learning spaces not represented here.

- The Innovation Station contains a 3D printer and space for storing projects. Students across all teams may meet here for small-group work, maker activities using Lego robotics and sessions with community educators. The students also have access to podcasting and greenscreen equipment, which allows students to produce their own podcasts and videos.
- Additional spaces throughout the building (e.g., conference rooms) are regularly used for small-group learning and conferences.

Materials management

Each student has their own assigned cubby where they store items that stay at school and additional materials are shared among all learners. Unlike more traditional setups, educators don't have individual teacher desks. Instead, they travel between rooms with a few necessities (e.g., phone, laptop) and keep other belongings (e.g., lunches, books) on shelves in the learning spaces.

Student movement

During major transition times in the schedule, students transition through the hallways. If students need to move to a different space mid-session, they sometimes move directly from one room to another (when room dividers are not in use) or through the Makerspace.

