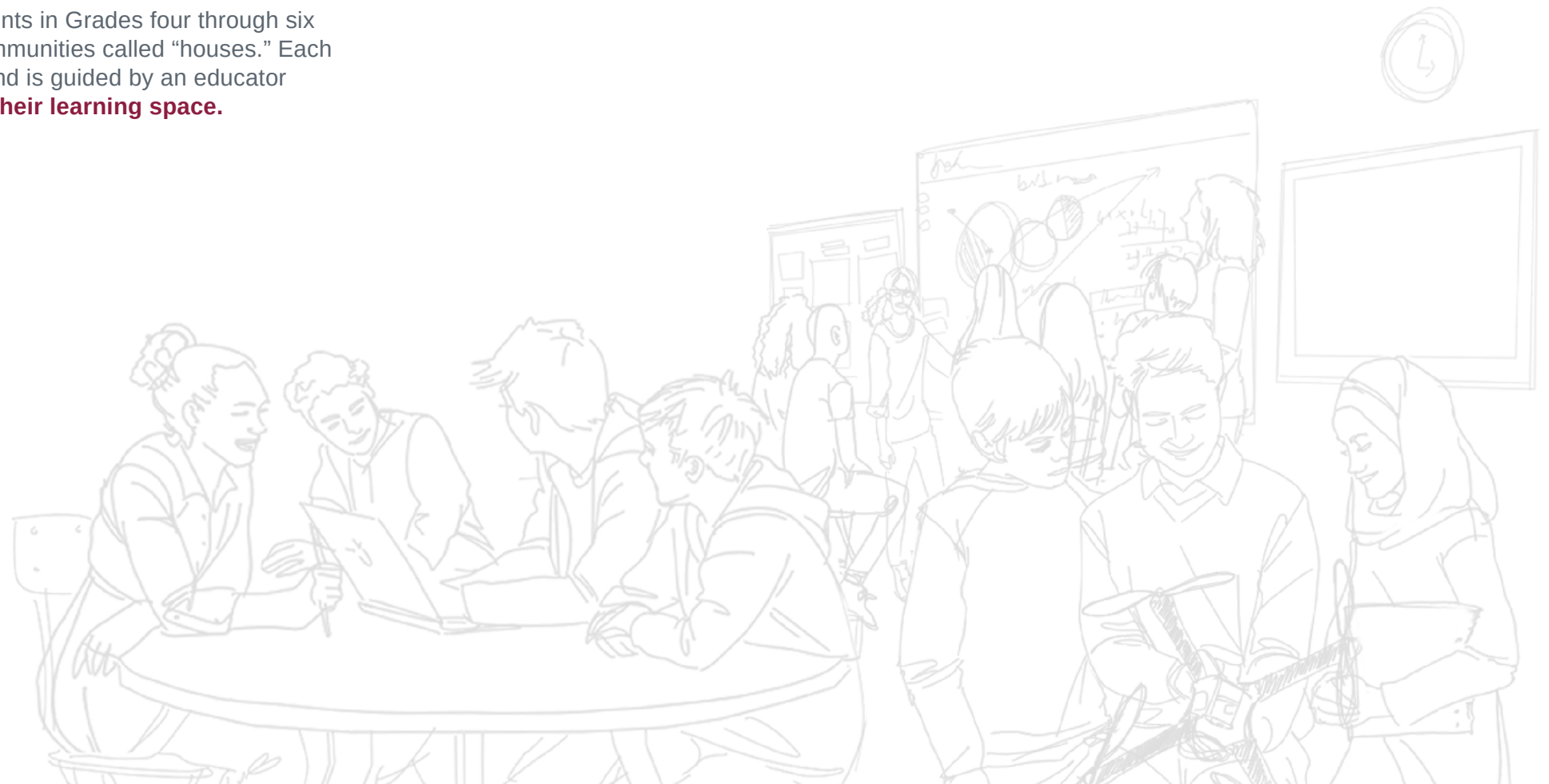


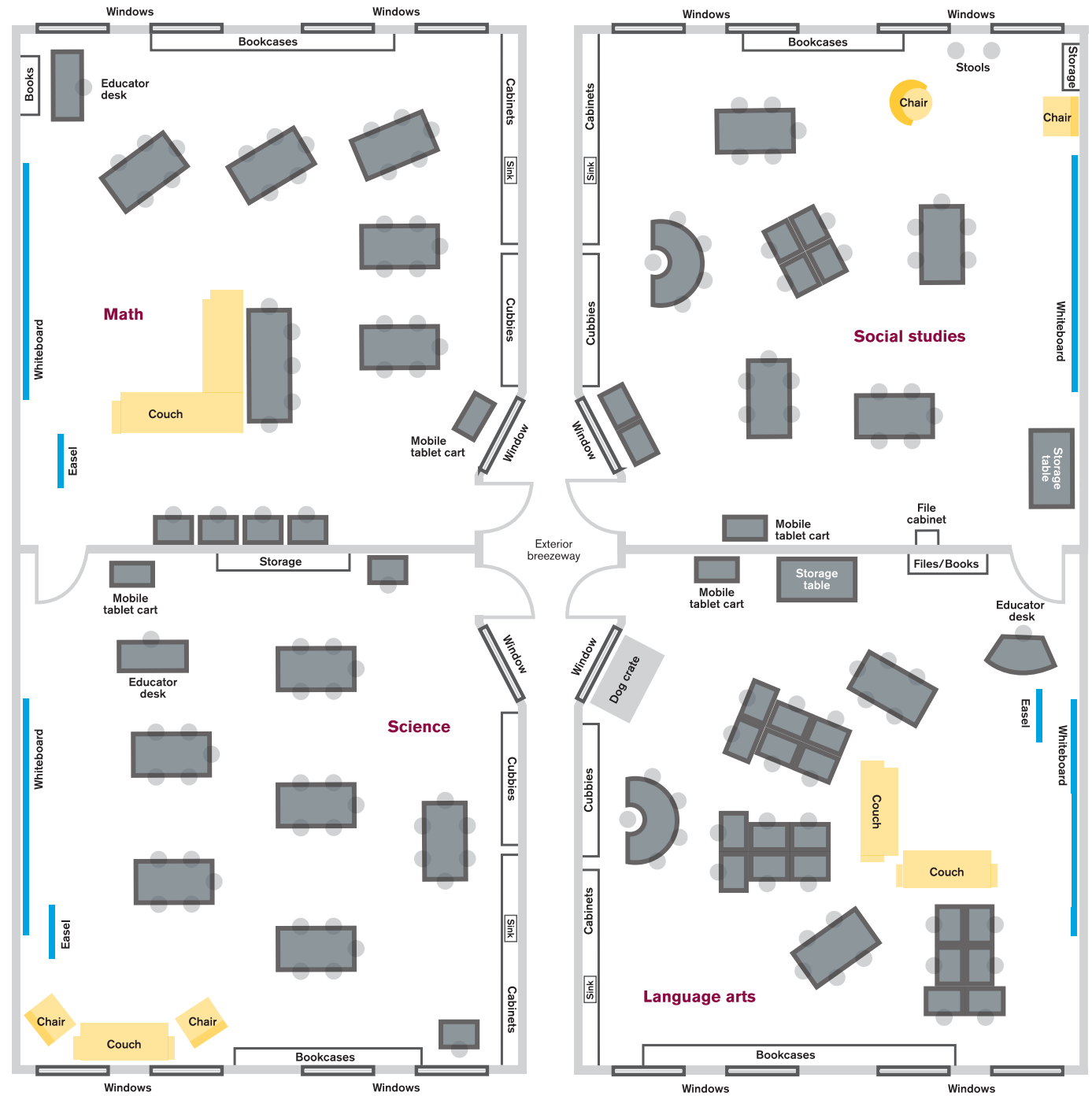
Learning space layout: Whittier Elementary School's fourth through sixth grade team

At Whittier, approximately 170 students in Grades four through six will be part of multi-age learning communities called “houses.” Each house includes about 85 students and is guided by an educator team. **Here is how they designed their learning space.**



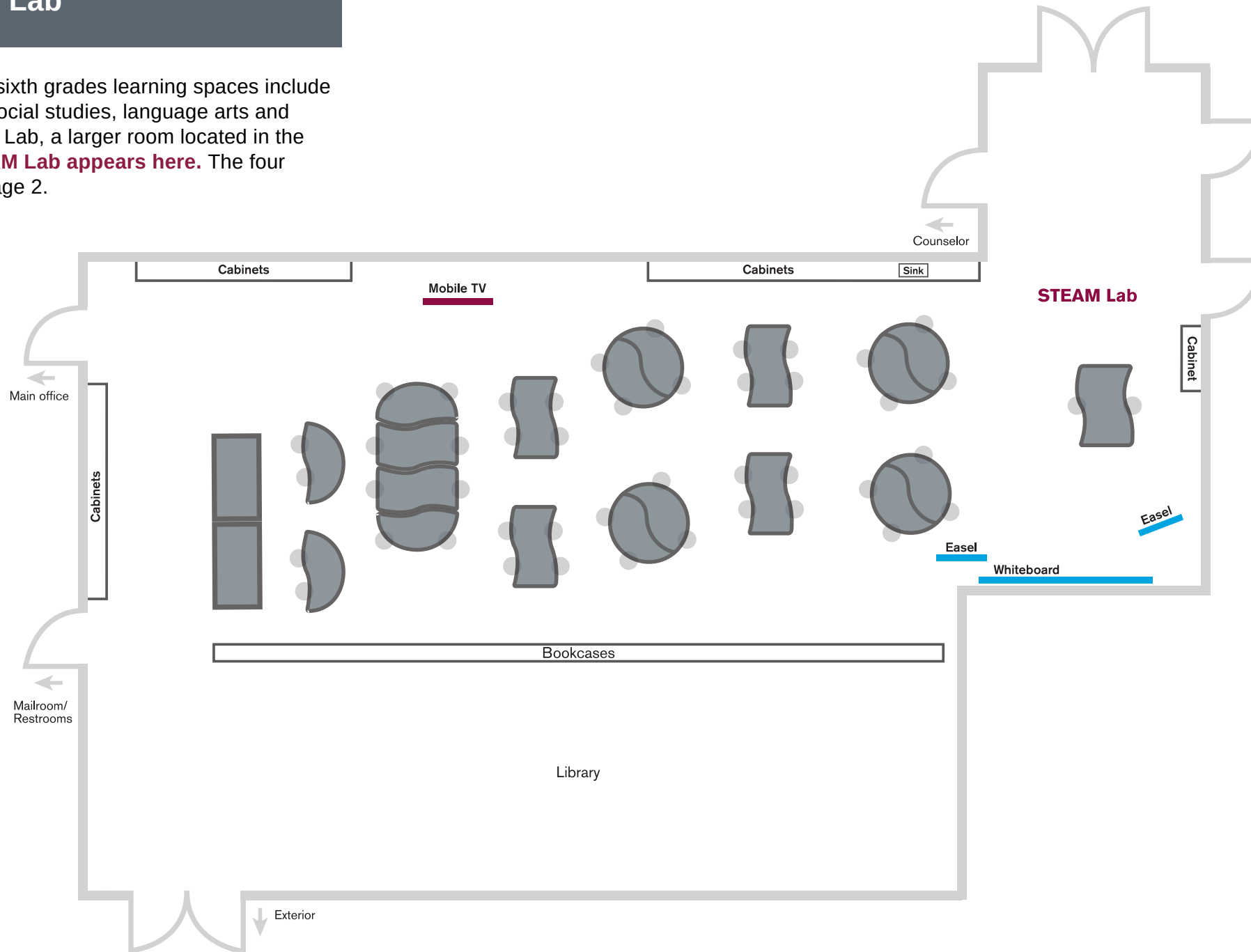
The learning space at a glance

Whittier's fourth through sixth grades learning spaces include four classrooms (math, social studies, language arts and science) and the STEAM Lab, a larger room located in the school library. **The four classrooms appear here.** The STEAM Lab appears on page 3.



The STEAM Lab

Whittier's fourth through sixth grades learning spaces include four classrooms (math, social studies, language arts and science) and the STEAM Lab, a larger room located in the school library. **The STEAM Lab appears here.** The four classrooms appear on page 2.



Key elements of the learning space

▶ The STEAM Lab

The STEAM Lab is located within the library and is large enough to support bringing the full house together. Typically, the team leverages this area as a makerspace, but it is also at times used for larger presentations.

▶ Variety of seating options

Students have a variety of seating options: individual desks, larger tables, chairs, stools and couches. This reflects the team's commitment to frequently regrouping students according to their needs and interests and the requirements of specific learning activities.

▶ Service dog

The team's lead teacher brings her service dog to school with her. Students sign up for opportunities to help care for him and to interact with him at varying points in the day.

▶ Materials management

Each student has their own assigned cubby located in the math, social studies, language arts or science classroom where they store their belongings. Students typically visit their cubbies at the start and end of the day.