

## Educational Program and Delivery System

### Educational Specification to Support Instructional Program

#### *Goals*

The primary objective for the development of the Hobbs Municipal Elementary Schools' educational specification document is to establish a basic plan that will allow the district to align their existing and future district elementary school facilities with their elementary school educational program. HMS is committed to providing its students the same educational opportunities throughout the district.

The district has implemented the Core Knowledge© instructional program. At its essence, is the desire that every child have access to the same content district wide to uphold equity in educational outcomes. Some of the elementary facilities are not able to offer the same instruction because of outdated facilities and recent increases in enrollment. This educational specification aims to address those issues with a general plan of implementation.

The following section will describe the HMS elementary schools' instructional program and how the spaces will support the district's instructional goals.

### HMS Elementary Schools Instructional Programs

#### *Core Knowledge and New Mexico State Standards*

The goal for all HMS elementary students is proficiency in fundamental core subjects; math, science, language arts, social studies and music. HMS incorporates a combination of New Mexico State Standards and the Core Knowledge© "back-to-basics" program throughout the elementary school curriculum. This program covers a wide array of subject content that builds upon one another to create a strong foundation of knowledge.

Students are encouraged to make links between the math and sciences to history, literature and music. The content is multi-cultural to give students a comprehensive understanding of the world's people and places. It is designed to build strong cultural literacy and vocabulary skills necessary for genuine reading comprehension.

At the heart of the Core Knowledge© curriculum is the belief that this educational instruction will create more equity and academic excellence in the classroom by focusing on cumulative and coherent progression of knowledge and skills. The curriculum is based on "sequencing" of content. The Core Knowledge© Sequencing guidelines build towards a foundation of strong reading and writing skills. Teachers retain creativity in the classroom, by tailoring the activities to Core Knowledge© content standards.

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HMS began phasing Core Knowledge© into elementary schools in 2000, and completed the phasing in by 2004-2005. All eleven elementary schools in the district currently implement Core Knowledge© Sequencing instruction providing consistency across the district.

### *Delivery Strategies*

The instructional delivery of Core Knowledge© Sequencing program should be organized to facilitate a comprehensive integrative content. The district will implement the program district wide to maintain continuity of knowledge across the district's elementary schools. This will increase the probability for equal educational outcomes across the district.

Each grade level will incorporate its own specific implementation strategies into various categories.

General implementation strategies for each content areas are:

- Build reading and writing competency through fluency in all forms of communication including speaking and listening.
- Include a multitude of reading selections such as poetry, non-fiction and fiction.
- Geography and history should include study of a variety of regions and cultures from around the world.
- Art in its various forms should be discussed for an understanding of its history and content.
- Mathematics and Science grounded in real world examples and experiments.
- Content areas should be discussed focusing on their overlap and linkages between each other, creating a fuller context of knowledge.

The Core Knowledge© Sequence can include the following activities:

- Writing / composing
- Listening / speaking
- Singing, dancing, playing instruments, drama
- Hands-on projects and activities – individuals and groups
- Oral presentation
- Groups and teamwork activities

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### *Spaces that Reinforce Educational Instruction*

HMS desires that comparable educational spaces with the following characteristics are included in each elementary school district wide. Characteristics of spaces that reinforce the Core Knowledge© curriculum are:

- Capacity to organize space into groups
- Instruction and facility space to encourage team and student communication
- Areas that allow personal space to read, reflect and listen to other students' experiences
- Decor reflective of diverse social and cultural experiences

A flexible learning environment that supports the instructional program will be:

- Adaptable to change and supportive of different program delivery and organizational patterns
- Adequately sized with space to support the work of teams and production of student work, and encourages the integration of curricula
- Supported through technology in the classroom such as promethium boards, laptop computers and/or tablets

### **Elementary School General Instructional Organization**

#### *Grade Levels*

All HMS elementary schools enroll Kindergarten - 5th grade.

Booker T. Washington has a Pre-K program that enrolled 78 students in 2012-13.

The district has one Pre-K School at the Jenkins Nunan Center, which enrolled 68 in 2012-13. The new elementary school will have a Pre-K wing which will replace the Jenkins Nunan Center.

#### *Scheduling Approach*

Grades K - 5 begins the school day at 7:45 a.m. Dismissal for all students is at 2:40 p.m. Each grade level has one recess per day usually in the afternoon.

The following are areas of specialized instruction. Scheduling configurations vary by grade:

- Music, art, physical education and bilingual classes.
- Students attend library and technological instruction weekly.
- Pullout instruction for special educational needs, occupational and physical therapy and supplemental instruction are available for eligible students.

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### *Food Services*

All students receive full breakfast and lunch daily. Additionally, Pre-K and Kindergarten receive snacks daily. All meals are prepared at the district kitchen and served on site. Each elementary school is equipped with a Cafeteria / Multi-Purpose room.

### *Spaces for Special Curricular Activities*

HMS curriculum provides every elementary school student equal access to computer, art, music, bilingual education, special education and physical education.

Each elementary school facility should include the following for special curriculum:

- Dedicated spaces for art, music, bilingual education, technology instruction, special education and physical education
- Playgrounds with ample room for play equipment and sport activities
- 21st Century Library and Media Center
- Large Multi-Purpose room for Physical Education and Cafeteria
- Pre-K and Kindergarten Playground
- 1st - 5th grade Playground/field

### *Special use Spaces*

Each elementary school will allot space for additional student services. Some of these uses include:

- Response Through Intervention (R.T.I.)
- Title 1
- Pullouts for speech language pathology
- Occupational and physical therapy
- Supplemental math and reading instruction

### *Facility use for after hours programs*

After school programs use the facilities from school dismissal time until approximately 6:00 p.m.

### *Community Use Spaces*

The Hobbs Municipal School Board policy on community use of district facilities limits community use to select multi-purpose spaces, library and playground/athletic fields.

The community does have access to the school facility during instructional hours with proper authorization.