

What are the 21st Century Classroom Design Guidelines for HLPUSD?

The purpose of these 21st Century Classroom Design Guidelines is to serve as a planning tool supporting Hacienda La Puente Unified School District in delivering education in innovative settings. HLPUSD's vision is to transform their campuses into learning environments that invite and encourage students to learn in settings that are positive, engaging and inclusive. These guidelines will inspire creative but practical design solutions and provide standards for parity, equity, and consistency district-wide.

The guidelines recommend strategies to offer the following:

1. Classroom layouts that offer flexibility in the kinds of learning experiences offered to students.

The guidelines suggest:

- a. Where possible, replacing existing casework with moveable storage to make existing rooms more flexible.
- b. where casework must remain, relying on furniture to offer flexibility (see below)
- c. installing multiple teaching walls to increase flexibility.
- d. Keeping sinks and wet areas where appropriate.

2. Furniture that supports this goal of flexibility.

The guidelines suggest:

- a. Imagining classrooms in terms of activity zones rather than just seats facing a teacher.
- b. An assortment of soft and hard furniture to replace the one-size-fits all student desk.
- c. Foldable tables in different configurations to support flexibility in layout.
- d. Lighter, more mobile teacher's lectern with separate teacher's storage.
- e. Mobile storage in lieu of fixed casework.

3. Technology that offers visceral learning experiences without reducing flexibility.

The guidelines suggest:

- a. installing wi-fi to offer technology throughout the room.
- b. Installing wall mounted projectors for visceral immersion in computer-based lessons.
- c. Enhanced sound systems at music rooms.
- d. Increased power and data outlets throughout classrooms.

4. Floor and Wall finishes that are durable, easily cleaned, and help muffle sound.

5. Ample Whiteboards and Tackboards making every inch of the room a learning opportunity.

The guidelines are intended to be a reference for the renovation of widely disparate school and classroom types throughout the district. They will require interpretation and even reconsideration depending on specific existing conditions and available budgets. A process of comparison is recommended to insure design parity across the district.