

School Designs

A comprehensive approach
to student achievement





The School Designs whole school solution gives you the full benefit of EdisonLearning's expertise and best practices, resulting in innovative solutions that consistently deliver improvements in student learning.

Our School Designs program offers extensive support from EdisonLearning's educational professionals, both in the field and at headquarters. Collaborative partnerships result in student achievement and a positive culture.

"Since our relationship began, Edison[Learning] has been a committed partner, helping us to improve our schools by providing our teachers and principals with the professional development and support that they need to drive achievement. Edison[Learning] works closely with us—on an ongoing basis—to make sure that they continue to be responsive to our school-specific needs. Together we are truly improving educational outcomes for Las Vegas students."

*— Marsha Irvin,
Northeast Region Superintendent
Clark County School District*

Transforming the learning experience

Our children's ability to meet the challenges of a competitive, rapidly changing world depends on a very fundamental thing: a great education that helps students reach the highest levels of achievement. To provide this education to the students in your care, great schools are needed, and that's what EdisonLearning offers. *EdisonLearning*™ School Designs provides a comprehensive and coherent whole school experience – from school organization and scheduling, to curriculum, to professional development and administration.

The *EdisonLearning* School Designs difference:

- Establishment of new schools or the transformation of existing public schools to meet accountability targets
- Preparation of children for the challenges of college and career
- Help for school districts and independent charter holders to provide more school choices to the community
- Rigorous academic content delivered in a manner tailored to student needs by high quality teachers
- Innovation in education through the integration of technology into the 21st century teaching and learning process

An EdisonLearning partnership can make life-changing improvements in the quality of education for your students whether they are in schools looking to move from good to great, or those needing to turn around after a period of prolonged underperformance.

If your objective is to restructure a school in response to federal and state mandates, *EdisonLearning* School Designs can help. Likewise, School Designs can help to elevate a successful school's performance to the next level, expand school choice in a community, or anchor a neighborhood development or re-development effort.

Improving outcomes through collaboration and flexibility

A strong foundation in rigorous research and development led to EdisonLearning's original School Designs model. Our commitment to continued research and development, technology, and collaborative partnerships consistently improves the School Designs model. Through technology and partnership, unique and powerful innovation ensures continuous improvement among the students we serve and, ultimately, distinguishes EdisonLearning from other providers.

Teacher satisfaction

EdisonLearning treats educators as professionals, with respect and support. As a result, teachers in our partner schools are very satisfied with their careers - clear evidence that they feel valued and fulfilled.

*Teacher satisfaction is high at our partner schools. 76% of teachers gave EdisonLearning an "A" or "B" on our annual satisfaction survey exceeding the national average that has peaked at 62% of teachers who call themselves "very satisfied."**

**Source: Harris Interactive*

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

There's no one thing that makes a school truly superior. It is a complex equation of many factors, some of which include:

- Recruiting and training the best educators
- Nurturing a school culture that supports all learners
- Choosing a challenging, innovative, student-focused curriculum
- Effective management of all the factors that impact achievement

EdisonLearning takes into account how each aspect of the school relies on others. It's a comprehensive, coherent, and fully integrated set of service and support components carefully formulated to work seamlessly together.

The Four Cornerstones™ foundation of EdisonLearning School Designs

Our research-based, engaging curriculum, proven Benchmark assessment tool, valued professional development and staffing/scheduling models all align with EdisonLearning's *Four Cornerstones* of highly effective schools.

The right services delivered the right way

EdisonLearning works with you to ensure that the school we create together meets the needs of your students, your community, and your organization. We can help you determine exactly what the parameters of our engagement should be for best results. The level of back-office support, for example, can be tailored to dovetail with your own capabilities and needs. EdisonLearning can handle every aspect of school operations or can share the duties and responsibilities with you.

Our model of support for school operations is designed to help school leaders keep their focus on teaching and learning. A School Operations Manager ensures the smooth running of the school so that the principal and other instructional leaders can devote their attention to educational issues.

For school districts that are transforming an existing school to the EdisonLearning design, we institute a transition period in which existing resources and processes are used in concert with the new model, and then thoughtfully phased out as the EdisonLearning model is implemented. This avoids any disruption that can slow down the learning process.

"I like this school because [you have discipline, you have many activities,] you learn and you have fun at the same time."

- EdisonLearning Partner School Student

The foundation of the EdisonLearning approach to Education Our Four Cornerstones philosophy

Top Talent

Excellent school leaders and teachers are the real keys to a great education. EdisonLearning takes care to recruit and hire only the best, invest time in their development and reward outstanding performance. Expertise in identifying top talent is a hallmark of EdisonLearning.

- Distributed leadership
- Clear accountability
- Productive collaboration among teachers and between teachers and administrators
- State-of-the-art professional development:
 - National, regional and local leadership and teacher conferences
 - Start-up leadership and new teacher training
 - Two daily periods for teachers to plan, collaborate and learn
 - Regional support team

Demanding Content and Customized Instruction

We provide a rich, challenging, research-based curriculum; best-practice instructional methods and tools; and the resources needed to tailor instruction to the needs of every student.

The *EdisonLearning* School Designs academic program engages children and makes learning exciting.

- Core academic disciplines enhanced by special subjects such as art, music and world language
- Customized learning programs
- Organizational model boosting targeted instruction
- Special education and English Language Learner (ELL) programs

Culture of Engagement and Aspiration

The belief that a public K-12 education can and must prepare all students for a post-secondary education is firmly embedded in our School Designs.

Our vast experience in creating environments that promote learning, responsibility, creativity, and engagement helps EdisonLearning achieve our mission of preparing all students for acceptance into college or university.

- "Schools within schools"
- Extended school day
- Eight Core Values
- Parent Advisory Committee
- Enhanced parent/teacher/student communication and accountability through quarterly Student Learning Contracts and conferences
- *EdisonLearning* College NEXT!

Achievement-Driven Management

A comprehensive set of tools, best practices and resources help you plan, assess, monitor and meet your goals, while giving leaders what they need to remain focused on teaching.

Achievement-Driven Management is critical because it establishes accountability for students, educators and us.

- EdisonLearning's monthly Benchmarks
- Student Learning Contracts
- School performance dashboards
- Accountability reporting

Education innovation

EdisonLearning uses educational technology to perform two critical tasks:

1. to better prepare students for life in a tech-based society and global workforce
2. to better customize instruction to meet the needs and interests of each student

EdisonLearning is clearing the path toward hybrid schooling by bringing online learning to brick and mortar schools, an effort that will:

- redefine how teaching and learning occurs
- increase customized instruction
- improve student engagement

Where we are is a level of educational technology integration that helps teachers monitor and adjust instruction in real-time and provides educators resources to diagnose and target interventions that make a significant difference in accelerating learning.

A winning equation

From a design standpoint, EdisonLearning schools stand apart in three important ways:

1. School structure
2. Academic program
3. Extended day

School Structure

The School Designs structure creates an environment that is more like a small school than a large one.

EdisonLearning uses time and resources to create greater intimacy and better communication between teachers, students, and parents. We do this by creating “schools within the school” – grade-level groupings called Academies and small teaching teams called “Houses.”

Each Academy runs for either two or three years:

- Primary Academy for grades K-2
- Elementary Academy for grades 3-5
- Junior Academy for grades 6-8
- Senior Academy for grades 9-10
- Collegiate Academy for grades 11-12

Each Academy is further divided into cohesive student/teacher groups called Houses, a structure which enhances intimacy between teachers, students and families.

- Each House has a group of teachers (typically four to six) who are responsible for between 100 and 180 students.

Ideally, the same teachers stay with the same group of students throughout each multi-year Academy.

Academic Program

A comprehensive core and special subject academic program

- Curriculum is customized per Academy to meet the specific needs of each age group in terms of both content and duration of instruction.
- Highly developed teaching materials, along with training, are provided to ensure that the curriculum is taught consistently and effectively.
- The school’s support structures and instructional technology promote targeted instruction, allowing teachers to identify and meet the needs of individual learners more readily.
- EdisonLearning also provides a special education program of responsible inclusion, as well as a program for English Language Learners.
- Curriculum complies with national and state standards.

Extended day

A longer school day which affords more time for instruction and collaboration

EdisonLearning’s longer school day, ideally set at eight hours, provides more time for students to take special subjects, like the arts or world language. The extended day also gives teachers two instruction-free periods, one to meet as a house team and one for personal planning time. Teachers use their house team time to support one another with professional development and to collaborate around improving their students’ learning experience.

Ultimately, EdisonLearning’s School Designs model allows us to partner with you to provide the best possible education to the students in your care.

- To teachers we offer greater ownership and enhanced collaboration linked to leadership and professional development.
- To Principals we offer greater control, confidence and sense of responsibility.
- To administrators we offer accountability – EdisonLearning’s hands-on experience delivering results for our School Designs partners.



The EdisonLearning distinction

The proof of EdisonLearning’s ability to help you deliver great education rests in nearly 20 years of hands-on experience. We’ve been put to the test, with hundreds of district partners, thousands of schools, and millions of students served.

Our holistic approach to developing and delivering educational services, our background as educators, and our culture of collaboration and partnership is what makes EdisonLearning a true innovator in the education field.

Find out more

For more information about EdisonLearning and our mission to inspire students to think, learn, and succeed, please visit www.edisonlearning.com/schooldesigns, call us at 1-877-I-CAN-LEARN (1-877-422-6532), or e-mail us at schooldesigns@edisonlearning.com.

Working together, we can help every student achieve!

EdisonLearning's Eight Core Values

Wisdom

Justice

Courage

Compassion

Hope

Respect

Responsibility

Integrity

Eight Core Values

EdisonLearning is staffed by passionate professionals whose enthusiasm for students and commitment to the joy of learning is matched only by their relentless pursuit of it. The shared energy that comes from pursuit of a common goal is supported by EdisonLearning's Eight Core Values. The Eight Core Values are designed to help fulfill the promise that an educational program should include an intentional character and ethics component.

School culture

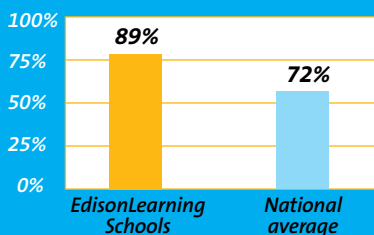
The supportive learning environment which is the foundation of EdisonLearning's School Designs is rooted in our Eight Core Values. Your school's leadership team works with its dedicated Vice President of Educational Services to develop a code of conduct, discipline policy, and a positive incentive program that is consistent with the school's values and supports the high expectations that are critical for a successful learning environment. This allows us not only to talk about values but demonstrate them on a day-to-day basis.

Parent Involvement

The school's culture is inclusive of the family and community, essential partners to school success. Parents are actively involved in the education of their children, as school leaders, through the Parent Advisory Committee and, as engaged parents/guardians, through direct interaction with their children's teachers. A system of quarterly Student Learning Contracts enhances accountability by actively involving teachers, students, and their families in both a review of performance to date, and the setting of specific goals, expectations and action plans for the coming quarter.

Parents love EdisonLearning

Total percentage of parents giving their schools a grade of "A" or "B"



Source: HARRIS PDK/GALLUP POLL RESOURCES, "Americans Speak Out — Are Educators and Policy Makers Listening?," September 2008

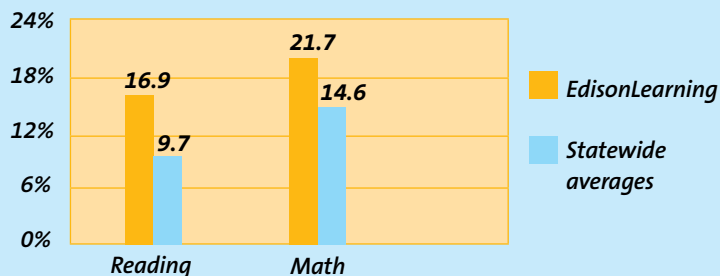
Proven results

EdisonLearning Benchmarks are a best-of-breed formative assessment system which provides schools with an electronic measurement tool in reading and math that monitors learning progress against state standards. The monthly Benchmarks provide teachers with data that allows them to diagnose every student's needs, then flexibly adjust instruction for the whole class, groups within a class, or individual students.

Results on state assessments have been impressive.

Five year gains in reading and math at schools using EdisonLearning™ School Designs are nearly twice that of average statewide gains.

Five year proficiency gains



Source: EdisonLearning annual Report on student Achievement, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008

"Achievement is up and staying up. From curriculum to assessment to professional development to finances, Edison[Learning] has been an invaluable partner in helping us improve."

*—Peter Mehas, former Superintendent
Fresno, California*

Source: EdisonLearning Annual Report on Student Achievement

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