# Educational Suitability Summary Report 

LBJ Early College High School

Date: 12/9/2020
Score 59\% Average


#### Abstract

LBJ Early College High School and LASA High School serve an enrollment of approximately 2,100 students in east Austin on a shared campus. LASA HS will be moving at the end of the 2020-21 academic year. LBJ ECHS will remain and undergo renovations to grow its Medical Sciences pathway. A large courtyard at the front of the building creates a welcoming and distinct entry. The campus has recently completed a long-range master plan that includes renovations of the existing academic wings, demolition of fine arts, and new construction of athletic and other support spaces.


In general, the campus does not meet most of the new Educational Specifications. The quality of the artificial lighting and natural daylight in studio spaces is poor. Many of the learning spaces in the building (studios, media center, gyms, etc.) do not have access to natural light or exterior views. Windows are limited in size, and the amount of natural light is minimal. Acoustics are adequate with only slight sounds traveling between the corridor and adjacent studio spaces. Campus circulation does not allow for clear wayfinding, making navigation of the space difficult.

The campus is planned to undergo partial renovations to the academic wing starting in April 2021. The renovations will assist in bringing natural daylight to the center of building, while creating a more vibrant media center that meets the latest Educational Specifications. The renovations will also include medical science lab spaces, a community meeting room, and security features. In addition, the courtyard is being designed to be a space for outdoor learning.

Existing outdoor sports fields, tennis courts and a full running track are in good condition and wellsecured by a perimeter fence. The indoor athletic spaces are aged and are planned to be moved to a new facility per the master plan.

## Interview Overview

The interview for LBJ Early College High School was conducted with Principal Jon Bailey and various staff members. The front entry courtyard is important to the campus identity; it contains a large marble Texas monument, a student memorial, and seating that is used for outdoor learning. They also noted that the new medical sciences area functions well, but many of the other learning spaces are outdated and do not meet modern standards.

Many programs on campus are not housed in appropriate spaces. The Fire Academy program does not have a dedicated space or adequate storage for equipment. The fine arts studios need to be updated, and the athletics wing is outdated and not appropriate for today's schools. CTE courses take place in a basement with no daylight or views to the outside. The school would like to add more CTE programs, including cosmetology, architecture and construction, manufacturing and culinary arts.

The current campus does little to foster connectivity and creativity. Collaboration is a challenge due to lack of available meeting spaces. The school needs more flexible spaces that can accommodate different group sizes and have enough transparency to feel open and inviting. Additional lecture spaces of various sizes would be helpful for hosting guest speakers and events. Updated technology in the studios and social spaces is essential to keep up with changing teaching methods.

Outdoor learning takes place at several loose picnic tables in the front courtyard and a small area near the bus drop-off. The school needs dedicated outdoor learning areas that are covered to protect students from weather. These spaces should also have access to technology, including power and data ports, so students can charge laptops and stay connected.

## Assessment Findings

The Educational Suitability Assessment of LBJ and LASA high schools earned a $59 \%$ overall score and places the campus in a category of Average. The assessment consists of seven General Building categories and eight Academic categories to determine areas that need more attention.

Unsatisfactory Categories (36-50\%):

## Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment

Score is unsatisfactory.
Furniture throughout the school varies. Some science labs have received new furniture, but in general, furniture does not meet the intent of an easily reconfigurable space as indicated in the Educational Specifications. There are currently no collaboration spaces that have furniture for individual, small or large group collaboration.

## Environmental Quality

Score is unsatisfactory.
Evidence of pests is seen both inside and out. The basement level has an odor of water penetration. Even if spaces have access to natural daylight, the amount of light is limited due to the size of the windows.

## Controllability of Systems

Score is unsatisfactory.
Controllability of systems varies from room to room. Most studios have thermostats, but users indicate that some thermostats are not working. Light switching varies from room to room, ranging from one switch for all lights and alternating row. No lights are dimmable. Some teaching spaces have light switches that are hard to find.

## Technology

Score is unsatisfactory.

Many spaces have an inadequate number of power and data outlets. The renovation project will address some of this, but future work will be needed to address all technological needs.

## Academics \& Learning

Score is unsatisfactory.
Studio square footage does not meet the new Educational Specifications. The campus is subdivided by department and not per learning neighborhoods. Science labs are not configured per the Ed Spec and some science labs are smaller than standard studio spaces. No maker spaces or collaboration spaces were observed during the assessment.

## Athletics and Wellness

Score is unsatisfactory.
The existing athletics spaces need renovations or replacement. Locker rooms are aged, and restrooms in the space do not provide privacy for student athletes. The weight room is dated and not appropriately sized for the enrollment. Equipment has met life expectancy and will need to be replaced.

## Average Categories (51-65\%):

## Exterior

Score is average.
Traffic patterns are separated, but bus loading occurs on the street and could be improved for student safety. Finding the front door can be a challenge if you have never been to the campus. The building lacks clear signage and wayfinding as well as . Shade is very limited on campus. There is limited visitor parking, and most ADA spaces are taken by staff before visitors arrive. The main entrance to the school is directly off a central courtyard that features stone seating, a variety of shade trees, multiple tables and a few monumental signs.

## Security

Score is average.

## Visual and Performing Arts

Score is average.
The band, orchestra and choir halls are in dated, small spaces that do not fully meet the current Educational Specifications. The Performing Arts Center is also dated and needs updated facilities for use by students.

## Food Services

Score is average.
The cafeteria has some natural daylight, but the space is dated. There are multiple types of seating but could use updates.

## Educational Suitability Summary Report

## Satisfactory Categories (66-80\%):

## General Building

Score is satisfactory.
The general appearance of the school is dated and features a large courtyard at the public front. The arrangement of school spaces allows for nighttime use for public functions, but the public spaces are spread across opposite ends of the school. (The gym is opposite the library, which is on the second floor.) The interior circulation on campus is adequate, but wayfinding tends to be a challenge. The current building plan does not allow for ease of after-hours use, as it is difficult to lock down portions of the school. The renovations will allow for meeting spaces and allow for more natural daylight into the core of the school.

## Outdoor Learning and Activity

Score is satisfactory.
Although the campus has a large courtyard space, the space has not been fully developed to meet the intent of the Educational Specifications. There are outdoor tables, but they need to be configured to better suit teaching and learning. There are no active outdoor gardens or cisterns.

## CTE and Career Connected Learning

Score is satisfactory.
A large number of the CTE spaces are in the basement level, which does not allow natural daylight to enter these spaces. These spaces need renovations. The campus has the needed equipment and space to meet the needs of the users.

## Administration Spaces

Score is satisfactory.
Partial renovations of the administration suite will occur in 2021.

## Very Satisfactory Categories (81-100\%):

## Media Resources

Score is very satisfactory.
The media resources space will be renovated to meet the new Educational Specifications.

## Supporting Photographs



Visual and Performing Arts: Theater and drama expansion is the newest addition to the school


Granite monument sign at center of entry courtyard. Lighting would increase its impact

## Supporting Photographs



CTE: Well-equipped manufacturing shop with a wide variety of tools and equipment.


Many studios and learning spaces have no windows or access to daylight.

Educational Suitability Summary Report

Supporting Photographs


Gym is original to school. Insulation falls from exposed ceiling and paint is peeling from walls.


Locker rooms are in poor condition and lack privacy.

Educational Suitability Summary Report

## Supporting Photographs



CTE: Health science lab is new and very well-equipped.


CTE: Emergency services program equipment storage and staging.

## Supporting Photographs



Windows in studios are too small and let in minimal daylight.


Large display cases show the success and pride the school takes in athletics.

Perkins\&Will

Austin ISD Educational Suitability Assessment Criteria
General Building
School Name
LBJ Early College High School

Walk Attendees:
Kevin Kinsey \& Koleman Uresti

Date:
12/8/2020


| 1-Exterior (cont.) |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/A |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1.3 Is the dumpster accessible for trash / compost disposal? |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |  | Comments | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| 1 Very unsatisfactory - No compost present, route has <br> obstacles (stairs, curbs, barriers) to dumpster <br> 2 Unsatisfactory - Compost is present. Route has obstacles <br> to dumpster <br> 3 Average - Compost is present (<100' to cafeteria), Route <br> to dumpster is free and clear but the two are not directly <br> adjacent. <br> 4 Satisfactory - Compost and dumpster are directly <br> adjacent and route is barrier free <br> 5 Very Satisfactory - Compost and dumpster are directly <br> adjacent and route is barrier free. Dumpster are shaped <br> / positioned so people of all heights can access it. <br> N/ADoes not apply  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | The dumpsters are present, but |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2-Outdoor Learning and Activity |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/A |  | 10.00 | 80\% |
| 2.1 Are outdoor studios and support spaces appropriately configured per the ed spec? |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |  | Comments | 1.00 | 3.00 |
| 1 Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated outdoor studios <br> 2 <br> Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, disconnected <br> from learning spaces, no flexibility, no shade provided  <br> 3 Average - Addequate size, adequate condition, needs <br> some renovations or updates to function well, $50 \%$ or less <br> shade coverage over studio area <br> 4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, connected to <br> learning spaces, good flexibility, more than $50 \%$ shade <br> coverage over studio area  <br> Very satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition,  <br> connected to learning spaces, excellent flexibility, full  <br> shade coverage over studio area  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | The courtyard has some tables for outdoor learning. The Keep Austin Beautiful Grant will assist in providing new outdoor spaces. |  |  |
| N/A Does not apply |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.2 Are active playgrounds (elementary only) and support spaces 2.2 configured per the ed spec? |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Na | Comments | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1 Very unsatisfactory - No dedicated active playground <br> 2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, no shade <br> provided <br> 3 Average - Adequate size, adequate condition, needs <br> some renovations or updates to function well, $50 \%$ or less <br> shade coverage over play structure  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |










N/A Does not apply
$\begin{array}{llllll}1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \text { N/A }\end{array}$
5.00

Do studios and corridors have blue recycle bins with bilingual instructions and/or image sorting instructions?

1 Very unsatisfactory - There are no recycling and landfill bins and signage are sparse or infrequent, OR there are only landfill bins with no recycling bins.
2 Unsatisfactory - Bins and signage are sparse or infrequent and/or lack clear signage.
3 Average - 50\% of corridors and studios have both a landfill bin and a recycle bin in an accessible location. The containers have clear signage.
4 Satisfactory - $75 \%$ of studios and corridors have a visible landfill and recycle collection containers in an accessible location. The containers have clear signage.
5 Very satisfactory - All studios / corridors (100\%) have visible landfill and recycle collection containers in accessible locations. The containers have clear signage, and the style and format is consistent and uniform across campus.
N/A Does not apply
Does the cafeteria (or wherever meals are served) have at least one of each: green compost bin, blue recycle bin, and landfill bin? Are the bins labelled clearly with bilingual and/or image sorting?

Very unsatisfactory- There may be landfill bins, but there are no compost and/or recycle bins. There is not clear sorting signage.
Unsatisfactory- Recycle, landfill, and compost bins are present, but the bins are scattered and no co-located next to one another. Signage is absent or inconsistent. verage- There is at least one waste station with all three bins (recycle, compost, landfill) located with close proximity to one another. The signage is visible and consistent.
4 Satisfactory- There are several waste stations as described above
$5 \quad$ Very Satisfactory - There are several waste stations as described above, and additional signage in the cafeteria that encourages recycling/composting.

Austin ISD Educational Suitability Assessment Criteria
Academics - Middle School / High School

| School Name | Walk Attendees: | Date: |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| LBJ Early College High School | Kevin Kinsey \& Koleman Uresti | $12 / 8 / 2020$ |











N/A Does not apply

13.2 How well does the Library/Media Center support quiet study? Comments

1 Very unsatisfactory - No quiet study spaces
2 Unsatisfactory - One area in poor condition, poor acoustic privacy
3 Average - One or more areas provided, needing updates or renovations to function well
4 Satisfactory - Clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, good condition, good acoustic privacy
5 Very Satisfactory - Multiple clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, excellent condition, excellent acoustic privacy
N/A Does not apply
13.3 How well does the Library/Media Center support social interaction? $\square$ Two small conference rooms are in the library area

1 Very unsatisfactory - No space
2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, poor condition, layout and furnishings do not support informal interaction well
3 Average - Adequate size and condition, needs updates or renovations to function well.
4 Satisfactory - Good size, good condition, layout and furnishings support informal interactions
5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, excellent condition, layout and furnishings support informal interactions N/A Does not apply
13.4 How well does the Library/Media Center support collaborative work
13.4 in small groups (4-8 students)?

1 Very unsatisfactory - No breakout rooms, no flexible furniture, no support
2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, one area, poor condition
3 Average - Adequate size, multiple areas provided, needing updates or renovations to function well
4 Satisfactory - Clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, flexible furniture, good condition
5 Very Satisfactory - Multiple clusters or small rooms adjacent to media center, flexible furniture, excellent condition
N/A Does not apply
13.5 How well does the Library/Media Center support collaborative work in larger groups (10-25)? $\square$ Comments
Two large conference/presentation rooms are available in the library area.
1 Very unsatisfactory - No gathering areas
2 Unsatisfactory - Too small, one common space, limited seating, poor condition
3 Average - Adequate size, one common space, needs updates or renovations to function well
4 Satisfactory - Good size, multiple common spaces with seating, good condition
5 Very Satisfactory - Generous size, multiple commons spaces with seating, excellent condition
N/A Does not apply
13- Media Resources - Continued
13.6 How well does the Library/Media Center support technology?

$$
1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 5 \quad \text { N/A }
$$

1 Very unsatisfactory - No vis comm tools
2 Unsatisfactory - Outdated, poorly functioning, or insufficient
3 Average - Mix of old and new
whiteboards/projectors/etc.
4 Satisfactory - projectors, marker boards, smart boards in most spaces - good condition
5 Very Satisfactory - projectors, marker boards, smart boards in most spaces - new condition
N/A Does not apply


| N/A Does not apply |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14.2Is there an adequate number of power and data outlets in learning <br> spaces? |

Very unsatisfactory - Outlet configuration does not
support digital devices throughout school (1 per wall)
2 Unsatisfactory - Outlet configuration support digital
3 Average - Outlet configuration support digital devices but limited capacity throughout school (3 per wall)
4 Satisfactory - Outlet configuration support digital devices with adequate coverage and capacity in limited locations (>3 per wall)
5 Very Satisfactory - Excellent outlet configuration to Very Satisfactory - Excellent outlet configuration to
support digital devices throughout school (>3 per wall)

Does not apply



