



# WORTHINGTON ACADEMY

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**Individualized Learning for the  
non-traditional student**

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# Why Worthington Academy?

## Statewide Trend

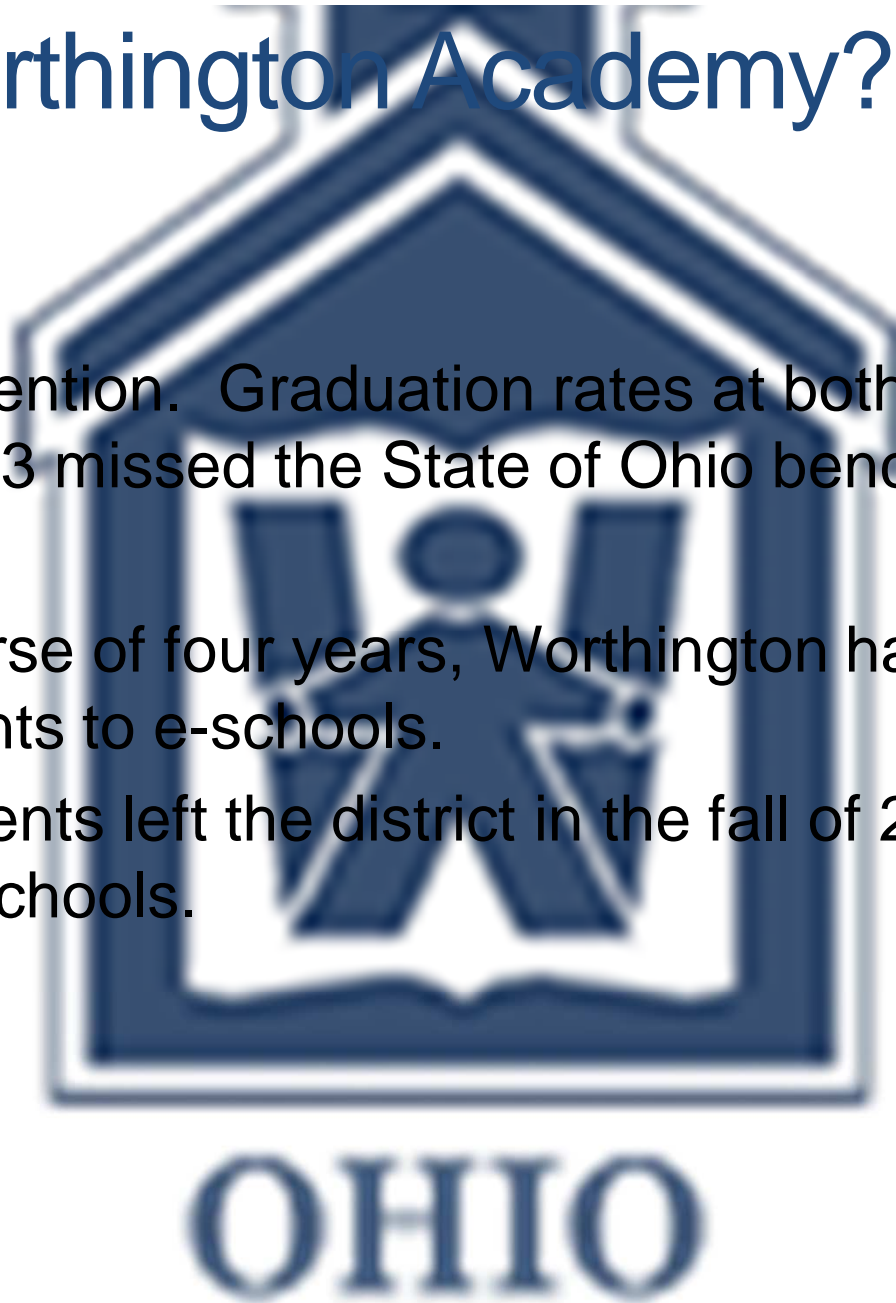
- Roughly 24,000 students in Ohio drop out of high school, every year.
- Currently 121,000 students are enrolled in online or charter schools in Ohio.

Source: Ohio State Superintendent Richard Ross

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# Why Worthington Academy?

- Dropout prevention. Graduation rates at both high schools for 2012 -2013 missed the State of Ohio benchmark of 95%.
- Over the course of four years, Worthington has lost 211 high school students to e-schools.
  - 38 students left the district in the fall of 2013 to attend online schools.



# Why Worthington Academy?

## Thomas Worthington High School

Year	Number of students withdrawn to on line learning	Number of students who withdrew total	Graduation Rate %
2010-11	47	173	92.2%
2011-12	46	150	90.1%
2012-13	26	140	93.6% projected
2013-14	18	90	

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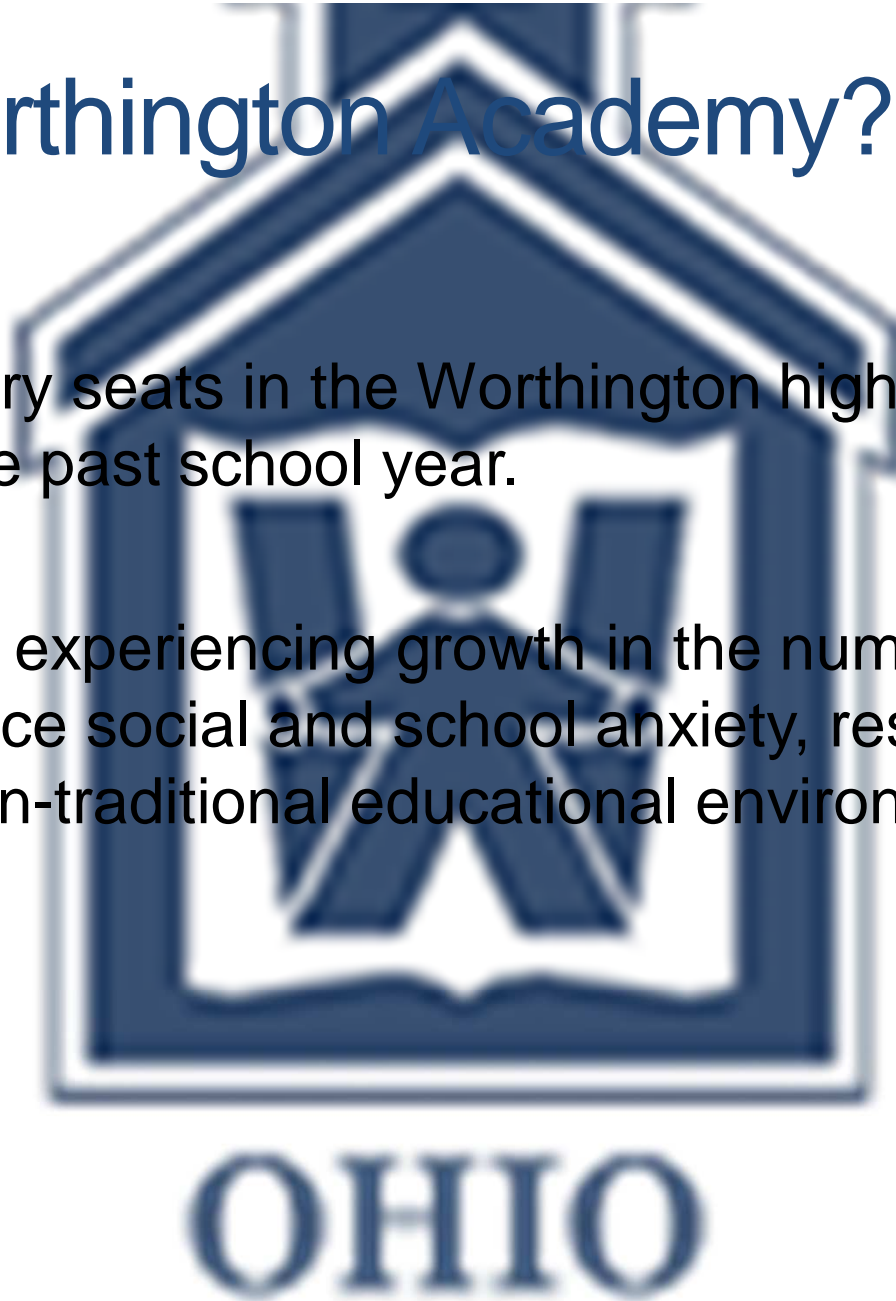
# Why Worthington Academy?

## Worthington Kilbourne High School

Year	Number of students withdrawn to on line learning	Number of students who withdrew total	Graduation Rate %
2010-11	18	59	94.2%
2011-12	21	84	95%
2012-13	15	73	94.7% projected
2013-14	20	68	

# Why Worthington Academy?

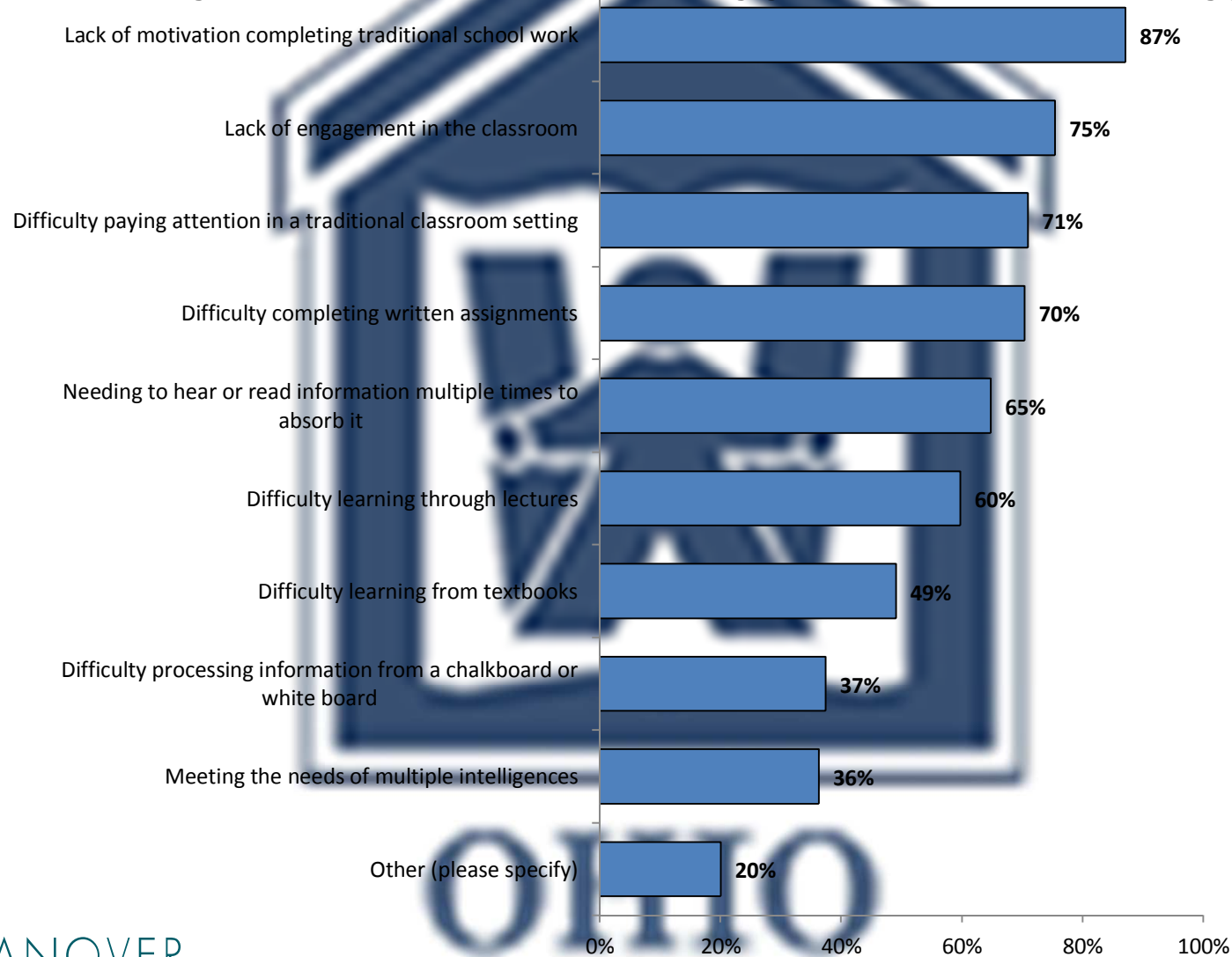
- Credit recovery seats in the Worthington high schools doubled in the past school year.
- The district is experiencing growth in the number of students who experience social and school anxiety, resulting in the need for a non-traditional educational environment.



# Why Worthington Academy?

## LEARNING ISSUES REQUIRING ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL SETTING

Figure 2.2: Learning Issues Observed in Students Unable to Engage in a Traditional Classroom Setting (n=179)



# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

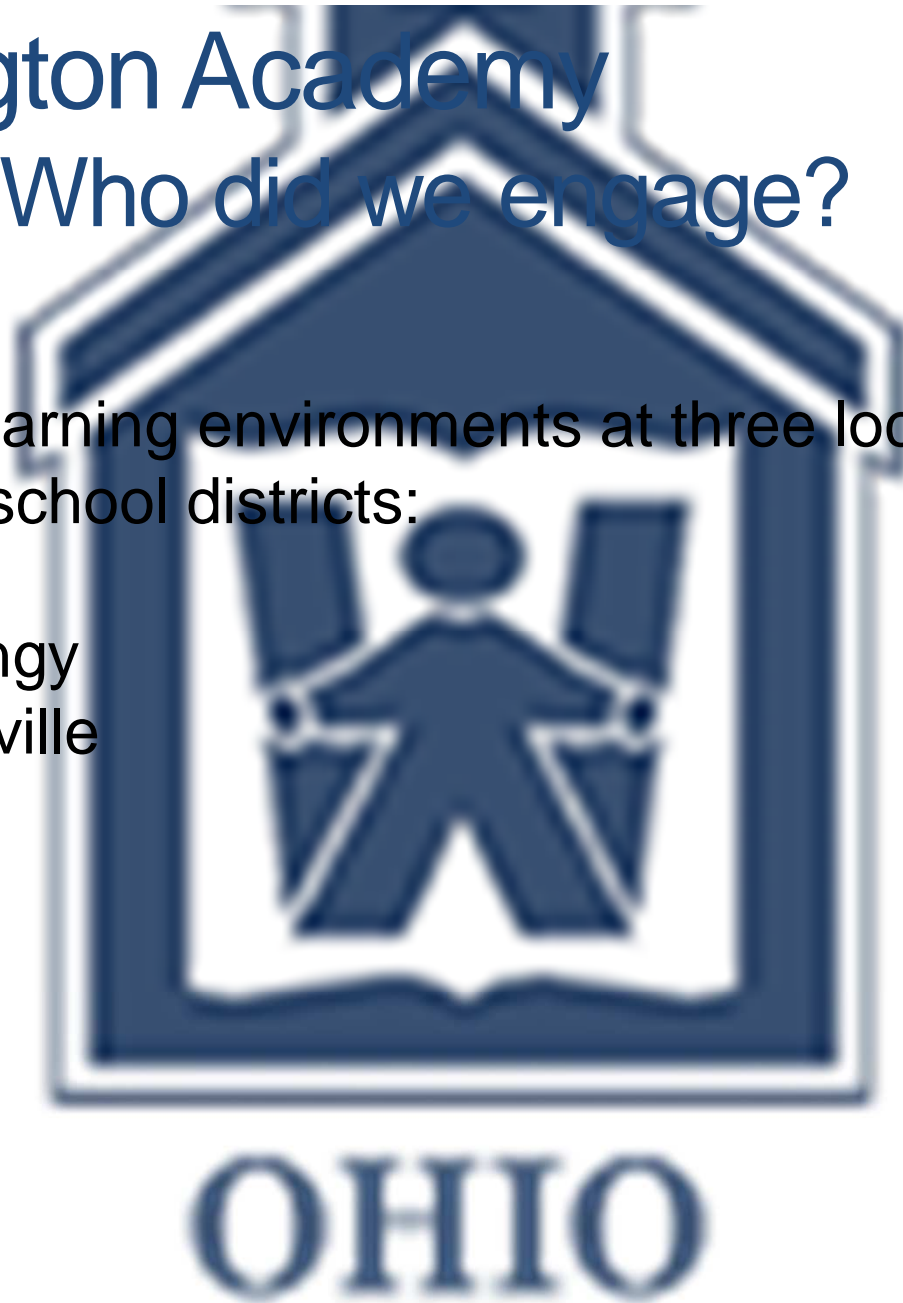
Alternative learning environments at three local, comparable school districts:

- Hilliard
- Olentangy
- Westerville

Students

Staff

Parents





# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

### Hilliard City Schools: McVey Innovative Learning Center

- Opened 2013
- Located in the former Board office.
- Services 71 full time students.
- Offers numerous flexible online options.
- Includes shared space for Learning Pathways
  - College Jumpstart
  - Imagination Network
  - Young Professionals Network
  - Personal Success Network (Credit Recovery)



# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

### **Olentangy Local Schools: Olentangy Academy Supporting Individualized Success**

- Opened 2009
- Located at Shanahan Middle School.
- Services 125 full time students.
- Offers numerous flexible online options.
- Provides Service Learning opportunities.



OLENTANGY ACADEMY: SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALIZED SUCCESS

# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

### **Westerville City Schools: Educational Opportunities for Success (EOS)**

- Opened 2011
- Located in the former Board office.
- Services 158 full time students.
- Multi-use facility including:
  - Summer School
  - Flexible Credit
  - Dual enrollment
  - Credit Recovery



# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

	Number of Staff	Name of Facility	Number of Students
Hilliard	5 2: Full Time Teachers 1: Secretary (shared) 1: Administrator (shared) 1 Counselor (shared)	Personal Success Program	71
Olentangy	15 1: Principal 6: Staff 1: Counselor 6: Support Staff (P.T.) 1: Nurse (P.T.)	OASIS	125
Westerville	8 4: Full Time Teachers 1: Counselor 1: Program Director 1: District Administrator 1: Secretary	Academic Enrichment Center	158

# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

### Students at the World Café:

- February 5, 2014
- 40 students at all grade levels from:
  - Linworth
  - Thomas Worthington
  - Worthington Kilbourne

### Staff at the World Café:

- February 11, 2014
- 40 staff members representing all levels including:
  - 4 middle schools
  - 3 high schools
  - WEC
  - School Board



# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

**The following questions were presented to both staff and students during the World Café:**

- In the most recent semester 18 TWHS students and 20 WKHS students withdrew from their respective high schools to enroll in a charter/e-school. What are the numbers telling us?
- If you could create your ideal learning environment what would the physical space look like and what would be the structure of the day?
- How can a school centered on technology help students grow and make them college and career ready?
- How can the families, students, staff, and community of Worthington work in partnership to guarantee that 100% of our students graduate?

# Worthington Academy

## Who did we engage?

**Parents:** The families of the 38 students who departed Worthington for online educational opportunities during the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year were contacted. 20 of the families responded to the following questions:

- If the Worthington Academy had been in place, would your child have left the district for another online opportunity?
- If Worthington establishes the Academy, would your student consider returning?

Number of parents who responded to the survey:	Would you have attended the Academy?		Would you return if the Academy became available?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
20	18	2	19	1

# Worthington Academy

## What is the Academy?

### **Worthington Academy will:**

1. Improve educational outcomes for at-risk students, including high school graduation and college and career readiness.
2. Connect at-risk students to our community's robust network of businesses and civic leaders for enrichment and support.
3. Meet or exceed our district-wide goals for graduation rates and measures of student academic growth.

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# Worthington Academy

## What is the Academy?

### Students

Worthington Academy will target three tiers of students. Each tier has a different need and through an individualized education model, each student can craft their pathway to success.

1. **Tier I:** Students who are under-credited and are in danger of dropping out or not graduating.
2. **Tier II:** Students who have dropped out and/or are returning from an alternative educational setting, such as a charter or e- school.
3. **Tier III:** Student Choice Option is for students who need various options in their pathway to graduation.

# Worthington Academy

## What is the Academy?

### **Student Admittance:**

- Academy will be a scheduling option for all current and incoming students.
- Students residing in Tier I and Tier II will represent a higher proportion of the student population than students from Tier III (proposed 80:20)
- Seniors will receive priority in placement.
- Once admitted, a Family Pathway meeting will be set to establish goals and set expectations.
- As students progress through the Academy, available positions will be filled based on students applications and building referrals.



# Worthington Academy

## Where is the Academy?

### **Facilities:**

It is proposed that Worthington Academy be housed in the current Phoenix Middle school building, which has available space and educational resources within the physical building.

The space within Phoenix Middle School is roughly 3,500 square feet, which is comparable to the size of the alternative learning environments in Hilliard, Olentangy and Westerville.

Placing Worthington Academy within Phoenix Middle School will allow for a shared administrator, as well as other staff members.


Schorr Architects, Inc., has provided the district with preliminary renovation plans and cost estimates.



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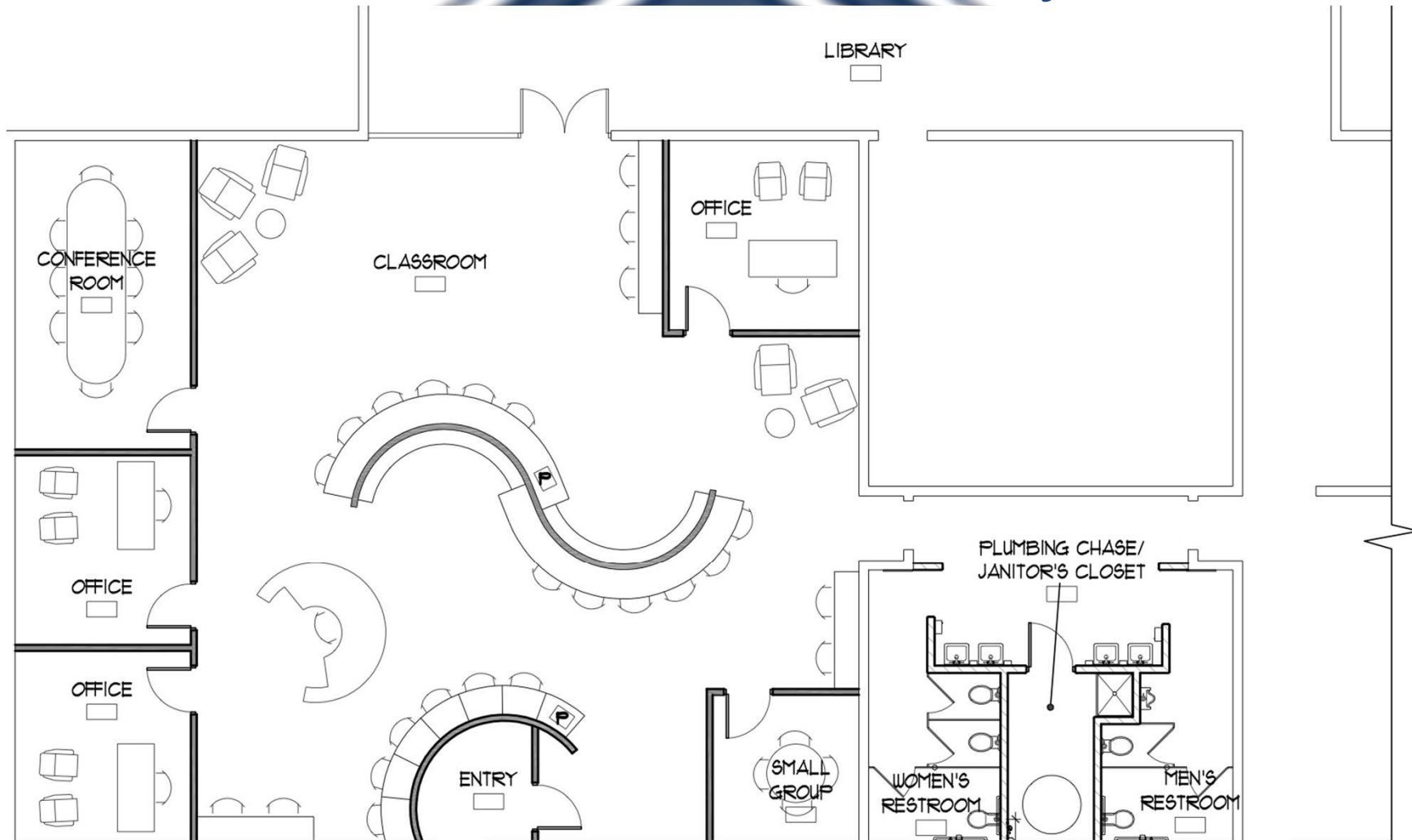
# Worthington Academy

## Where is the Academy?

Location	Benefits	Concerns
<p>Phoenix</p>	<p>Staffing Shared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custodian</li> <li>• Nurse</li> <li>• Administrative Assistant</li> </ul> <p>Bus Routes Established            Currently Owned            Parking/Bus Access            Separate Entrance            Neutral/Central Location            Educational Setting</p>	<p>Occupies Flexible Space            Needed renovation</p>
<p>Commercial Property in Worthington</p> 	<p>Parking/Bus Access            Separate Entrance            Neutral/Central Location            Does not utilize current space</p>	<p>Inability to share staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custodian</li> <li>• Nurse</li> <li>• Administrative Assistant</li> </ul> <p>Needed renovation            New Bus Routes            Purchase/Lease            Professional Setting</p>

# Worthington Academy

## Where is the Academy?



# Worthington Academy Transportation

## Hours of operation:

- Academy Session 1 will run from 7:45am until 10:45am.
- Academy Session 2 will run from 11:30am until 2:30pm.

## Transportation:

- **Morning Transportation:** Students will ride a bus to their home high school. From their home high school, they will take the existing shuttle to Worthington Academy.
- **Midday Transportation:** Following Session 1, students will be transported back to their home high school. Two additional shuttles will be needed for mid-day return to home high schools. If a student is not going back to their home high school, transportation will not be provided.
- **Afternoon Transportation:** A shuttle will bring Session 2 students from their home high school to Academy. These students would have taken morning courses or received special education services prior to afternoon session at Worthington Academy. At the end of Session 2, students will take shuttle back to their home high school, allowing students to participate in co-curricular activities or catch bus a home.
- **If a Session 2 student does not attend their home high school in the morning, they must be brought directly to Worthington Academy by personal transportation.**

# Worthington Academy Budget

Staffing	Renovation	Technology	Transportation
\$270,000	\$300,000	\$85,000	\$50,400
4.5 FTEs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English</li> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Science</li> <li>• Social Studies</li> <li>• 0.5 Guidance</li> </ul>	Construction Design Fees Engineering Fees Furniture Construction Contingencies Permits and Approvals	80 Desktops 30 Laptops 4 Monitors installed	Mid-Day Shuttle Afternoon Shuttle

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# Worthington Academy Timeline

## March

- **March 24:** Worthington Academy Presentation
- **March 25:** Contact Human Resources to Build Job Descriptions and Job Postings
  - Contact Facilities Management beginning facilities process
- **March 31:** Post positions on district website
  - Work with Director of Communications to distribute information to students and families about Worthington Academy option
  - Work with Technology Services developing technology implementation

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# Worthington Academy Timeline

## April

- **April 7 - 11:** Meet with High School Administrative and Counseling Staffs to add Academy programming to schedule options
- **April 14:** Begin hiring process of Academy Staff
- **April 21 - 25:** Open student scheduling through home high school
- **April 28:** Human resources, curriculum, technology

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# Worthington Academy Timeline

## May

- **May 5 - 9:** Announcement of Worthington Academy Staff
- **May 12 - 16:** Curriculum alignment meetings with APEX
- **May 26:** Human resources, curriculum, technology, and facilities update

## June

- **June 9-13:** Worthington Academy Staff Retreat
- **Mid-June:** AT&T Aspire Grant Announcement
- **June 30:** Human resources, curriculum, technology, and facilities update

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# Worthington Academy Timeline

## July

- **July:** Continue installation of facility needs and technology
- **July 7-11:** Administrative planning for school opening
- **July 14-18:** Initial Family Pathway meetings for incoming students
- **June 30:** Human resources, curriculum, technology, and facilities update



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# Worthington Academy Timeline

## August

- **August 4-8:** Official Worthington Academy Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Community Tours
- **August 4-8:** Communication with transportation department
- **August 4-8:** New student tours and orientation
- **August 4-8:** Home school communication for potential new referrals
- **August 11-15:** Technology and transportation run through
  - Staff meetings with student briefings
  - Attend District Convocation
- **August 18:** Worthington Academy opens