



THREE WAYS TO EXPAND LEARNING

A national push to improve students' math and literacy skills has caused many schools to double up on those subjects, sometimes at the expense of a balanced and engaging education. To meet the demands of narrowly-defined accountability, schools have sacrificed time spent on science, social studies, arts, physical activity and well-rounded skills.

A primary goal of ExpandedED Schools and many expanded learning time and after-school initiatives is to give 21st Century students more time and a wider range of opportunities to learn than in the conventional school day. These schedules show how three ExpandedED Schools have re-engineered time and resources to provide what everyone wants for their children: a well-rounded education, quality instruction and a fighting chance to succeed.

In the ExpandedED Schools national demonstration, 11 elementary and middle schools in New York City, Baltimore and New Orleans partner with experienced community organizations to expand the learning day. They restore or expand time for subjects such as science. They offer arts, movement, small group support and project-based learning activities that require creative and critical thinking.

Students get about 35% more learning time than their peers in traditional public schools.

Together with their community partners, ExpandedED School leaders re-engineer schools to align their resources to meet shared goals for students. Community organizations add to faculty by bringing in teaching artists and AmeriCorps members, among others. In some schools, community educators help teachers deliver small group instruction before 3 PM. Teachers have the flexibility to work beside community educators as kids explore enrichments and leadership opportunities which would otherwise be squeezed out of the school day.

School teams often adjust schedules and curriculum throughout the year to diversify opportunities and meet changing needs. These schedules are a snapshot from spring of the 2011-12 school year.

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8:00-8:25
BREAKFAST



8:30-10:05
MATH



10:05-11:45
ENGLISH



1:45-2:35
MUSIC RECORDING

Young Audiences' teaching artists begin their instructional day at McDonogh 32 in the early afternoon to infuse arts throughout the learning day. During this period, students have the option to choose Music Recording or Visual Arts.



11:45-12:15
LUNCH



12:15-1:45
SOCIAL STUDIES



3:45-4:55
HOMESCHOOL, HEALTHY SNACKS & DAILY DE-BRIEF

During this time, students unwind from their earlier classes and get started on homework. Everyone eats a healthy snack. Teachers and community educators meet with students to debrief their day and support them with homework help.



2:35-3:45
TECHNOLOGY
(alternates with Gym)



4:55-5:30
GARDENING

Students have the opportunity to choose between multiple enrichment opportunities during this time period. In addition to gardening, today students may participate in Visual Arts, Music, Band and Math or English Support.



5:30-5:45
DISMISSAL



McDONOGH 32 LITERACY CHARTER SCHOOL

Wednesday, 3rd Grade

CITY

New Orleans

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Young Audiences of Louisiana

GOALS

Leaders at McDonogh 32 use exposure to high quality arts programming as a catalyst for students' academic success. The school partnered with Young Audiences to add more visual and performing arts activities throughout the school day.

HIGHLIGHT

By expanding the school day and staff, McDonogh 32 was able to revive the school band. This year, McDonogh 32 students marched in Mardi Gras parades under Young Audiences.

A conventional school day: 6 hours, 30 mins

A day at McDonogh 32: 9 hours, 30 mins

7:25-7:45
BREAKFAST

7:45-9:45
ENGLISH

9:45-10:30
DRAMA

10:30-11:30
MATH

11:30-12:00
LUNCH

12:00-12:15
RECESS

12:15-12:45
MATH

1:15-2:00
SOCIAL STUDIES

3:00-3:45
STEMULATED MINDS

3:45-4:45
VIOLIN

4:45-5:15
SUPPER

5:15-5:30
DISMISSAL

12:45-1:15

INTERVENTION GROUPS

Students are matched in small groups with teachers with whom they have strong relationships. Teachers mentor them and model different ways to build their skills in reading, math and science.



2:00-3:00

BEYOND MILK AND COOKIES

The Hilton partners use snack time for character development and building relationships, while also helping students with homework. Students take leadership roles in planning activities, take attendance and deliver snacks. Music sets the tone for guided conversation.

HILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Wednesday, 3rd Grade

CITY

Baltimore

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Child First Authority

GOALS

In addition to providing more opportunities for individual and small group learning, leaders at Hilton Elementary School wanted to offer their students more time for science and the arts.

HIGHLIGHT

Child First Authority community educators lead STEMulated Minds, which helps kids develop critical thinking skills and team work through engaging STEM projects.

A conventional school day: 6 hours, 30 mins

A day at Hilton Elementary: 9 hours, 50 mins



THURGOOD MARSHALL ACADEMY LOWER SCHOOL

Thursday, 3rd Grade

CITY

New York

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Abyssinian Development Corporation

GOALS

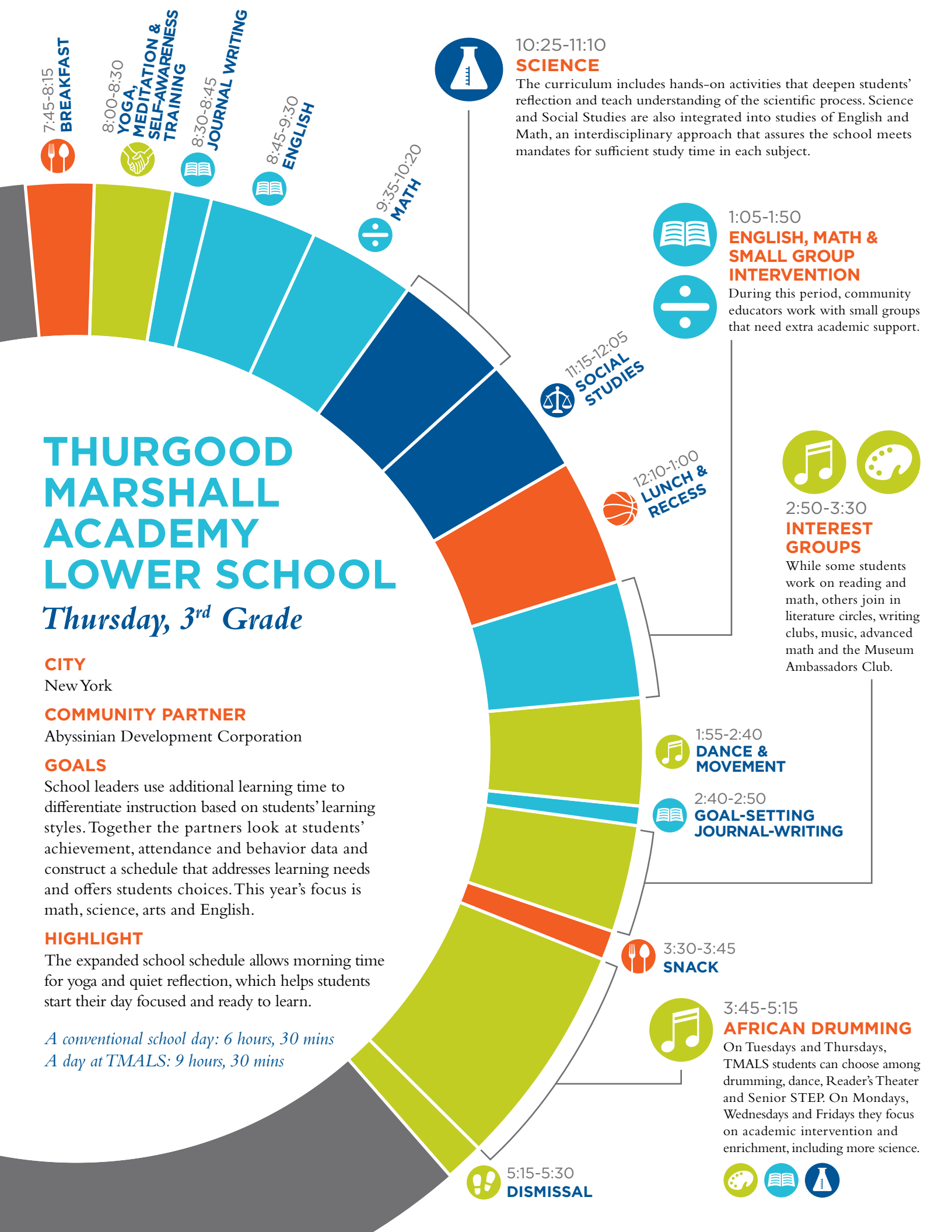
School leaders use additional learning time to differentiate instruction based on students' learning styles. Together the partners look at students' achievement, attendance and behavior data and construct a schedule that addresses learning needs and offers students choices. This year's focus is math, science, arts and English.

HIGHLIGHT

The expanded school schedule allows morning time for yoga and quiet reflection, which helps students start their day focused and ready to learn.

A conventional school day: 6 hours, 30 mins

A day at TMALS: 9 hours, 30 mins



7:45-8:15
BREAKFAST

8:00-8:30
YOGA, MEDITATION & SELF-AWARENESS TRAINING

8:30-8:45
JOURNAL WRITING

8:45-9:30
ENGLISH

9:35-10:20
MATH



10:25-11:10

SCIENCE

The curriculum includes hands-on activities that deepen students' reflection and teach understanding of the scientific process. Science and Social Studies are also integrated into studies of English and Math, an interdisciplinary approach that assures the school meets mandates for sufficient study time in each subject.



1:05-1:50

ENGLISH, MATH & SMALL GROUP INTERVENTION

During this period, community educators work with small groups that need extra academic support.



11:15-12:05
SOCIAL STUDIES

12:10-1:00
LUNCH & RECESS



2:50-3:30
INTEREST GROUPS

While some students work on reading and math, others join in literature circles, writing clubs, music, advanced math and the Museum Ambassadors Club.



1:55-2:40

DANCE & MOVEMENT



2:40-2:50

GOAL-SETTING JOURNAL-WRITING



3:30-3:45

SNACK



3:45-5:15

AFRICAN DRUMMING

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, TMALS students can choose among drumming, dance, Reader's Theater and Senior STEP. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays they focus on academic intervention and enrichment, including more science.



5:15-5:30

DISMISSAL

