

Chapter 1 Essential Questions

As you reflect on this chapter, consider the following questions.

- Think about the physical facility of the middle school or high school that you attended. Was the school built with traditional classrooms designed for one teacher to teach twenty-five to thirty students? If so, how do you think that affects your ideas for what schools look like?
- How does the traditional classroom mindset affect people's planning for new schools?
- How do your school's existing learning environments inhibit student learning?
- Given that most districts organize traditional schools for mass instruction, what would schools be like if districts organized them for mass customization and serving individual student needs?
- Close your eyes and think about designing a new school that will prepare each student for life in the 21st century. How do you see the arrangement of physical space? What would you change relative to traditional classroom-based methods that would help customize learning experiences to better support students and help them succeed after they graduate?