



Acero School Transitions

Welcome

**SY25-26 Acero Community
Incubation Meeting**

Hybrid | Monday, January 26, 2026

Bartolomé de Las Casas Elementary School
4:00pm - 5:30pm



Chicago
Public
Schools

| I&I

Innovation
& Incubation

Casas Community Incubation Meeting Schedule

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| Casas Community Incubation Meeting Schedule (In-Person, at the School, Mondays, 4:00pm - 5:30pm) Meeting Cadence: Monthly | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| September | October | November | December |
| September 15, 2025 (virtual) | October 20, 2025 | November 17, 2025 <i>Principal Candidate Forum</i> | December 15, 2025 |
| January | February | March | April |
| January 26, 2026 | February 23, 2026 | March 16, 2026 | April 20, 2026 |
| May | June | 2025-26 | |
| May 18, 2026 | June 8, 2026 | | |

Welcome Remarks

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Objective and Purpose for Today

- **Hear** principal remarks and vision casting for Casas ES for SY26-27
- **Provide** Key Incubation Updates
- **Facilitate** Q/A



Norms for Engagement | Our Commitments

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- **Be Present and Engaged**
- **Listen Respectfully:** Allow others to speak without interruption, seek to **understand different** perspectives, and avoid judgment.
- **Stay on Topic:** Keep discussions relevant to the agenda, manage time effectively, and address off-topic items separately if necessary.
- **Challenge Ideas, Not People**
- **Listen and gather community feedback and input**
- **Facilitate an equitable process**
- **Provide transparency**
- **Allow Equity of Voice**

Agenda

01 Welcome Remarks + Norm Setting

02 Principal Remarks + Vision Casting

03 Key Incubation Updates

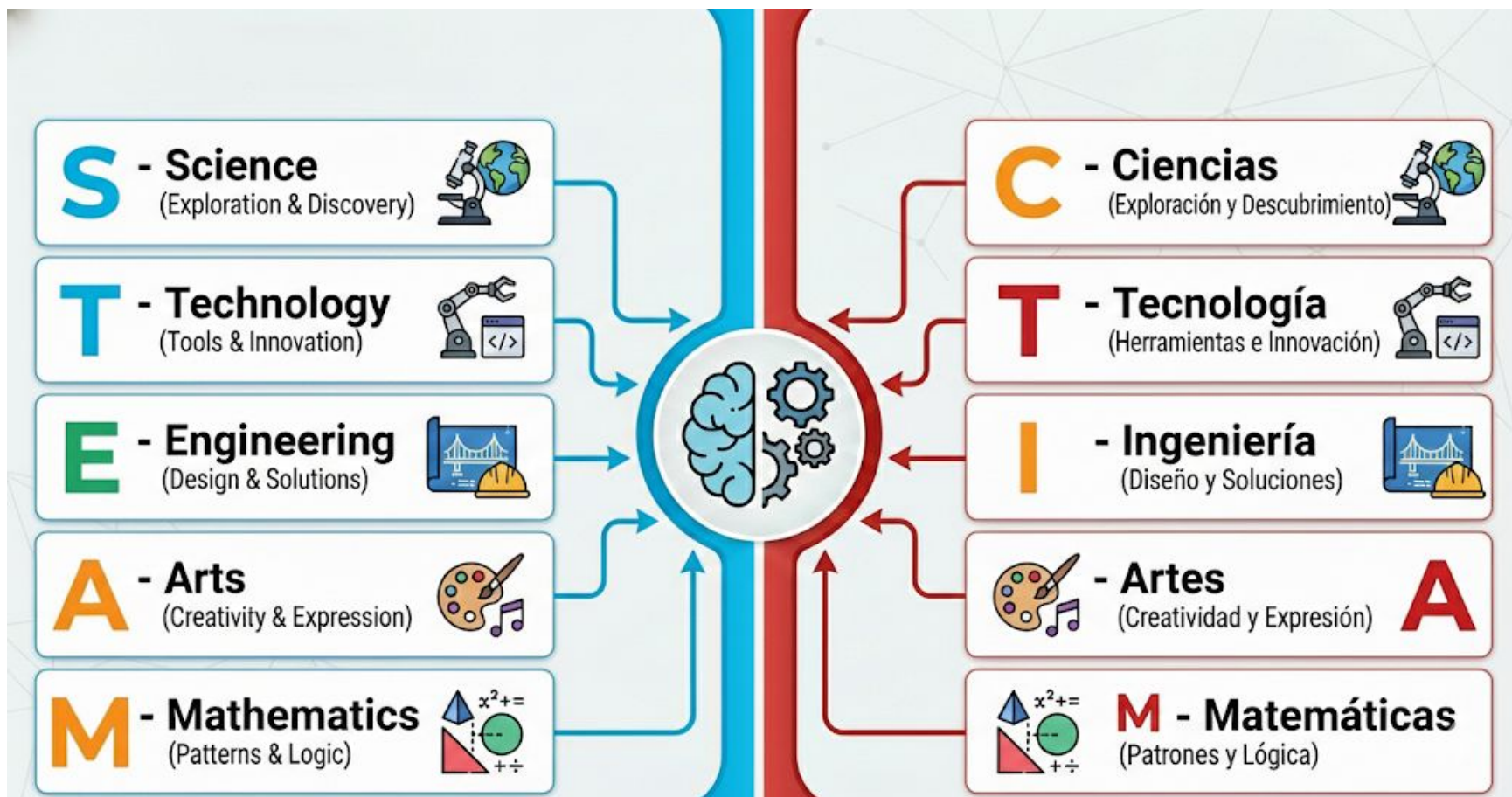
04 Q & A

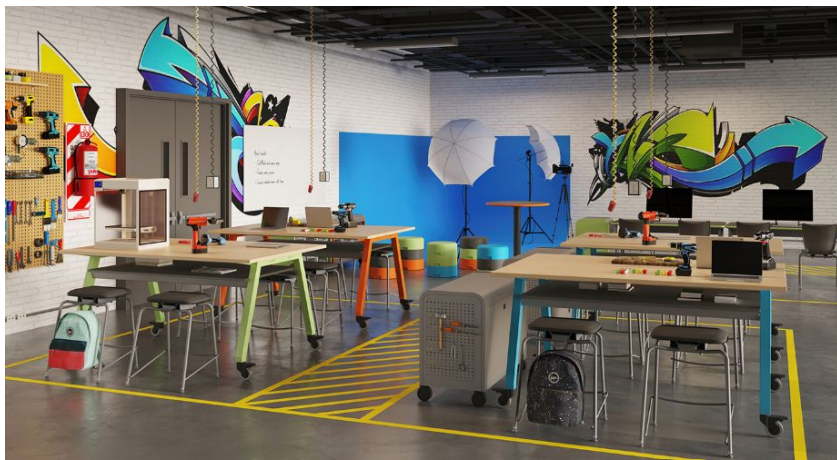


Brainstorming/Lluvia de Ideas

- Programming/
La programación
- Marketing







Agenda

01 Welcome Remarks + Norm Setting

02 Principal Remarks + Vision Casting

03 Key Incubation Updates

04 Q & A



New Incubation Updates

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- Casas Advisory & Design Leadership Council welcomes one (1) new council member:
 - Yolanda Ayala
 - 3 teacher/staff vacancies remain
- CPS Real Estate Team is in negotiations to secure a master lease agreement with the Archdiocese of Chicago for all 5 school sites (current locations)
- Hybrid vs. In-Person Meeting Facilitation
 - Live Zoom sessions will be simultaneously cast based on the availability of the CPS Digital Web Services Team
 - Current month's flyers and email messages will communicate if the meeting will include virtual access through Zoom

New Incubation Updates

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- Site Visits

- Various CPS Central Office teams and departments ***started completing site visits during the first week of January, which will continue through June 2026***
 - *e.g. Marketing + Communications, Student Safety & Security, Information Technology Services, Capital Planning + Facilities*
- All dates and time frames were pre-approved through collaboration with Acero Network leaders, and are scheduled as to avoid disrupting teaching and learning for staff and students, and to prevent ***to the fullest extent possible***, the disruption of normal school operations;
 - *Target dates and time frames prioritize when students are not present*
- The purpose of the visits are to assess and make decisions to ensure facility and environmental readiness by the first day of school in August 2026

Incubation Updates | Interview Priority

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- All Casas teachers who want to return next year have been interviewed. Teacher notifications should happen within the next week.
- Final staffing decisions are made once CPS employment eligibility is confirmed and all required onboarding steps are completed, including a licensure review, criminal background check, and CPS policy acknowledgements.

Incubation Timeline

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- ~~August:~~ Decision on the Network for each school
- ~~September:~~ Opening of Principal positions
- ~~Late September:~~ Establishment of Advisory Council at each school
- ~~October:~~ Inaugural Advisory Council Meetings
- **September - June 2026:** Recurring district incubation committee meetings, listening sessions with stakeholders, design committee and advisory council meetings
- ~~Middle of December 2025:~~ Principal hired
- ~~Start of January 2026:~~ Posting of Foundational Positions (AP, Clerk, and School Counselor) and teacher and staff positions
- **End of January - February 2026:** Foundational positions hired
- **December - June 2026:** Hiring of teachers and support staff
- **January - May 2026:** Final planning in conjunction with Advisory Councils and Design Committees
- **July 1, 2026:** Opening Day

Q&A





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& INCUBATION

Thank You For Coming!

*Have an amazing
rest of your
week!*

See you on February 23rd for the next Casas
Community Incubation Meeting





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