

# neoMODUS

(neo: new; modus: a way something is done)

## A Hybrid Landscape of Scholarship and Apprenticeship

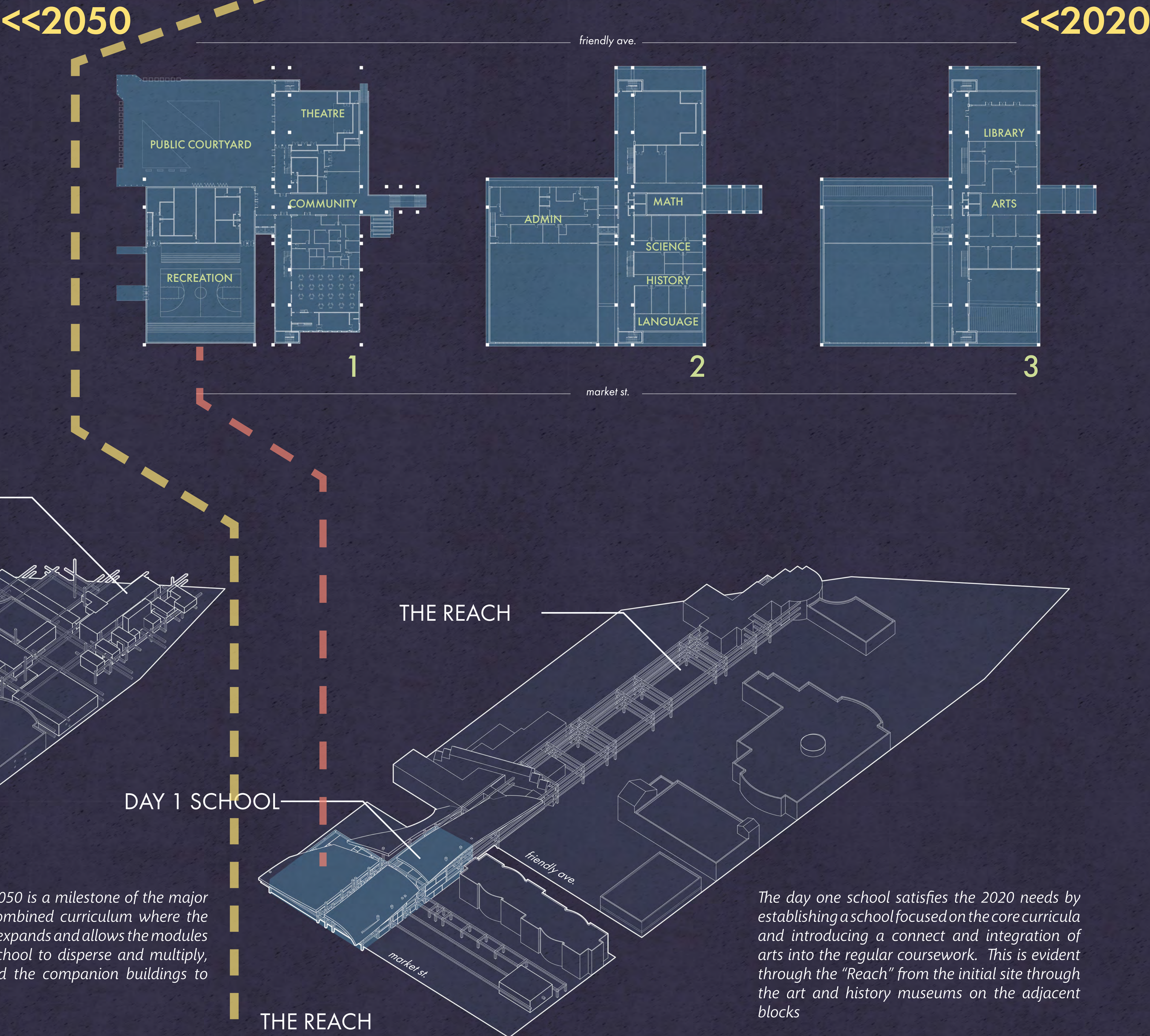
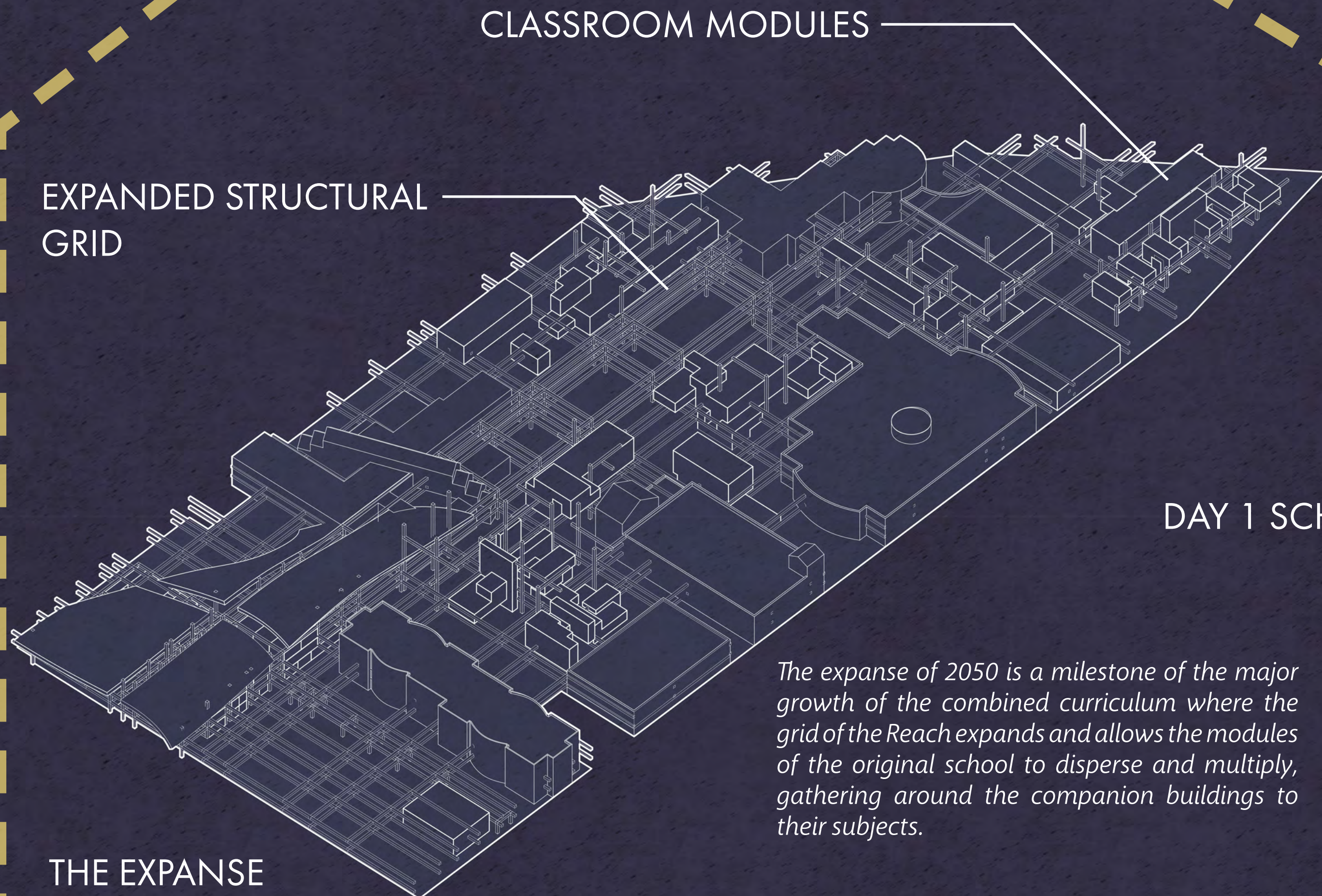
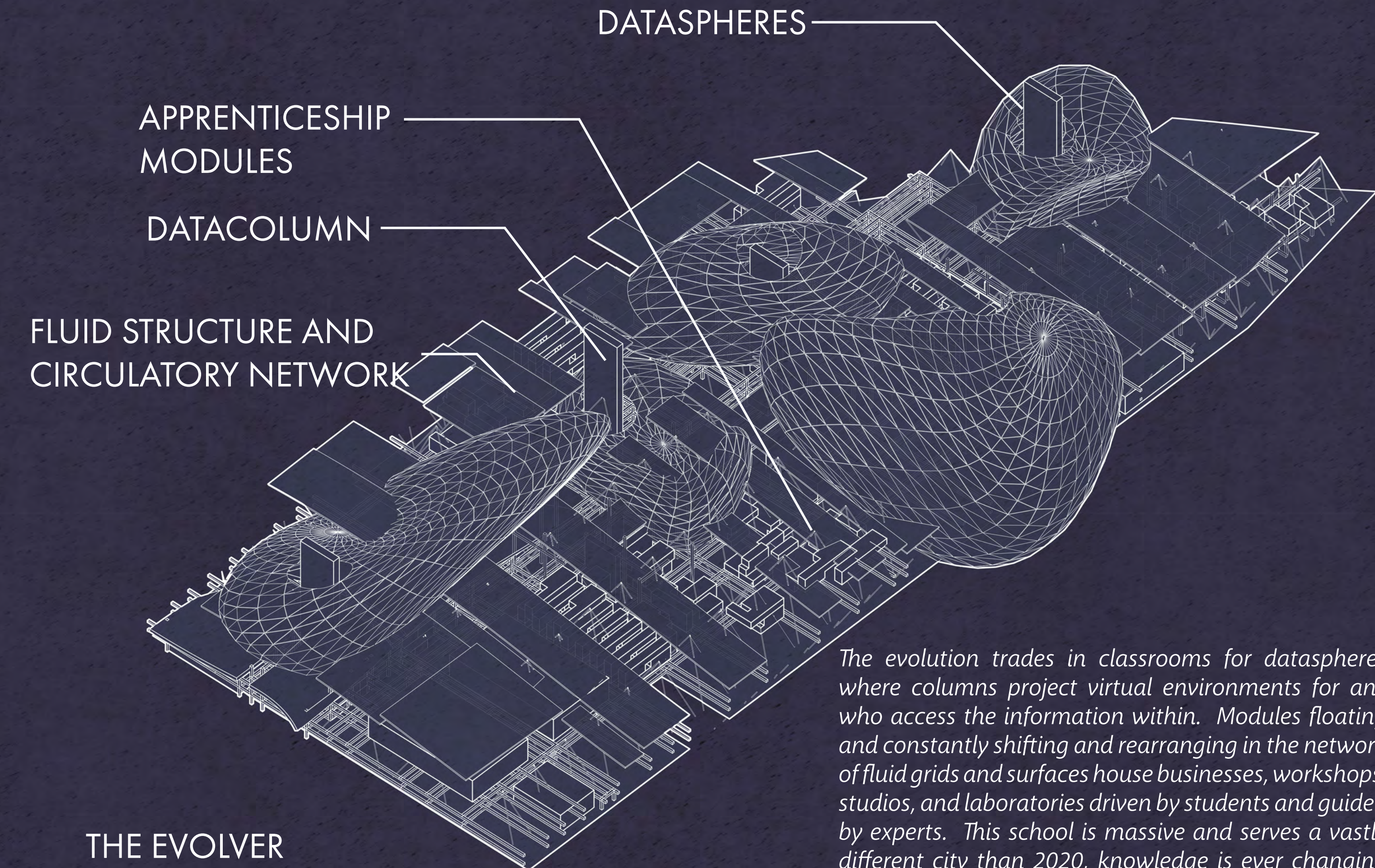
Designing a school for now, and for a hundred years from now, will be about change. How different is a school in 2019, in physical form and function, than a school designed in 1919? How much faster is society, and children, changing today? How much faster still will exponential technology advances occur over the next 100 years? We can choose to be optimistic, or we can accept that the current shortcomings of how society values, supports, and structures K-12 education – and how we fall short of creating safer and more equitable communities – will continue. We choose to be hopeful.

A 21st century school should assume a hundred year-life. Particularly, a school designed with sustainability in mind should expect no less than a century of use. Our premise is that an urban high school designed for today will be vastly different from the school it will become a hundred years from now.

**The REACH**  
The school begins its hundred-year journey as a safe, sustainable, and community-oriented high school. The surrounding commercial buildings on the site are renovated into below market-rate residences for teachers, administrators, and support staff. Recreation spaces are open for public use in off-school hours; performing arts students have events on a stage that opens to a public courtyard; and the library hosts programs involving the business and arts communities of Greensboro, who interact with students on the open-air patio overlooking Friendly Avenue.

**The EXPANSE**  
Fifty years-in, the school's programs are being integrated into the fabric and institutions of the city much more holistically. The original school was designed to be transformed into its next purpose as learning and doing increasingly connects students to the nearby institutions that form the cultural and intellectual center of Greensboro – the public library, the history museum, the art gallery, the ballet. Over time, these facilities change to welcome a new influx of energy and purpose. As the school embeds and combines its mission to inspire and educate students with the programs and resources of these beloved institutions, a new form of school emerges.

**The EVOLVER**  
Encountering the year 2099, the exponential and inevitable advances of technology further increases humanity's dependence and integration with layers of the digital universe. This amalgamation requires an architecture of agility and flexibility, responsive to the flux of community needs organizing around nodes where the two environments (digital and physical) coalesce. Equally forming this architecture, the marriage of apprenticeship and scholarship as the body of the curricula redefines a narrow focus of education and re-centers on the comprehension and application of acquired knowledge and skills. The school of the late 21st century embraces agility and evolution as a response to the two-part curricula: scholarship contains the core subjects of learning – language, arts, mathematics, sciences, and history – accessed through virtual classrooms at a "data column" public domain. Apprenticeship emphasizes the earning and application of knowledge through practice with accomplished members of various fields in art, athletics, science, robotics, computation and business which builds upon the fundamentals. A flexible social fabric stitches these two halves together; the (re)combinatorial modules of apprenticeship that serves the community organized around the static nodes of scholarship built upon the city's cultural and intellectual institutions. Greensboro has a history of providing the state and country with a vision for a better future, from the courageous acts of the Greensboro Four to the way it has transformed from a mill town. It's fitting that this city be the setting for designing a school to serve a 21st century vision of a more connected, equal, and thus safer, us.



The expanse of 2050 is a milestone of the major growth of the combined curriculum where the grid of the Reach expands and allows the modules of the original school to disperse and multiply, gathering around the companion buildings to their subjects.

The day one school satisfies the 2020 needs by establishing a school focused on the core curricula and introducing a connect and integration of arts into the regular coursework. This is evident through the "Reach" from the initial site through the art and history museums on the adjacent blocks