



A summary of...

**21st-CENTURY BUILDINGS
FOR OUR KIDS:**
BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS'
PROPOSED 10-YEAR PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Pending Board Approval

Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Too many Baltimore City students are learning in school buildings whose deplorable condition is keeping them from learning at their potential. In Baltimore’s public schools, students in the 21st century are learning in buildings that do not have electrical outlets to support the use of computers, let alone other modern technology... Buildings that can’t support summer learning because they lack air conditioning... Buildings that lack natural light because the windows are yellowed with age... Buildings where the drinking fountains can’t be used because the water is unsafe.

This is not a new phenomenon for Baltimore City Public Schools: The poor condition of its buildings has held the district back for decades. For decades, the accumulation of wear and insufficient resources has caused the condition of the district’s buildings to worsen steadily.

But a confluence of factors and events in recent years has created both the fiscal environment and the public and political will to stop that decline and support a large-scale overhaul of City Schools’ buildings portfolio.

- City Schools has made significant progress in the last five years—with gains in its graduation rate and overall student achievement; steady growth in student enrollment after decades of declines and despite previous assumptions that enrollment would continue to decline; and growth in the district’s institutional capacity to sustain lasting reforms. The district is on a solid reform path and has articulated clear priorities for the next phase of its transformation, including creating modern, high-quality buildings for all of its students.
- This progress has instilled a level of confidence in the district and a sense of urgency around district reforms that has not existed for decades. With this, the public and the district’s partners have rallied to create unprecedented momentum for change.
- The current economic conditions have created historically low interest rates and construction costs, creating an ideal—yet narrow—window of opportunity for a large-scale capital investment in the district’s buildings portfolio.
- The groundwork for a massive capital investment is laid. City Schools has completed a deep analysis of its buildings portfolio and worked closely with state, city and elected officials, as well as experts in the field, to develop a 10-year buildings plan. With the leadership of the mayor, Baltimore City has taken an important step in identifying new revenue sources to support the plan, and the district and its partners have developed a financing strategy that is based on data and best practices and conforms to construction financing rules under state law.

These factors underscore that the time is now for City Schools to take on a massive building modernization initiative. For the first time ever, there is a clear and feasible strategy to transform all of the district’s buildings and give its students the 21st-century learning environments they need and deserve.

The full *21st-Century Buildings for Our Kids* report represents City Schools’ proposed 10-year buildings plan and includes

- The data that lay out in detail the poor condition of City Schools’ buildings portfolio
- The research on the detrimental effect of bad buildings on student achievement
- The cost to overhaul the district’s buildings now, and the negative consequences of delay
- A proposal for financing and managing a \$2.413 billion districtwide buildings overhaul
- The critical role of communities in City Schools’ 10-year buildings plan
- The events and factors that aligned to create a unique opportunity to overhaul the district’s school buildings—now
- A timeline for modernizing all school buildings over 10 years
- The specific recommendations for modernizing each building

The Vision: To Give Students the Buildings They Deserve—Now

The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners has set a bold vision for Baltimore City Public Schools:

In 10 years, all City Schools students will learn in buildings that embody 21st-century standards of excellence.

To fulfill that vision and to inform development of the recommendations that constitute City Schools’ 10-year buildings plan, the Board has articulated a set of guiding principles:

1. Invest to support academic success for all students
2. Maximize fiscal responsibility and stewardship of resources
3. Engage school communities to inform the creation of excellent school buildings for their students
4. Align school buildings with demographic trends, enrollment trends and parent and student choices
5. Invest to have maximum impact on community stability, growth or development
6. Provide diverse options in every geographic area of the city
7. Create school buildings on the cutting edge of technology and environmental sustainability

Recommendations to Give Students the Buildings They Deserve

The recommendations that constitute City Schools' 10-year buildings plan will transform the district physically and go a long way to furthering its academic transformation. With these recommendations, every City Schools building that remains open will be modernized, with the capacity to support the technology students need to learn in the 21st century, natural light, clean air, appropriate temperatures and potable water. City Schools' proposed \$2.413 billion 10-year buildings plan will modernize all district buildings to support 21st-century teaching and learning.

As a result of the recommendations in the plan, City Schools will

- Renovate 87 buildings (including 21 with additions and 1 with reduction)
- Renovate or replace 49 buildings (including 13 at increased size and 10 with reductions)
- Vacate 26 buildings
- Relocate 12 schools to different buildings
- Close 17 schools

Developing these recommendations required making decisions—some of them very difficult—about which schools to replace, renovate and close, and when.

Next Steps

Once approved by the Board, the City Schools' proposed 10-year buildings plan and an accompanying financing proposal goes to the Maryland General Assembly in time for the 2013 legislative session. During this session, the legislature votes on a bill to allow the district to receive future capital funds as a block grant, which the district can leverage to sell bonds to support implementation of the plan.

A powerful sense of possibility has taken hold for the first time in decades around the district's students and schools. A shared commitment to do what is best for Baltimore City's kids has emerged, along with an urgency rooted in the belief that they have waited too long for the education they deserve.

Our Call to Action

State support for City Schools' proposal to finance its 10-year plan is critical to allow current progress in the district to continue. Absent that support, students in what is one of the state's largest, poorest school districts will continue to be relegated to unhealthy, dangerous buildings for decades to come.

The call to action is simple, and the possibilities enormous. City Schools students deserve better buildings, and everything is in place now to begin providing those buildings to them in a way that is streamlined and cost effective. We as a school district, city and state must do right by our kids. We must make possible the implementation of City Schools' proposed 10-year buildings plan.



TABLE OF INDIVIDUAL
SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

No.	School Name	Recommendation	Year
50	Abbottston Elementary School	Renovate	10
427	Academy for College and Career Exploration	Renovate or replace	1
413	Achievement Academy at Harbor City High School	Vacate; move program	2
145	Alexander Hamilton Elementary School	Vacate; close program	3
234	Arlington Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	1
243	Armistead Gardens Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	5
164	Arundel Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	1
430	Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	1
366	Baltimore Antioch Diploma Plus High School	Vacate; move program	2
480	Baltimore City College High School	Renovate	4
343	Baltimore Civitas Middle/High School	Renovate	10
367	Baltimore Community High School	Vacate; move program	2
382	Baltimore Design School	Vacate; move program	in process
423	Baltimore Freedom Academy Middle/High School	Vacate; move program	1
378	Baltimore IT Academy	Renovate	7
365	Baltimore Liberation Diploma Plus High School	Renovate	8
403	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	5
344	Baltimore Rising Star Academy	Vacate; close program	current
415	Baltimore School for the Arts High School	Renovate	7
428	Baltimore Talent Development High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	1
54	Barclay Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	9
124	Bay-Brook Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	2
246	Beechfield Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	4
217	Belmont Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	4
239	Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove	Renovate	6
364	Bluford Drew Jemison STEM Academy West	Renovate	10
130	Booker T. Washington Middle School	Renovate	3
231	Brehms Lane Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace; expand program	3
251	Callaway Elementary School	Renovate; expand program	8
256	Calvin M. Rodwell Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace; expand program	2
454	Carver Vocational-Technical High School	Renovate	7
7	Cecil Elementary School	Renovate	10
34	Charles Carroll Barrister Elementary School	Renovate	9
159	Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	1
376	City Neighbors High School	Renovate	8
346	City Neighbors Hamilton	Renovate	8
8	City Springs Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	3
307	Claremont High School	Vacate; move program	3
31	Coldstream Park Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	8
97	Collington Square Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	4
27	Commodore John Rodgers Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	7
325	ConneXions Community Leadership Academy High School	Renovate	8
247	Cross Country Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	2
207	Curtis Bay Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	4
39	Dallas F. Nicholas, Sr., Elementary School	Renovate	8

No.	School Name	Recommendation	Year
201	Dickey Hill Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	3
416	Digital Harbor High School	Renovate	7
250	Dr. Bernard Harris, Sr., Elementary School	Renovate	6
160	Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	1
254	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	3
58	Dr. Nathan A. Pitts-Ashburton Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	10
25	Dr. Rayner Browne Elementary/Middle School	Renovate; close program	3
62	Edgcombe Circle Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	3
67	Edgewood Elementary School	Renovate or replace	4
400	Edmondson-Westside High School	Replace with reduction	5
11	Eutaw-Marshburn Elementary School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	3
178	Excel Academy at Francis M. Wood High School	Vacate; close program	1
241	Fallstaff Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	8
45	Federal Hill Prep Elementary School	Renovate	9
406	Forest Park High School	Renovate	1
85	Fort Worthington Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace; expand program	1
76	Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	9
95	Franklin Square Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	6
260	Frederick Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition	1
450	Frederick Douglass High School	Renovate	6
339	Friendship Academy of Engineering and Technology Middle/High School	Renovate	6
338	Friendship Academy of Science and Technology Middle/High School	Renovate or replace	3
75	Friendship Preparatory Academy at Calverton	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	2
206	Furley Elementary School	Renovate; expand and move program	4
125	Furman L. Templeton Elementary School	Renovate	4
211	Gardenville Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition	9
212	Garrett Heights Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	6
42	Garrison Middle School	Vacate; close program	current
22	George Washington Elementary School	Renovate	10
177	George W.F. McMechen Middle/High School	Renovate	5
107	Gilmor Elementary School	Renovate or replace	3
235	Glenmount Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	8
213	Govans Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	2
240	Graceland Park/O'Donnell Heights Elementary/Middle School	Replace	current
377	Green Street Academy	Renovate or replace	3
224	Grove Park Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	5
214	Guilford Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	8
60	Gwynns Falls Elementary School	Renovate or replace	3
236	Hamilton Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	9
55	Hampden Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	9
47	Hampstead Hill Academy Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	9
37	Harford Heights Elementary School	Renovate	2
35	Harlem Park Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	4

No.	School Name	Recommendation	Year
210	Hazelwood Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	6
425	Heritage High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction; close program	1; 2*
215	Highlandtown Elementary/Middle School #215	Renovate	9
237	Highlandtown Elementary/Middle School #237	Renovate with possible addition	10
21	Hilton Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition	4
122	The Historic Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Elementary School	Renovate	6
229	Holabird Elementary/Middle School	Replace	current
333	Independence School Local I High School	Vacate; move program	3
10	James McHenry Elementary School	Renovate	8
144	James Mosher Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition; expand program	2
61	John Eager Howard Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	1
228	John Ruhrah Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	2
16	Johnston Square Elementary School	Renovate or replace	4
342	KASA Middle/High School	Renovate or replace	3
347	KIPP Harmony	Renovate	8
324	KIPP Ujima Village Academy Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	8
12	Lakeland Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	9
86	Lakewood Elementary School	Vacate; close program	4
5	Langston Hughes Elementary School	Vacate; close program	3
245	Leith Walk Elementary School	Renovate	in process
64	Liberty Elementary School	Renovate; expand program	9
261	Lockerman Bundy Elementary School	Renovate	4
313	Lois T. Murray Elementary/Middle School	Vacate; move program	4
88	Lyndhurst Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace; expand program	1
203	Maree G. Farring Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	7
53	Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	6
431	Maritime Industries Academy High School	Vacate; move program	6
150	Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School at Bentalou	Renovate	7
204	Mary E. Rodman Elementary School	Renovate or replace	2
331	Maryland Academy of Technology and Health Sciences Middle/High School	Renovate	8
29	Matthew A. Henson Elementary School	Renovate	4
249	Medfield Heights Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	2
410	Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School	Renovate	5
381	Monarch Academy Public Charter School	Vacate; move program	9
44	Montebello Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	2
105	Moravia Park Elementary School	Renovate	7
220	Morrell Park Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	5
66	Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	3
221	The Mount Washington School	Renovate with possible addition	5
421	National Academy Foundation	Renovate	6
422	New Era Academy High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	5
345	New Hope Academy	Vacate; move program	5
81	North Bend Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	8
49	Northeast Middle School	Renovate; close program	2

*First year refers to building recommendation; second year refers to program recommendation

No.	School Name	Recommendation	Year
401	Northwestern High School	Vacate; close program	2
242	Northwood Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	2
349	The Northwood Appold Community Academy (NACA) Freedom and Democracy II	Renovate	6
163	Patapsco Elementary/Middle School	Vacate; close program	current
405	Patterson High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	1
414	Paul Laurence Dunbar High School	Renovate	4
223	Pimlico Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	1
341	The REACH! Partnership School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	1
419	Reginald F. Lewis High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction	4
433	Renaissance Academy High School	Renovate	3
142	Robert W. Coleman Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition	2
89	Rognel Heights Elementary/Middle School	Vacate; close program	3
233	Roland Park Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	6
379	Roots and Branches School	Renovate	4
63	Rosemont Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	7
98	Samuel F.B. Morse Elementary School	Vacate; close program	3
73	Sarah M. Roach Elementary School	Vacate; close program	4
314	Sharp-Leadenhall Elementary School	Vacate; move program	4
248	Sinclair Lane Elementary School	Renovate or replace; expand program	6
181	Southside Academy	Renovate or replace with possible reduction; close program	5; in process*
328	Southwest Baltimore Charter Elementary School	Renovate or replace	4
15	Stadium School Middle	Renovate	10
4	Steuart Hill Academic Academy	Renovate with possible reduction	4
13	Tench Tilghman Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition	9
232	Thomas Jefferson Elementary/Middle School	Renovate with possible addition or replace	3
84	Thomas Johnson Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	9
374	Vanguard Collegiate Middle School	Vacate; move program	6
226	Violetville Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	10
429	Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy High School	Renovate with possible addition	8
134	Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	2
51	Waverly Elementary/Middle School	Replace	in process
418	W.E.B. DuBois High School	Renovate or replace with possible reduction; close program	4; 2*
407	Western High School	Renovate	6
225	Westport Academy Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	4
24	Westside Elementary School	Vacate; close program	4
263	William C. March Middle School	Vacate; close program	current
83	William Paca Elementary School	Renovate with possible addition	8
28	William Pinderhughes Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	5
301	William S. Baer School	Renovate or replace	7
87	Windsor Hills Elementary/Middle School	Renovate or replace	4
23	Wolfe Street Academy Elementary School	Renovate	10
205	Woodhome Elementary/Middle School	Renovate	8
219	Yorkwood Elementary School	Renovate or replace	7
	A new elementary school	New construction	2

*First year refers to building recommendation; second year refers to program recommendation



For more about Baltimore City Public Schools' 21st-Century Buildings for Our Kids initiative and to read the complete report, visit www.baltimorecityschools.org/betterbuildings

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