



DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #61
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA

Open Meeting & Work Session
Keil Administration Building
101 W. Cerro Gordo Street

January 20, 2021
5:00 PM Special Open Work Session Meeting
Virtual Meeting: 1st Floor Board Room

Legend: AI = Action Item DI = Discussion Item IO = Information Only

Strategic Plan Mission:

The mission of Decatur Public Schools, the destination district of our community, is to unlock students' unique and limitless potential to achieve their personal aspirations as fully prepared, contributing citizens in a global society through learning experiences distinguished by:

- *commitment to the whole person resulting in student growth and confidence*
- *relevant, innovative, personalized academic pathways that promote passion and pride*
- *a learning environment that fosters curiosity and the thirst for achievement and discovery*
- *a culture of diversity, adaptability, and resilience*
- *meaningful and lasting relationships*
- *extraordinary school and community connections*

The Board of Education Parameters that Guide Our Work:

- We will make decisions in the best interest of all students.
- We will treat all people with dignity and respect.
- We will seek input and collaboration throughout our diverse community.
- We will practice responsible stewardship of all our resources.

IO 1.0 CALL TO ORDER
Roll Call

AI 2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA, JANUARY 20, 2021

IO 3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Identify oneself and be brief.
- Any public comments received will be read during this time.
- Comments should be limited to 3 minutes.

DI 4.0 BOARD WORK SESSION
Welcome

1. Facilities Update
2. Site Improvements
3. City Agreement

IO 5.0 IMPORTANT DATES

NEXT MEETING

The public portion of the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at the Keil Administration Building.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2021

BOLD PLAN UPDATE & RECOMMENDATIONS



ORIGINS

WINTER/SPRING 2018

Demographer hired January 9, 2018, to study enrollment data and future projections; key findings presented to BOE April 18, 2018

- Data indicated continued declining enrollment

SPRING/SUMMER 2018

BOE held planning meetings and charged administration with creating a plan to address future facility needs across the District



BOLD
> FACILITY PLAN <
**Building Better Opportunities
for Learning in Decatur**

WHY?

EXCERPT FROM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS: CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

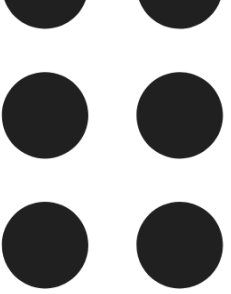
August 14, 2018



“

On August 6, 2018, the Board of Education held a planning meeting with the intent to organize and develop a facility plan. The District has many aging facilities which need improvements to bring these buildings into line with current building code, and would cost more than to replace the buildings with similar sized structures for similar use. The District has small elementary schools which create inefficient staffing and planning. The existing middle schools are an exception to this understanding. The District's middle schools' capacities significantly underutilize available space. Many of the District's choice schools have wait lists, which disallow families who desire special programs from attending the schools. Many of the District facilities either do not provide air-conditioning or are not fully air-conditioned. As the plan is developed to minimize the number of facilities, those remaining facilities will be afforded air-conditioning.

”



ORIGINAL PLAN

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Comprehensive plan presented by Dr. Fregeau to address future facility needs, approved by unanimous BOE vote

“ This is the first step in a comprehensive plan to overhaul district facilities and upgrade educational programming. ”

PRESS RELEASE FROM SEPT. 11, 2018

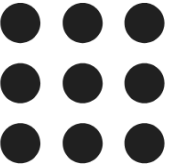


OBJECTIVES

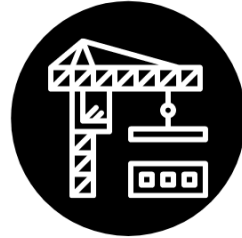
- Increase capacity in sought-after programs and in neighborhood schools, including Johns Hill, Montessori, and Dennis Lab School
- All buildings with students to get air conditioning
- Five fewer school buildings so schools can increase services at individual buildings
- Better utilize building capacity at SDMS and Hope Academy
- Safety upgrades
- Consider boundary changes for 2020-2021 school year and beyond

ORIGINAL PLAN

PRESENTED SEPTEMBER 11, 2018



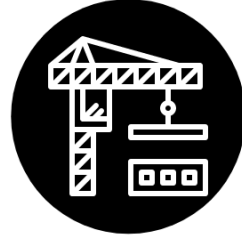
Construct new building at Johns Hill site, demolish old building



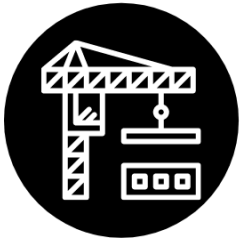
Build addition at Franklin, consolidate students from Oak Grove



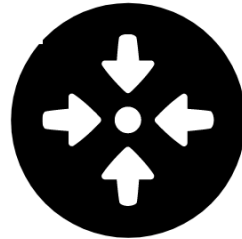
Take Baum, Durfee, Oak Grove, and Stevenson buildings offline



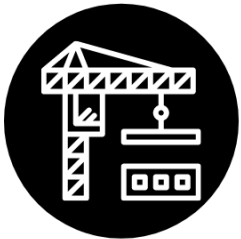
Build addition at Parsons, consolidate students from Stevenson



Build addition at South Shores to accommodate Enterprise boundary students



Consolidate middle school at SDMS; consolidate Montessori at former TJ building



Build addition at Muffley, consolidate students from Baum

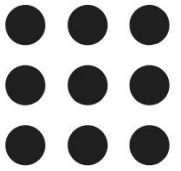


French moves to Enterprise; Dennis expands to French; Harris becomes home to Alt Ed program



**PROJECTED
BUDGET =
\$55 MILLION**

TIES TO STRATEGIC PLAN





**Presented
March 26, 2019**


Link between
BOLD Plan
initiatives and
Strategic Plan





OUR STRATEGIES


 **Decatur Public Schools**
Educating for Success

ONE:  We will ensure unique, innovative learning experiences for all students.

TWO:  We will ensure a student-focused environment that expands learning beyond the traditional expectations to engage students.

THREE:  We will establish a support network that will identify and address students' physical, social/emotional, and mental health needs to allow each student to reach their full potential.

FOUR:  We will attract and retain talented and invested staff by ensuring they feel valued and supported.

FIVE:  We will create and foster mutually beneficial relationships throughout the community.

UPDATES

TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLANS

MAY 14, 2019

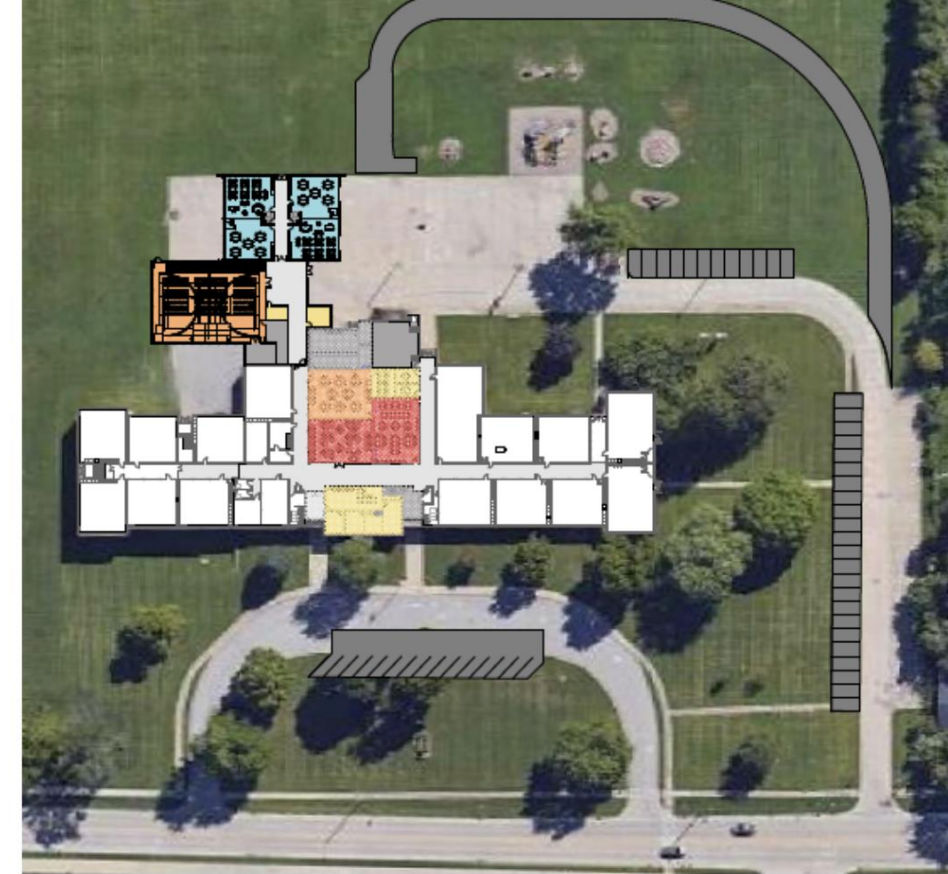
Design phases set to begin, including workshops

- July 1, 2019: South Shores
- August 1, 2019: Muffley, Parsons, Franklin

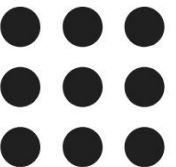
Design phases indicated need for additional gym and cafeteria space in buildings where students would be added from schools to be closed

DECEMBER 10, 2019

Following one year of work by boundary task force, updated boundary recommendations were presented to better balance enrollment demographics, including recommendation to keep Baum open as dual-campus format with Muffley



MUFFLEY ADDITION SITE DESIGN



UPDATES

TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLANS



FEBRUARY 11, 2020

Design plans presented for addition construction, each of which includes A/C, gyms, and multipurpose spaces:

- South Shores & Muffley = 4 classrooms each
- Franklin & Parsons = 8 classrooms each

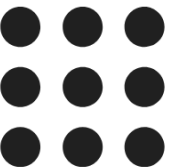
Designs approved for Muffley, Franklin, and Parsons; South Shores not approved

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Design plans approved for construction of 2 classrooms at South Shores

MAY 26, 2020

Renovation of 2 classrooms added at American Dreamer (formerly Enterprise) to expand program to K-8



UPDATES

TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLANS

JUNE 2, 2020

Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) accepted for additions at Franklin, Muffley, and Parsons:

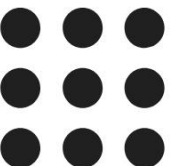
- Franklin: 8 new classrooms + gym & A/C = **\$4,393,649**
- Muffley: 4 new classrooms + gym & A/C = **\$4,314,469**
- Parsons: 8 new classrooms + 2 remodeled classrooms in former library + gym & A/C = **\$4,646,144**

NOVEMBER 17, 2020

Following discussion with Muffley and Baum school communities, recommendation was made to keep both schools as separate entities rather than combining into a dual-campus format



AMERICAN DREAMER
RENOVATION DESIGN



OTHER BOLD WORK

OTHER PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN
COMPLETED OR ARE IN PROGRESS
ARE PART OF THE BOLD PLAN

WORK IN PROGRESS

New building construction
at Johns Hill Magnet
School; will be completed
Summer 2021



COMPLETED

Air conditioning added at
Dennis Lab School Mosaic
Campus, school expanded
to dual campus format



COMPLETED

Renovation of Stephen
Decatur Middle School to
house 7th & 8th grades



COMPLETED

Renovation of former TJ
building to house
Montessori Academy
for Peace





BOLD BUDGET UPDATE

UPDATED RECOMMENDATION

TO ADDRESS POSSIBLE CAPACITY ISSUES

In reviewing projected enrollment and programming needs for the 2021-22 school year, DPS administration has determined we are short by three (3) regular education classrooms at Parsons Elementary.

A previous concern about classroom needs at Franklin Elementary has been addressed. After consultation with MPSED, one cross-categorical classroom is all that will be needed at Franklin, not two. Therefore, this building will have enough classrooms for identified needs.

Therefore, DPS administration is making the following recommendation to address the space needs at Parsons:

**PreK Classrooms from Baum
move to Garfield**

**Two Life Skills classrooms from
Parsons move to Baum AND
two Life Skills classrooms from
Parsons move to Montessori**

**Four Regular Ed classrooms
become available at Parsons**

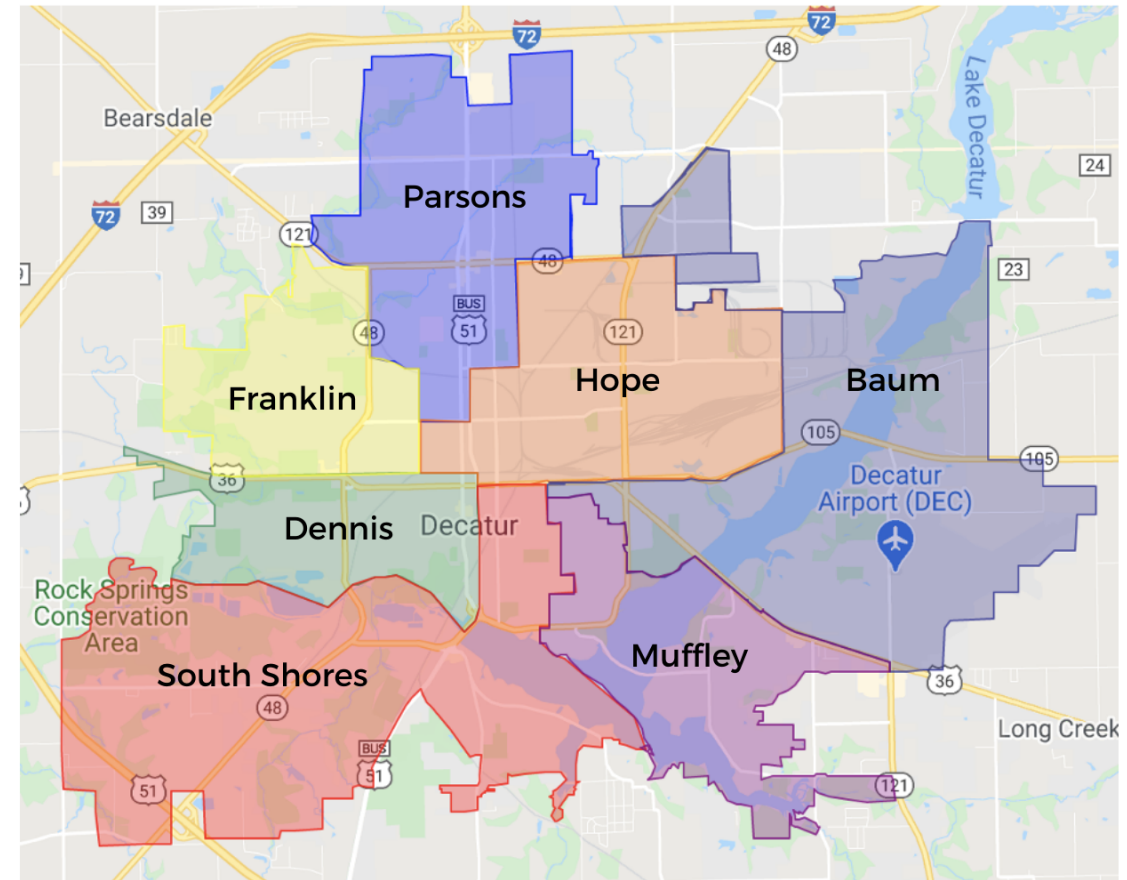
UPDATED RECOMMENDATION

TO ADDRESS POSSIBLE CAPACITY ISSUES

This updated recommendation also includes an ESSENTIAL update to elementary school boundaries.

Enrollment projections, including student mobility, for the 2021-22 school year show that we again need to modify the elementary school boundaries in order to accommodate the projected number of students who would attend each boundary school.

Therefore, DPS administration is making the following recommendation to address the space needs in elementary buildings across the District:



RECOMMENDED BOUNDARIES, TO BE IMPLEMENTED
FOR 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR, IF APPROVED

UPDATED RECOMMENDATION

TO ADDRESS POSSIBLE CAPACITY ISSUES

This updated recommendation also includes keeping Garfield and Stevenson schools in the District's current building inventory to utilize as a contingency should overflow issues arise in any of our schools.

Keeping these two buildings as a back-up will help alleviate pressure in buildings, should enrollment in a post-pandemic setting spike unexpectedly.



6TH GRADE CONSIDERATION

Original facility conversations from 2018 included seeking to move 6th grade students from all K-6 schools District-wide to the middle school.

However, meeting minutes from September 11, 2018, when the facility plan was first presented state, "The move of 6th graders to middle school has been placed on hold for now."

**DPS ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS
RESEARCHING THE TOPIC AND
CONSIDERING ALL FACTORS**

BOLD

➤ FACILITY PLAN ◀

Building Better Opportunities
for Learning in Decatur

We're making BOLD changes in DPS facilities through 2023, allowing us to provide all students with an **equitable learning experience**, no matter where they live in the District, and to create a more sustainable future for District #61.

FINANCIAL IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY

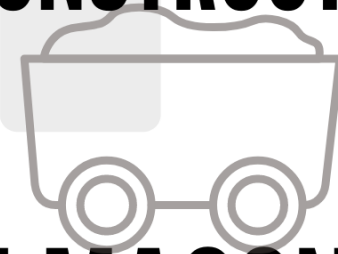
365 UNION
CONSTRUCTION
JOBS CREATED

\$27,120,000

IN DIRECT CONSTRUCTION WAGES

\$30,125,000

IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY GENERATED IN MACON COUNTY



BECOMING A DESTINATION DISTRICT

BY THE CONCLUSION OF
THE BOLD PLAN, WE WILL
HAVE MADE THESE
CHANGES TO ENHANCE
OUR DISTRICT AND TO
BECOME A DESTINATION
IN OUR COMMUNITY:



Increase capacity in sought-after programs and in neighborhood schools, including Johns Hill, Montessori, and Dennis Lab School



All buildings with students to get air conditioning



Fewer school buildings so schools can increase services at individual buildings



Better utilize building capacity at SDMS and Hope Academy



Essential safety upgrades

SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2021

QUESTIONS?

