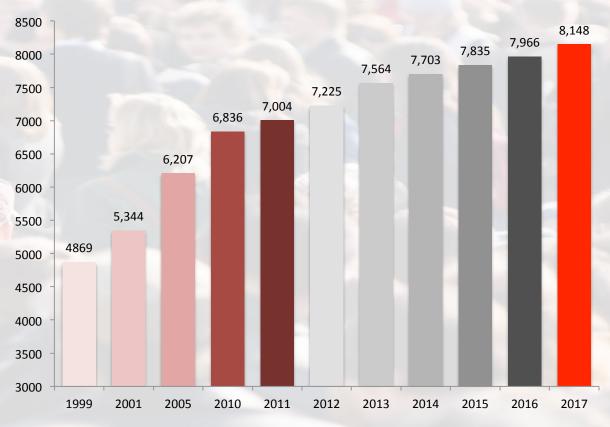
# Room to Learn

Reducing secondary school size and improving opportunities for students





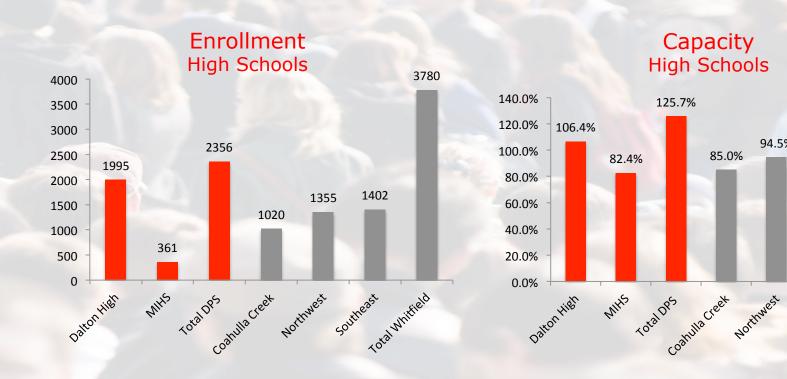
# **Enrollment Growth**







# **Enrollment vs Capacity**



2016-17 school year data



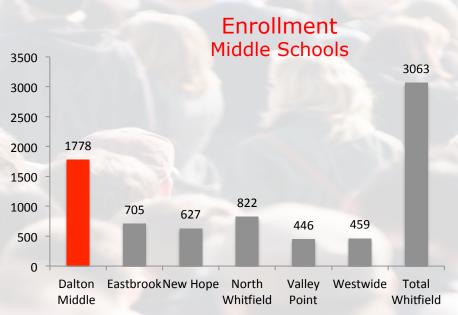


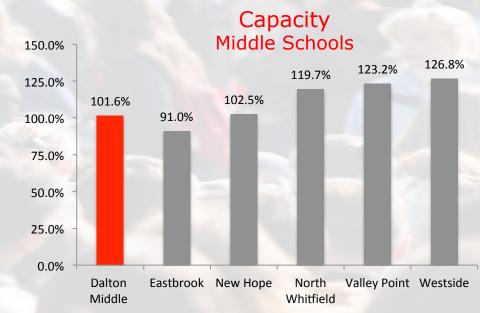
98.4%

94.5%

85.0%

# **Enrollment vs Capacity**

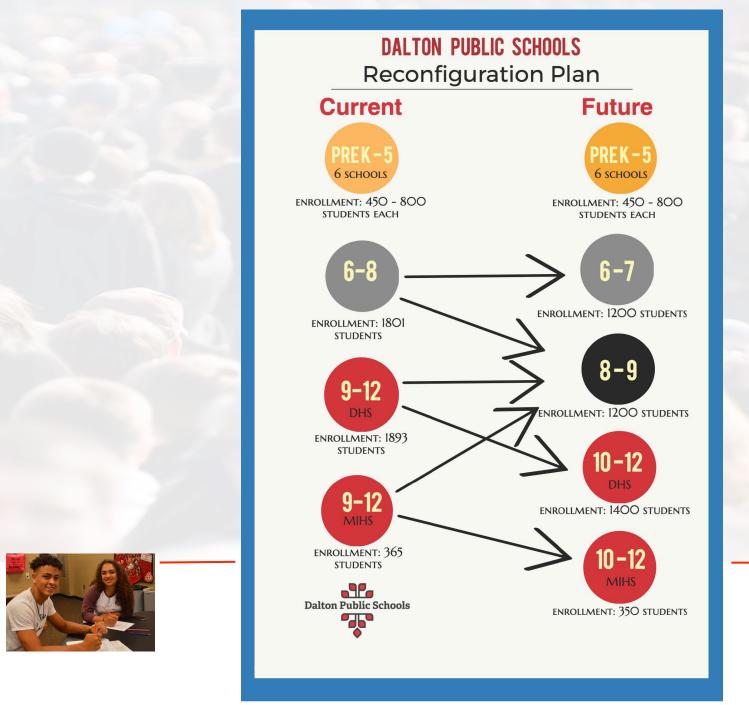




2016-17 school year data









## Why a Grade 6-7 School?

- Allows for lower student population at both the middle and high schools
- Provides more opportunities for students to participate in academic and extracurricular activities
- Fits within the \$50 million economic climate unanimously agreed upon by the board
- Does not require zoning of students at the middle or high school level
- Gives the district the flexibility to lower class size when funds become available





#### Benefits of Smaller Schools

- Increased student attendance
- Improved school climate
- Improved student-teacher relationship
- Elevated teacher satisfaction
- Better teacher collaboration
- Improves teacher to administration communications
- Safer environment
- Teachers tend to set higher student expectations





#### What's the cost of a Grade 6-7 School?

Category	Amount	% of	
Purchase of Property	1,758,040	Total 3%	<b>Notation</b> 63 Acres (37 donate & 26 purchase)
Architect	2,619,000	5%	5.75% (based on a \$45.5 million design)
Sitework	7,913,200	16%	Based on terrain
Construction	33,284,200	66%	190,000 square feet, 80 classrooms, gym, media center, cafeteria, office
Contingency	3,015,360	6%	6.62%
Technology	904,500	2%	Network cabling, switches, wireless, phones, security, classroom projectors & smartboard
Furniture	480,000	1%	Siliaitboard
Project Subtotal	49,974,300		
Cost of Issuance	675,700	1%	

**TOTAL** 

\$50,650,000



## How will it be Financed?

General Obligation Bond on Nov. 7 ballot for city voters for \$50 million for construction





## What is a General Obligation Bond?

- A bond represents a loan similar to a home mortgage that is paid back with interest over a set number of years and is guaranteed to be paid back by the school district by obligating taxpayers through property tax, income, or sales tax revenue.
- A General Obligation Bond must be approved by a majority of the city voters in a referendum.





#### What does that Mean for Taxpayers?

- The General Obligation Bond will have a fixed interest rate estimated around 3.25%.
- The district will only pay interest for the first five years so taxes will increase by .431 mills.
- This positions the district to consider using ESPLOST VI funds to pay down the debt for the school and help relieve the burden on property owners.





#### What does that Mean for Taxpayers?

- A .431 mill increase will add an additional \$43 a year to the property tax of a home valued at \$100,000.
- A homeowner with a property assessment of \$250,000 of property will incur an additional \$108 annually.





# What if the Debt is not included in a Future ESPLOST?

- When principal payments begin in 2024, the millage rate could increase by .818 mills.
- A .818 mill increase will add an additional \$82 a year to the property tax of a home valued at \$100,000.
- A homeowner with a property assessment of \$250,000 will incur an increase of \$205 annually in property tax.





# Don't Forget to Vote!

- October 10 Last day to register to vote to be eligible to vote in the Nov. 7 general election.
- November 3 Last day for absentee ballots to be submitted
- November 7 Election Day



