

# We are growing with our community

Eastern Carver County Schools is growing rapidly. With this growth comes the responsibility to plan for learning spaces for more students and to care for existing facilities so they can continue to serve our families and community. The district has embraced the challenges of growing enrollment, changing learning environments, technology advancements, and ongoing need for school safety. Now the district begins to review enrollment and facility studies to prioritize needs and to find the best ways to invest in the education of students and the future of our community.



*New home construction brings more young families to our community. Our district will need more classroom space to accommodate more students.*

## A growing district for decades

If history is any predictor, and housing growth continues as expected, it is highly likely that the district will need to build additional schools during the next decade.

2018-2028 **+?** schools

2006-2017 **+2** schools



Chanhasen High School  
Carver Elementary

1996-2006 **+3** schools



Pioneer Ridge Middle School  
Clover Ridge Elementary  
Victoria Elementary

1986-1996 **+3** schools



Jonathan Elementary  
Bluff Creek Elementary  
Chaska High School

## Maintaining great places for learning

We have been celebrating the opening of new facilities like Carver Elementary and the Athletic Center. Yet, five of the 16 schools operated by the district are at least 40 years old. We have a responsibility to keep all schools in top condition. This year, the district conducted a comprehensive facility study led by Kraus-Anderson Construction Co. The purpose was to understand maintenance needs over the next 10 years.

Schools, like a home, receive regular maintenance every year. Also like a home, expensive work such as replacing a roof can be put off a few years as long as the roof isn't failing. The facility study identified many of these deferred maintenance issues. They are especially evident in our older schools. Deferred maintenance needs include inefficient heating and ventilation systems, cracked and worn foundations, old roofs, eroded flooring, and more. Over the next 10 years, the cost estimate for every long-term maintenance issue is \$150 million.

Just like homeowners who review and prioritize their maintenance projects, a district task force of parents, teachers, school board members and district staff is doing the same. The facility task force is meeting now to look at our district to-do list in detail and come up with a plan that will be shared with the School Board.

### Home Repairs:

- ✓ Replace water heater
- ✓ Maintain furnace
- ✓ Repair roof
- ✓ Replace driveway

### School Maintenance:

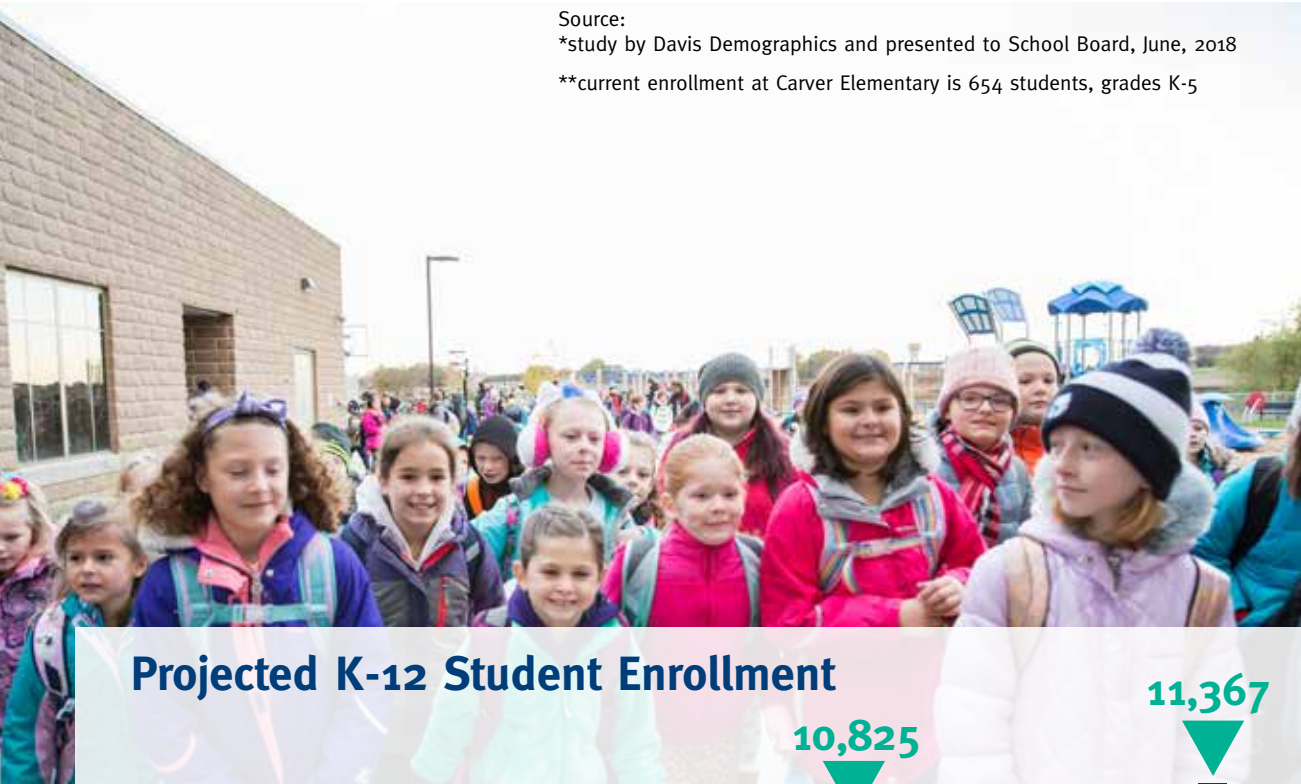
- Roof repairs
- Plumbing upgrades
- HVAC system updates
- Repair brick & masonry
- Retrofit electrical systems
- Replace flooring
- Parking lot resurfacing

*Long-term school maintenance over the next 10 years is estimated at \$150 million.*

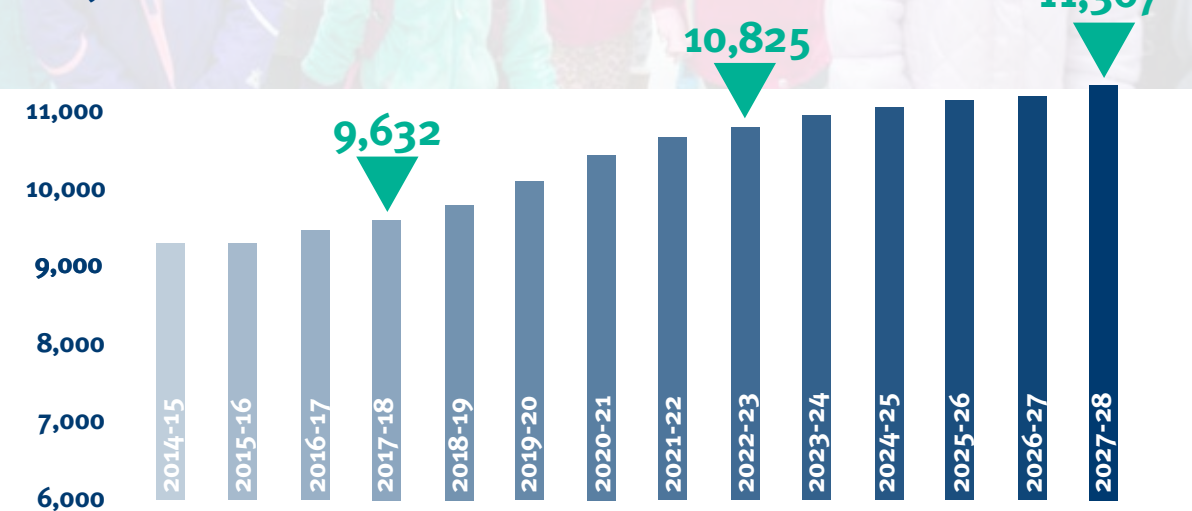
## Growing, and growing, and growing

Enrollment in Eastern Carver County Schools is expected to grow by more than 1,000 students in the next four years, mostly at the elementary level.\* This is primarily due to a steady increase in new single-family home construction on the west side of the school district. Carver Elementary, which opened in 2017, is already 90% full.\*\* And housing growth is not stopping, which means the district will most likely need more classroom spaces to accommodate projected enrollment.

Source:  
\*study by Davis Demographics and presented to School Board, June, 2018  
\*\*current enrollment at Carver Elementary is 654 students, grades K-5



### Projected K-12 Student Enrollment



Source:  
Davis Demographics



Our oldest school operates a 58-year-old boiler.

Mechanical equipment in schools begin to show their age after a few decades.



## Public task force looks to district's future, including 2019 referendum

Beginning in October, a task force consisting of parents and community members, school board members, and district administration, will review information from the facility and enrollment studies. They will prioritize needs for essential school maintenance and new construction required to match projected enrollment growth. In early 2019, the task force will make recommendations to the school board. In the spring, the board will go through the process to decide what to ask of the public in a referendum in November 2019. Learn more at ([eccs.mn/taskforce](http://eccs.mn/taskforce))