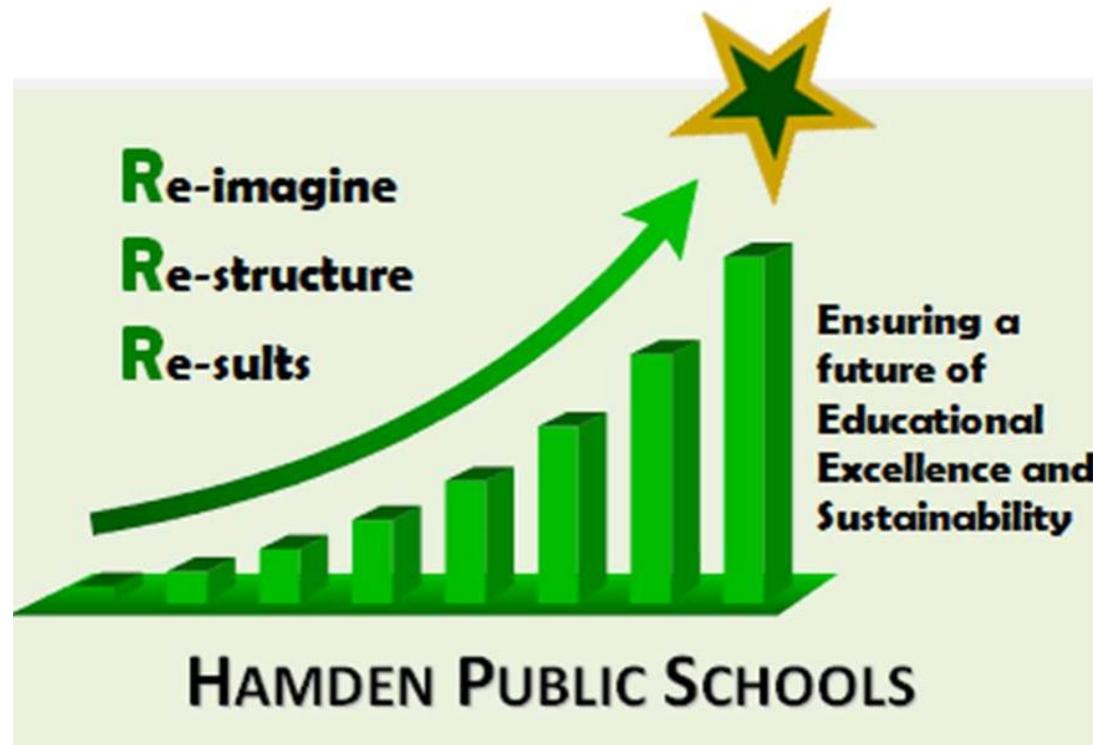


Hamden's 3R Initiative

A long-range plan for education in Hamden



What are the reasons the BOE developed the 3R plan?

- ▶ Need to scale facilities to address declining enrollment
- ▶ Need to racially balance elementary schools
- ▶ Need for all four-year-old Hamden residents to have access to quality, affordable preschool experiences
- ▶ Need for Hamden 6th graders to have comparable experiences in world language, science, and other subjects as most other CT students; Need to maintain critical “team structure”
- ▶ Need for long-term financial sustainability
- ▶ Need for Hamden to be educationally attractive to current and potential families

How did the BOE make the decisions reflected in the 3R plan?

- ▶ Listened to community input through multiple public hearings, meetings and online surveys
- ▶ Consulted with demographic and school construction experts
- ▶ Discussed options related to financing with State of CT to minimize town expenditures and maximize state reimbursements
- ▶ Examined research for best-practices related to middle school students and early childhood learning
- ▶ Considered physical and curricular structures and programming that would optimize student learning opportunities as well as provide attractive educational options for families

What Happens in the 3R plan?

- ▶ Close and repurpose Church Street and Shepherd Glen Elementary Schools and Central Office
- ▶ Create a 6th-8th grade middle school
- ▶ Incorporate Wintergreen facility into Hamden school system
- ▶ Maximize state funds to provide needed building improvements
- ▶ Make preschool available for all Hamden 4-year olds
- ▶ Develop intra-district magnet programs to provide choice options for families and assist with diversifying schools

Choice Options for Families - Intra-district Magnet Schools

- ▶ Helen Street: Career Pathways/Extended Day Magnet
- ▶ Ridge Hill: Global Studies and Citizenship Magnet
- ▶ Dunbar Hill: STEAM Magnet
- ▶ Bear Path: Environmental Sciences/Outdoor Education Magnet

Without magnet school choice, greater changes to attendance zones will be needed.

Career Pathways/Extended Day Magnet Helen Street

Concept:

With the changing landscape of career opportunities, we have the chance to engage young children in developing skills and dispositions that will help them to succeed in the future world of work.

In addition, extended hours provide working parents with before and after school care; added benefit of parents/caregivers regularly being physically at the school building, increasing opportunities for connections.

Key Features:

- ▶ Children will explore career options, anticipate what skills may be advantageous for future careers, and explore entrepreneurialism.
- ▶ Children are dropped off at school an hour before school begins, provided with breakfast and activities, then transition to traditional day.
- ▶ At end of “regular” school day, children participate in after-school programming for additional time.

Global Studies and Citizenship Magnet Ridge Hill

Concept:

With increased technology and mobility, our world seems to have become much smaller. This magnet school helps prepare young students to be successful and adaptive citizens of our global society.

Key Features:

- ▶ Extended-day instruction to allow for increased content
- ▶ World language instruction K-5
- ▶ Community-service built into program - assured experiences/expectations
- ▶ Political science topics and experiences connected to all subjects, and learning activities including, Model UN, debates, mock trials, field trips to UN, State Capital and Washington, DC; Virtual field trips; Virtual relationships and projects with children in schools around the world.

STEAM Magnet Dunbar Hill

Concept:

Our modern society is deeply dependent on science and technology. Those who are competent in STEM skills will have increased opportunities. Integrating the Arts with STEM skills increases student engagement and ability to acquire, integrate, transfer and embrace STEM skills.

Key Features:

- ▶ Curriculum will incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEM topics in reading materials in ELA and Social Studies, art-math connections)
- ▶ Increased use of art for students to demonstrate learning
- ▶ Increased arts-based extra-curricular activities.
- ▶ Technology
 - ▶ Take home chromebooks for students
 - ▶ Coding
 - ▶ Comprehensive tech-integrated curriculum

Environmental Sciences Magnet Bear Path

Concept:

Program helps students understand our physical world and our affect on it. Learning activities incorporate the outdoors, and include such topics as:

- ▶ Environmental sustainability
- ▶ Recycling
- ▶ Utilizing the resources in our environment responsibly
- ▶ Respecting our environment
- ▶ Enjoying outdoor/nature activities

Key Features

- ▶ Curricula revised to integrate study of the environment.
- ▶ Science incorporates use of local natural resources and environment;
- ▶ historical and current environmental issues are included in ELA and Social Studies;
- ▶ Social studies content includes ethical considerations related to the environment; health/PE classes address curriculum objectives through increased outdoor experiences.

Previously Approved Construction Costs by Hamden Legislative Council

Alice Peck

- ▶ Total project cost: \$6.5 million
- ▶ Reimbursed at 80%: Town of Hamden final cost - \$1.3 million

West Woods

- ▶ Total project cost: \$26.3 million
- ▶ Reimbursed at 57.9%: Town of Hamden final cost - \$11.0 million

Shepherd Glen

- ▶ To be de-authorized: \$27 million

Cost Implications - Using limited funds strategically

Without the 3R Program

Several buildings are in need of significant repairs:

- ▶ Ridge Hill - \$8.2 million
- ▶ Dunbar Hill - \$6.7 million
- ▶ Central Office - \$1 million

Pre-K Upgrades

- ▶ Bear Path - \$15,000
- ▶ Spring Glen - \$15,000

ADA and Lighting Upgrades

- ▶ Wintergreen - \$700,000

Without 3R Plan construction projects, the above costs for repairs (\$16.6 Million) must be borne entirely by the town in the next several years.

With the 3R Plan

Construction - Repairs and additions:

- ▶ Ridge Hill - (After 67.8% reimbursement) 5.4 million
- ▶ Dunbar Hill - (After 67.8% reimbursement) 5.7 million
- ▶ Church Street - (After 50% reimbursement) 1.3 million
- ▶ Addition to HMS - (After 67.8% reimbursement) 3.6 million

Pre-K Upgrades

- ▶ Bear Path - (no reimbursement) \$15,000
- ▶ Spring Glen - (no reimbursement) \$15,000

ADA and Lighting Upgrades

- ▶ Wintergreen - (After 28.93% reimbursement) \$497,000

With the 3R Plan construction projects, the above costs for repair/construction (\$16.5 Million) are similar, but provide for the complete refurbishment of two buildings, significant reimbursement of dollars spent, as well as providing two properties (Central Office and Shepherd Glen) for redevelopment and thus possible revenue to the Town.

Repurposing Closed Buildings

Shepherd Glen Elementary

- ▶ Property is centrally located and provides multiple opportunities for redevelopment for the Town

Church Street Elementary

- ▶ Relocation of Central Office departments makes 60 Putnam Ave available to the Town for repurposing or redevelopment
- ▶ Relocation of HCLC program provides permanent, easy-to-access home for alternative program and eliminates current leasing and maintenance fees for that program
- ▶ Family Resource Center will continue to provide services at CS
- ▶ Health Clinic will continue to provide services at CS
- ▶ Pre-K will continue to be offered at CS
- ▶ Hamden Youth Center will be moved from 60 Putnam Ave to CS

Values of Shepherd Glen and Central Office properties are not included in 3R fiscal analysis.

Optimizing Property Usage

Incorporating Wintergreen facility

- ▶ Provides "swing-space" during current construction project at Alice Peck (Saves cost for portables/leasing/ADA upgrades)
- ▶ Allows for elimination of rental space for HCLC program (savings estimated at \$350,000/year)
- ▶ Will serve as an attractive new elementary school for HPS families
- ▶ Will provide more flexible space, efficiencies and stable programming for our most vulnerable students (IIC programs) (savings estimated at >\$250,000/year, plus significant opportunities in program supports)

Closing Schools

- ▶ Achieves better utilization of HPS facilities and staffing efficiencies across the district (\$870,000/year for personnel alone)
- ▶ Allows Town opportunities for redevelopment of Shepherd Glen and Central Office properties (potential revenue)

Full implementation in 2023-24 SY

- ▶ All Hamden schools meet State of Connecticut diversity requirements
 - ▶ Modified attendance zones
 - ▶ Choice options for elementary parents - magnet schools
- ▶ HCLC and Central Office departments located in Church Street School
- ▶ All needed major improvements to Hamden elementary schools will be completed
- ▶ Pre-school is available at each elementary school at affordable cost
- ▶ HMS serves grades 6-8
- ▶ Wintergreen Elementary School opens, also serving IIC classrooms
- ▶ Operating and Capital budgets are sustainable in long-term

Next Steps

- ▶ In order to apply for maximum state reimbursements, the Legislative Council must approve an ordinance that allocates funds for capital (repairs and construction) aspects of the plan.
- ▶ The application to the state must be filed by June 30, 2019.
- ▶ Without the ordinance, we cannot even apply for these funds.
This is why it's so critical the Legislative Council approves the ordinance.