

Join the community conversation and have your voice heard.

Over the next 10 years, Haddam and Killingworth community schools at RSD 17 will need major repairs/renovations/or rebuilds. It is estimated that over \$100 million is needed to improve them from fair or poor to “good” condition, not including updates to learning spaces.

The question is not, should we invest 10s of millions of dollars, the question is how and to have what after the investment? At this point, the school buildings are in dire need of infrastructure updates to improve quality, efficiency, learning, security and health.

The Board of Education has begun work to create a Master Capital Plan for the future of Regional School District 17’s school buildings to present at referendum; to ask the community to support a significant, long term investment in our schools. The referendum is expected to be held in the first quarter of the calendar year 2024.

Between now and then the District is *SEEKING YOUR OPINION* through four community conversations and a community wide survey.

Before any options are developed for our school buildings, or any decisions are made, RSD17 is asking community members to complete a [short survey](#) in order to gather community input. **If you have already completed it, thank you! If not, Please complete this survey by Friday, June 19, 2023.**

If you missed the first Community Conversation, you can [access the recorded meeting on HKTV Live](#) and/or [view the meeting presentation](#) Additionally, there will be additional opportunities to participate in the process on:

- * June 28, 6:00 p.m. - Location: Virtual, Link to join will be shared on the RSD17 website
- * September 13, 4:30 p.m. -Open House Tour of Haddam-Killingworth High School
- * September 13, 6:00 p.m. - Location: Haddam-Killingworth High School
- * November 16, 6:00 p.m. - Location: Haddam-Killingworth High School

Finally, all presentations and documentation regarding the project can be located on the [Master Plan Project website](#). If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding this project, contact masterplan@rsd17.org.

On Tuesday, May 9th, RSD 17 hosted the first of four Community Conversations to discuss the District Master Capital Plan and to collect the community’s input and reaction.

Regional School District 17 was established 50 years ago, when Haddam and Killingworth decided to join forces to educate their children in a regional school district. Each town

contributed existing school structures and since then, the District has renovated those buildings, built a new school and closed an elementary school. Due to the age of the buildings, shifting enrollment, changing educational needs, more considerations for security and health, it is time for the District to consider long range Capital Plans for its four remaining school buildings.

While our maintenance staff has kept our buildings clean and well maintained, the buildings, with the exception of the 16 year old Intermediate/Middle School, are very old and outdated and the building structures and internal infrastructures are deteriorating at a faster rate than can be repaired. And, because of their vintage, the parts needed are hard or impossible to obtain, making repairs very costly and time-consuming. The time has come to make necessary changes.

BUILDING	GRADE CONFIG.	CUR. ENROLL. Students	FUTURE ENROLL. Students	EXISTING AREA SF Area (OSCG&R)	SF AREA PER STATE STD. (BASED UPON PROJECTED ENROLLMENT)	DELTA SF Area	ORIGINAL CONSTR.	AGE (YEARS)
KILLINGWORTH E.S.	PK-3	265	298	52,188	36,952	15,236	1948	75 yrs.
BURR E.S.	K-3	331	369	68,665	44,280	24,385	1973	50 yrs.
HK INTERMEDIATE M.S.	4-8	669	801	158,285	120,470	37,815	2007	16 yrs.
HK HIGH SCHOOL	9-12	546	532	203,720	99,218	104,502	1954	69 yrs.
SUBTOTALS		1,811	2,000	482,858	300,920	181,938	AVERAGE AGE:	52 yrs.

At the first community conversation meeting, Tecton Architects, well versed in school construction, provided extensive data related to building age, condition, needed repairs/refurbishments, occupancy standards, cost to provide necessary capital improvements and enrollment projections. Tecton Architects was hired by RSD17 to develop a long-range, generational plan with the input of Haddam and Killingworth community members that meets the educational, security, and health needs of the schools, while being economically responsible. It is the Board of Education's desire to make this collaboration with the community as transparent as possible.

Tecton presented a summary of their data to date; from order of magnitude capital fixes to enrollment and capacity studies. Possible options were discussed for facility renovation or rebuilding before opening the floor up to community members attending in-person and online, to share their thoughts on priorities, the greatest needs, and what is most important to them.