

**ANTICIPATED BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

-  **Making District 15 schools healthier, safer, and more secure**
-  **Extending the useful life of existing school buildings**
-  **Reducing costly emergency repairs**
-  **Improving accessibility**
-  **Enhancing energy efficiency**
-  **Updating classrooms, science labs, and libraries**
-  **Offering full-day kindergarten and creating middle schools**
-  **Reducing overcrowding**
-  **Protecting property values**

# AN INVESTMENT IN OUR STUDENTS, SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITY...

## High-priority facility and site improvements to be addressed districtwide

There are many key facility and site improvements that are part of the *Moving 15 Forward* initiative:

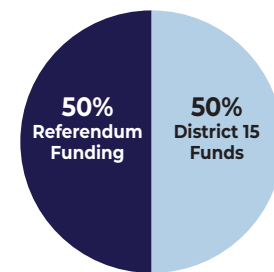
- Critical repairs, maintenance, and energy efficiency upgrades, including replacing outdated roofing, plumbing, and lighting
- Health, safety, and security improvements, including replacing outdated HVAC systems to improve air quality, airflow, and energy efficiency; adding security cameras; and making site improvements to improve traffic flow
- Facility upgrades that improve accessibility for students, staff, and visitors
- Addition and reconfiguration of classrooms to create space for full-day kindergarten, establish middle schools, and address overcrowding
- Library improvements focused on leveraging instructional technology and expanding hands-on learning opportunities

## Proposed referendum downsized by \$37 million

District 15 is considering placing a \$93 million bond referendum on the November 8, 2022 ballot, which is \$37 million smaller than the referendum voters turned down six years ago.

## District to fund half of total costs

District funds would address half of the proposed improvements and the other half of the total costs would be addressed with referendum dollars.



## Every District 15 school and student would benefit

Facility needs at every District 15 school, rather than just a few, would be addressed.

## Tax impact also would be lower

The estimated tax impact of the proposed \$93 million referendum is \$11.50 per month, or about \$138 per year, for a home with a fair market value of \$300,000.



## WHAT'S INSIDE...

- Answers to frequently asked questions regarding District 15's possible bond referendum
- Proposed building improvements at each District 15 school
- Details about an upcoming public opinion survey

[www.ccsd15.net/M15F](http://www.ccsd15.net/M15F)  
[moving15forward@ccsd15.net](mailto:moving15forward@ccsd15.net)



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# FACILITIES PLANNING OVERVIEW SPRING 2022



**COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 15**

**“Moving 15 Forward is a community-driven plan focused on protecting and improving District 15’s aging schools. The proposed improvements will benefit the District’s 20 schools and more than 11,000 students.”**

– Laurie Heinz, Ed.D.  
 Superintendent of Schools  
 Community Consolidated School District 15



Visit the website at [www.ccsd15.net/M15F](http://www.ccsd15.net/M15F) or scan the QR code.



**COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 15**

To Our District 15 Community:

*Moving 15 Forward* is a community-driven plan focused on addressing District 15's highest priority educational and school facility needs, ensuring educational success, and helping foster community pride in District 15.

The plan is designed to repair the District's aging school buildings and to restore and upgrade facilities focused on improving educational programming opportunities for our more than 11,000 students.

Inside this publication you will find detailed information on the anticipated benefits of this initiative for every student, school, and community District 15 serves.

The Board of Education and administration are seeking your thoughts and recommendations on a funding proposal that may appear on the November 2022 ballot to address these capital improvement needs.

The new proposal is downsized from the unsuccessful 2016 referendum and would be shared equally between District 15 funds and potential new referendum funding.

Our strength rests on our strong partnership with you, our community. We encourage you to learn more about *Moving 15 Forward* and invite you to share your thoughts as community outreach continues.

Lisa Beth Szczupaj Board President  
 Laurie Heinz, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools



To view a short video overview of the plan and for more information, visit the website [www.ccsd15.net/M15F](http://www.ccsd15.net/M15F) or scan the QR Code.

**“District 15’s new funding proposal is \$37 million less than what voters turned down six years ago. It’s a downsized proposal focused on both the needs of our students and taxpayers.”**

– Lisa Beth Szczupaj, Board President, Community Consolidated School District 15



## Three Critical Areas of Improvement

### ➤ Repair & Restore Facilities

Address repairs, maintenance, critical upgrades, and site improvements to keep schools secure, meet health/life safety needs, improve energy efficiency, and enhance accessibility for students, staff, and visitors. Preventing costly emergency repairs and extending the useful life of school buildings saves taxpayer dollars.



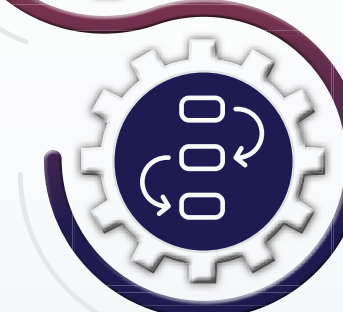
### ➤ Update Learning Spaces

Update libraries to leverage instructional technology and improve hands-on learning, create space for full-day kindergarten, and establish middle schools. More time in school improves outcomes for young learners while middle schools address the unique needs of adolescents and extend the time between transitions.



### ➤ Improve Student Transitions

Align feeder patterns with high school boundaries so students can attend neighborhood or near-neighborhood schools and progress from building to building with their classmates. Access to programs and services would be improved, time on buses would be reduced, and overcrowding would be addressed.





## REPAIR & RESTORE FACILITIES

Facility and site improvements would be addressed at each District 15 school, including replacing outdated mechanical systems, updating instructional spaces, and addressing site improvements.

### Updated Mechanicals & Infrastructure



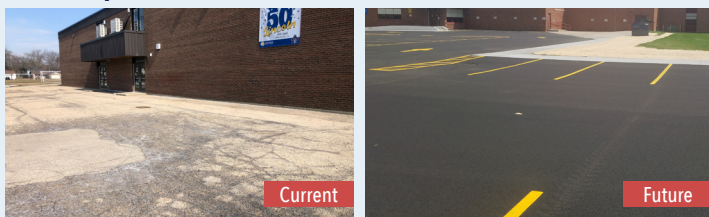
Roofing, plumbing, HVAC systems, and related upgrades would be addressed districtwide.

### New Flooring, Ceilings & Related Improvements



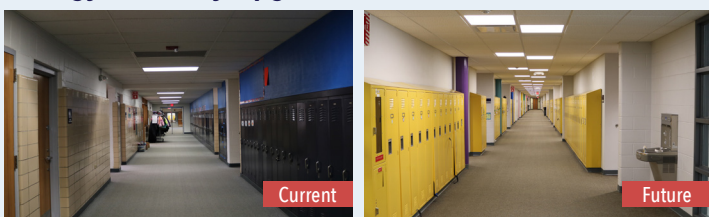
Learning space improvements include new flooring, ceilings, cabinets, furniture, and lockers.

### Site Improvements



Site improvements include parking, masonry, concrete and asphalt repairs, updated playgrounds, and traffic flow enhancements to improve safety.

### Energy Efficiency Upgrades



New LED lighting and other energy efficiency upgrades.



## UPDATE LEARNING SPACES

The *Moving 15 Forward* initiative includes important upgrades to the District's aging libraries, adding and reconfiguring instructional space to implement full-day kindergarten, and addressing facility improvements that allow District 15 to transition to a middle school model.



### Full-Day Kindergarten

More time in school improves outcomes for young learners. Full-day kindergarten would offer more instructional time and more personalized learning opportunities, allowing District 15 to more effectively teach the academic and social-emotional skills that students need to be successful in first grade and beyond.



### Transition to Middle School Model

The current proposal would reconfigure four existing junior high schools and one elementary school into middle schools. This approach extends the time between transitions, promotes deeper relationships with staff, and addresses the unique learning and social-emotional needs of adolescents. Middle schools also provide sixth graders with access to science labs, extracurricular activities, and sports.



### Updated Libraries

Updated libraries would feature reading, study, and meeting areas, hands-on learning spaces, and abundant access to technology. Modern libraries play an important role in delivering current and future curriculum. Students need access to spaces where they can collaborate and participate in experiential learning.



## IMPROVE STUDENT TRANSITIONS (ELEMENTARY>JUNIOR HIGH>HIGH SCHOOL)

District 15 seeks to align its feeder patterns with high school boundaries to ensure a cohesive education path for students from Pre-K through Grade 12.

### Current feeder patterns are complex and unpredictable.

The District's current feeder patterns, which evolved over many years, are complex and unpredictable. Students are often split when they transition from elementary school to junior high and again when they move on to high school.

### Improved feeder patterns would provide a more cohesive educational path.

The new feeder patterns would allow students to attend school with their neighbors, create a more cohesive educational path for students, and positively impact social-emotional wellness.

### High school boundaries would NOT change.

High school boundaries are fixed and will not change. They are a primary driver of the recommended changes.

### Overcrowding would be addressed.

This plan addresses overcrowding by relocating some programs and adjusting feeder patterns.

### Educational programming would be enhanced.

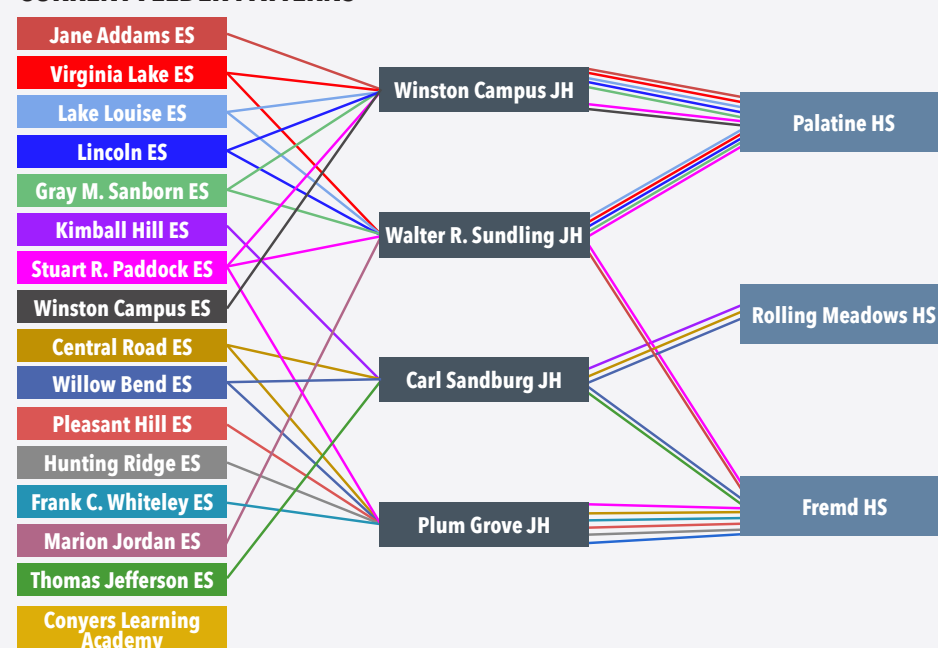
Districtwide programs including special education, multilingual, and gifted education are currently offered where space is available instead of with equitable distribution across district boundaries. The proposed changes would address these issues by relocating programs and balancing enrollment across all schools.



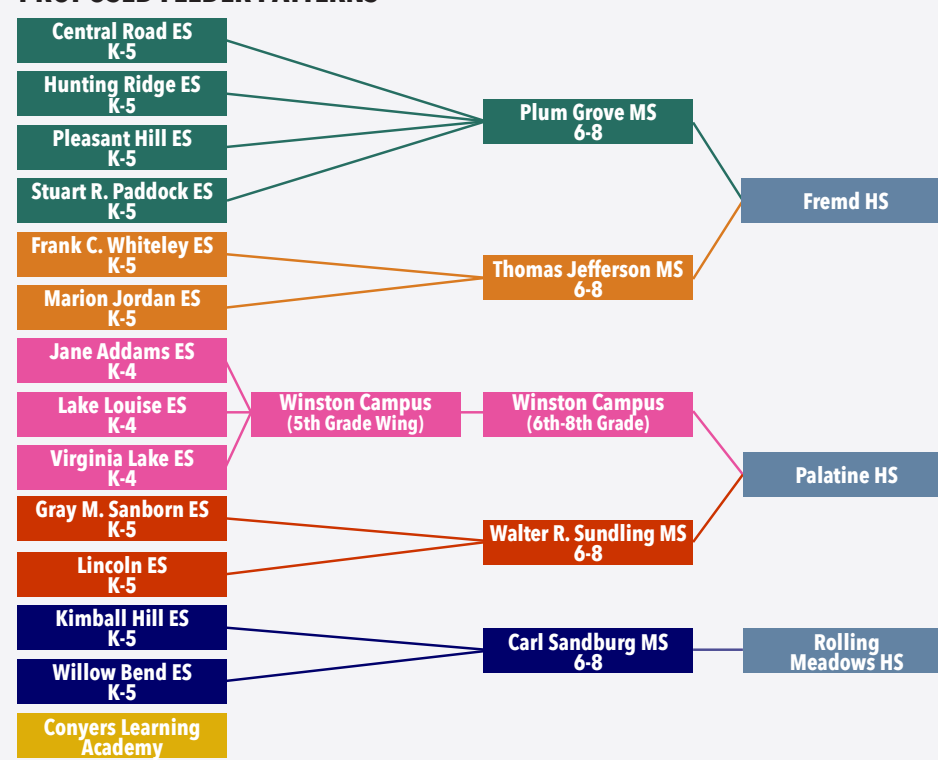
### Attending neighborhood or near-neighborhood schools would provide many benefits.

Anticipated benefits of allowing more students to attend neighborhood or near-neighborhood schools include keeping families and neighbors together, creating a more stable and predictable school experience, reducing time on buses, and strengthening relationships between families and District 15 schools.

### CURRENT FEEDER PATTERNS



### PROPOSED FEEDER PATTERNS



## EVERY DISTRICT 15 SCHOOL WOULD BENEFIT

The chart below summarizes the proposed improvements to be addressed at each District 15 school using proceeds of the proposed referendum and District funds.



Visit the website at [www.ccsd15.net/M15F](http://www.ccsd15.net/M15F) or scan the QR code.

Table with columns for Current Elementary Schools, Current Junior Highs, and various improvement categories like Building Improvements, Update Learning Spaces, and Improve Student Transitions. Includes a legend for proposed vs. previously addressed improvements.

It's been 34 years since voters approved funding to address improvements to District 15's school buildings.



The average age of the District's schools is 54 years.



District 15 maintains more than 1.7 million square feet of school facilities.



Half of the proposed improvements would be addressed with non-referendum dollars.