

Dear MPS Community,

Over the last two years, Midland Public Schools, in collaboration with external school facility experts, has completed a comprehensive facility assessment to address school facility needs and plan for the future. After a thorough analysis of the assessment results, the district vision, and our desire to ensure success for every student, MPS is considering a possible bond proposal for the May 2025 ballot. The bond proposal is designed to improve our learning environments, enhance support for our students and programs, and strengthen our MPS way of learning and leading together.

For more information about the planning process, please visit our website or click [HERE](#) to view the December 18, 2023, Special Board of Education meeting video and access the presentation slides. This presentation includes more information about the seven priorities that emerged from the planning process and laid the groundwork for the possible scenarios. Information about the seven priorities is included below.



The graphic is divided into two main sections. On the left, against a white background, is the MPS logo: a stylized arrow pointing right, composed of a black triangle and a multi-colored triangle. Below the logo is the text "learning. leading. together." in a black, lowercase, sans-serif font. Underneath this is the district's vision statement: "Lead with respect, trust and courage. Ensure an equitable, collaborative and inclusive culture. Enable all to achieve success." On the right, against a black background, is a vertical list of seven priorities. Each priority is preceded by a circular icon containing a white checkmark. The icons are colored in a gradient from yellow at the top to green at the bottom. The priorities listed are: "Enhancing safety & security", "Replacing critical infrastructure", "Addressing aging facilities", "Addressing facility utilization", "Expanding pre-k offerings", "Improving educational program spaces", and "Upgrading arts, athletics, & play".

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- Enhancing safety & security
- Replacing critical infrastructure
- Addressing aging facilities
- Addressing facility utilization
- Expanding pre-k offerings
- Improving educational program spaces
- Upgrading arts, athletics, & play

1. Enhancing safety and security - Keeping students and staff safe is our top priority and equipping our schools with updated and necessary technology and safety infrastructure is necessary.

2. Replacing critical infrastructure - With the average age of our buildings at 65 years, it is important to maintain and upgrade infrastructure to get the most life out of our buildings and ensure appropriate and healthy learning environments. For example, roofing is an infrastructure priority. By 2026, 55% of the district roofs will be 20+ years old and in need of replacement.

3. **Addressing aging facilities** - Two of our schools have reached the end of their useful life and need to come offline. Those are Northeast Middle School which was built in 1950, and Carpenter Street Elementary (home of the PrePrimary Center), which was built in 1926. As part of the planning during the 2015 bond program, both Carpenter and Northeast received less work than other facilities.

4. **Addressing facility utilization**—At MPS, we strive to have the most inclusive learning environments possible. Our enrollment is stable and is shifting to the northern part of the district. We are experiencing increased demands for additional classroom space to meet the needs of all of our students, including students with special needs. Crowding at our elementary schools limits our ability to provide the best educational experience for our youngest students.

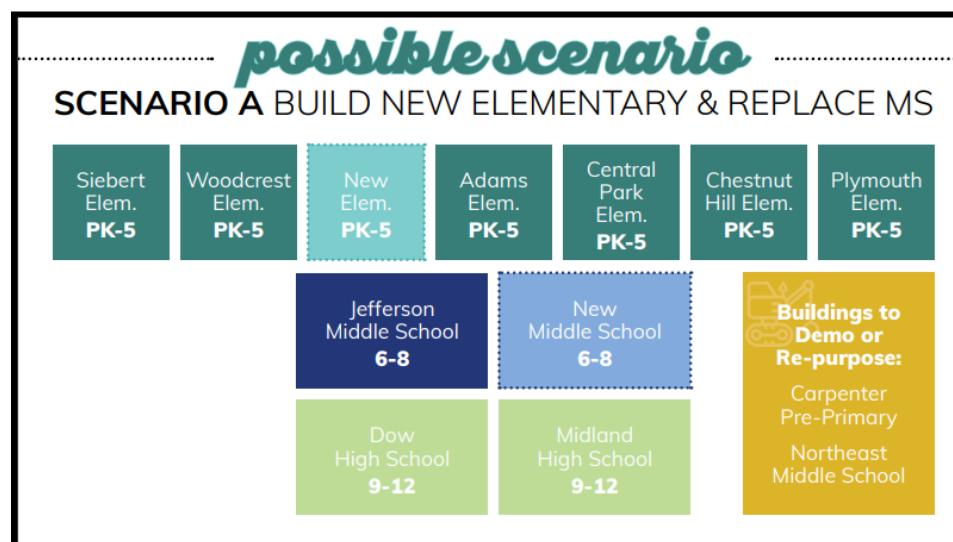
5. **Expanding Pre-K offerings** - MPS programs continue to expand to meet the increased opportunities provided by the state. We expect continued growth and believe in the importance of preschool programming.

6. **Improving educational program spaces** - This includes modernizing furniture to be flexible and aligned with current practices, enhancing classrooms, Career & Technical Education spaces, and computer labs to ensure our learning environments align to our programs and allow for future innovation and student success.

7. **Upgrading arts, athletics, and elementary school play spaces** - These spaces are a part of a well-rounded educational experience. Providing up-to-date learning and competition spaces will help our world-class educators and students perform at their highest levels.

Keeping the district's vision in mind, multiple models were analyzed to determine how best to meet these defined seven priorities. Two scenarios emerged that address all seven priorities.

Scenario A



The highlights of Scenario A:

- Updates that will enhance the learning experience for students, such as:

- infrastructure improvements
- interior and exterior updates
- technology upgrades
- safety and security upgrades
- arts, play space, and athletic improvements
- classroom furniture replacement
- Carpenter Pre-Primary Center will be closed, and a new elementary school will be constructed in the northern area of the district, which geographically aligns with our enrollment trends.
 - PreK programs will be moved to the neighborhood schools, adding capacity for program expansion.
 - Elementary enrollment will be balanced among the seven PreK- grade 5 schools by adjusting school boundaries.
- Northeast Middle School will be closed, and a new middle school will be constructed on the same site.
- Jefferson Middle School will be updated to ensure enhanced learning environments.
- Middle schools will continue to serve grades 6-8, and high schools will continue to serve grades 9-12.
- Buses will be purchased as they reach the end of their useful life.

The cost projection for implementing Scenario A is approximately \$277 million and would be funded through a projected 3.25 mill tax increase for property owners. The cost for a homeowner living in a home with a \$250,000 market value and a \$125,000 taxable value would be approximately \$406 a year or \$34 a month.

Scenario B



The highlights of Scenario B include:

- All six existing elementary schools remain and will serve PreK - grade 4.
- Dow High will become an Intermediate School serving students in grades 5 and 6.

- Carpenter Pre-Primary and Northeast Middle School will be closed. Jefferson Middle School will be repurposed.
- Midland High will become a Junior High School serving students in grades 7- 9.
 - Dow High and Midland High will receive grade-level appropriate renovations.
- A new unified community high school will be constructed and serve students in grades 10-12.
 - The school district will need to acquire land and will work with local partners and professionals to determine an appropriate location.
 - The new high school will continue using the current auxiliary facilities, such as the pool at Dow High, the Midland Community Stadium, Central Auditorium, and some existing outdoor athletic fields.
- All elementary schools and the repurposed Dow High and Midland High campuses will receive updates that will enhance the learning experience for students, such as:
 - infrastructure improvements
 - interior and exterior updates
 - technology upgrades
 - safety and security upgrades
 - arts, play, and athletic improvements
 - classroom furniture replacement
- Buses will be purchased as they reach the end of their useful life.

The cost projection for implementing Scenario B is approximately \$247.1 million and would be funded through a projected 3.10 mill tax increase for property owners. The cost for a homeowner living in a home with a \$250,000 market value and \$125,000 taxable value would be approximately \$388 a year or \$33 a month.

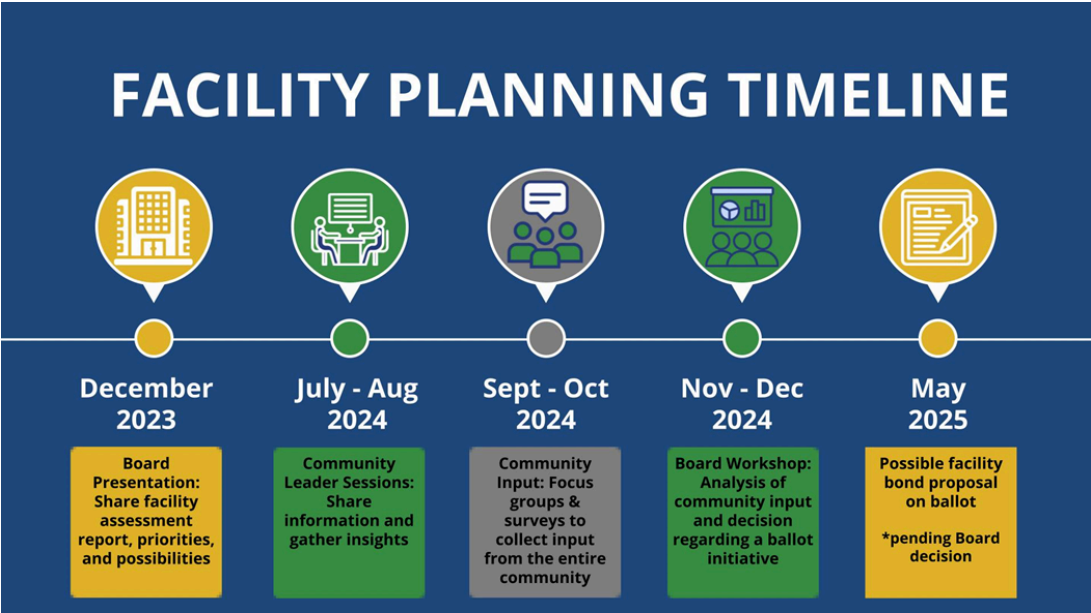
An additional option with Scenario B is to complete all Scenario B projects and construct new auxiliary facilities on the new unified community high school site. These auxiliary facilities could include:

- A new performing arts center
- A new competitive swimming facility
- A new stadium complex



Implementing the additional auxiliary facilities with Scenario B projects would cost approximately \$324.2 million and would be funded through a projected 3.75 mill tax increase for property owners. The cost for a homeowner living in a home with a \$250,000 market value and \$125,000 taxable value would be approximately \$469 a year or \$40 per month.

We are now at the stage of the process where we need input from the community. This feedback will help MPS Administration and the Board of Education understand how to move forward in preparation for a possible bond proposal on the May 2025 ballot. The next step of the process is to conduct a series of focus panels and a community survey, as shown in the tentative timeline for the facility planning process shown below.



We understand that this is a significant decision that will impact our community for years to come. Therefore, it is crucial that we hear from you. Your feedback will help us shape the potential proposal to best meet the needs of our students, teachers, and community.

We encourage you to attend our upcoming community information session on Monday, September 30th, at 6:00 p.m. at Central Auditorium to learn more about the proposal and ask questions.

join us!
MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 30



6:00 - 7:00 PM
Central Auditorium
305 E. Reardon Street
Midland, MI 48640



Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence

Come to a community information session about the facility planning process and learn more about shaping the future of our school district!

**THIS SESSION IS OPEN
TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
COMMUNITY.**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO
WWW.MIDLANDPS.ORG

district-wide goals



Enhancing
safety &
security



Replacing
critical
infra-
structure



Addressing
aging
facilities



Addressing
facility
utilization



Expanding
pre-k
offerings



Improving
educational
program
spaces



Upgrading
arts,
athletics, &
play

Additionally, please visit the facility planning page on our website at www.midlandps.org/facility-planning for more information, including:

- The video from the focus panel meetings
- Presentation slides from the focus panel meetings
- Recording of the December 18, 2023, Board of Education meeting facility assessment presentation
- Presentation slides from the December 18, 2023, Board of Education meeting
- Enrollment projections report

We will continue posting information on our website throughout this process. We will also share information with our community members through our district newsletter. If you wish to be added to our newsletter distribution list, please use this [link](#) to register. Your feedback and input are crucial to ensure that this proposal aligns with our district's needs and priorities. We hope you will take the time to complete the community survey.



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