



# Your Voice Matters

FACILITIES MASTER PLANNING: PHASE TWO

## Community Engagement Session #2 Feedback

December 3 or 4, 2024

**Is there anything about the educational or physical assessments that surprises you?**

- No
- The increase in construction costs is surprising but understandable with the explanation. That will have to be spelled out for everyone.
- No. They are as bad as I knew/thought they were.
- No, not really
- No. This just confirmed that improvements/replacements are badly needed
- The simplicity in the explanation of class room sizes are too small to facilitate learning, despite decades of educational delivery in the current spaces
- How small the classrooms are.
- That Hastings will cost more than Jones. Also that Hastings is projected to have more students than Jones in ten years considering how much larger Tremont and Barrington student count is vs Windermere and Greensview.
- Burbank - no surprises, lots of need. I'm not familiar with the middle schools, so it was extremely helpful for me to have the context shared today to understand the depth of need around those buildings.
- I appreciated the format of the pictures showing the educational assessment.
- Nothing in the assessment surprises me.
- expensive but necessary
- Not really. Given the age of the buildings, I'm impressed that they have been reasonably maintained. But I expect teachers would say there are more challenges than revealed by this presentation.
- The presentation this evening failed to include any mention of Arts & Music needs. That needs to be a priority in the planning process & priority setting.
- In the presentation it felt like Jones is getting special treatment because of its historic status, compared to Hastings. Don't sell Hastings short.
- Mostly, the current classroom sizes compared to optimum size.

**What other information do you need to better understand the current condition of our school buildings?**

- There were tours of buildings in phase 1 to see the aging mechanicals, etc. If not tours, maybe videos?

- None
- How do the poor conditions of the current middle schools compare to those in surrounding/comparable communities? Are these conditions impairing the teaching/learning environment in measurable ways?
- Need to see the maintenance logs and preventative maintenance plans, these should be good sign of the District's capabilities as stewards of capital. Perception is low
- What are any actual inadequacies or "dangers" for the students in the current buildings?
- How they compare to other buildings that have been rebuilt or renovated in the district
- Suggest site visits at some point. I remember we did this for the HS and maybe that is coming once the community is engaged further.
- Is it an option to eliminate the road that separates Jones from the track, to create more functional space?
- I am on a building team.
- I believe some statements from teachers and students on the before and after impact of the high school and elementary schools will help drive our community to invest in bringing these three buildings up to our communities expectations.
- You might consider offering tours to the public (maybe, over the summer?), but that would not illustrate the challenges for teachers and students.
- Probably best for me to review the information you post,, then see if there is any other information I want.
- None on condition.
- More depth on academic delivery and relationship to facility use.
- Nothing. The presentation was quite thorough.

### **What are your expectations or desires for the options phase?**

- Lots of choices. Ability to give input. The sticky dots to vote!
- I want to know what our options are for building all new buildings for Hastings and Burbank and renovating Jones.
- Specifically interested in Jones and how the historic character can be maintained, while supporting current and future needs
- Stay on schedule. Provide as much information as possible to the community.
- Transparency and real optionality, providing value for taxpayers
- It would be nice for all middle schoolers to experience a middle school so I hope it does not take more than 2 years to complete any of these options. Look at updating furniture. Plan for what happens to students during the reno/building phase. Equity between the middle schools. What happens to the community (used) facilities - pools, fields and tennis courts located at the schools. Parking. If middle school has study halls - Make sure there are spaces for study halls - bleachers in the gym does not work. Bathrooms at the age of middle schoolers are different than high schoolers. Please consider any additional impacts to making that decision.
- Hastings could be either a renovation or rebuild. Jones will be renovated and Burbank will be a rebuild.
- Significant community feedback opportunities.

- Several pricing options for each building - rebuild vs replace.
- I hope there are realistic options.
- I am confident that the process will yield great long term outcomes for our students and educators. I am very interested in finding the most creative options for the impact on all of the stakeholders during the construction period.
- I want to see what is the best possible solutions. All needs updated but Jones needs to keep its history.
- Expect that maintaining status quo is not feasible. I also expect the community will grumble a lot but ultimately fund complete renovations.
- No identifiable expectations right now. I will dive into the existing info.
- Want to see renovation vs replacement & selective demo/reno/add - pros & cons of each w/ respect to educational adequacy.
- I would like to see as many options as possible with estimated costs. Given that the costs have escalated exponentially, I believe combining the two middle schools should be re-examined.

**Are there any other thoughts you would like to add about facilities master planning phase two?**

- This really is a no-brainer from my perspective. We need to gut and rebuild Jones and then build new buildings for Hastings and Burbank.
- No
- Yes, with the 'maintain option' pricing being around \$100MM, it attracts the obvious question how the district will pay for the projects. The School Board turned down \$3.5MM annually by approving two large TIFs to Continental. Evidently, the Board did not anticipate needing all available revenue sources, despite knowing Phase II was on horizon. Why did the Board approve the TIFs ? So far they have pointed to Steve Schoeny, City Manager as driving the decision. This is highly alarming and should be investigated.
- Pick an efficient plan. When the plan came out it was clear Hastings would be renovated. We moved here with that expectation. It is not fair if a student does not get to experience a physical middle school. Keep lockers for middle schoolers. The high school not having lockers stinks.
- How much is School District leadership paying these professional firms to 'find the answer they want' upfront? These public charades are always so scripted and outcome predetermined. Why isn't that the case here?
- The bathroom situation may be affected by the passage of the new bathroom law because it will probably take effect after a court battle. Based on how both state and federal courts are, I expect the law to be upheld and having gender neutral restrooms like that at the high school may not be an option.
- Strong consideration for future growth. Barrington for instance is already maxed out and it's only in year four since it reopened in new form.
- Don't hesitate to consider using some of the green space at Burbank for new build - the playground is heavily used, but the open grassy space on the playground is not.

- The schools should not have floor to ceiling doors on the bathrooms. Also, the bathrooms need privacy unlike our new buildings which open to the hallways.
- I think the presentation was great and well thought out. I believe adding some perspective on the increase in bond rates for school districts will be an important part of the next phase discussions.
- Maybe you can update Hastings 1st, then house Jones with Hastings while updating Jones. It's too much to do both at the same time. Thank you.
- No mention of the arts. Music facilities are not adequate at Hastings or Jones.
- Provide hard copies of your presentations or quadruple the size of your screens!
- Excellent and informative program. Thank you!
- Not at this time.
- Was there any thought given to replacement of any of the facilities vs. upgrading?
- To ensure the passage of a new levy, would it be wise to split phase 2 into two separate phases - combining the two least expensive schools leaving the most expensive school in a newly created phase 3? That complicates the process but might be more palatable to taxpayers.