



MINNETONKA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Facilities Study Task Force Recommendations

School Board Study Session  
December 19, 2024



# Creation of the Facilities Study Task Force

- One of the Minnetonka School Board goals is to ensure excellence in leadership and organizational support. Ensuring that the District facilities meet the current and future needs of students is a component of that goal.
- In February, the Minnetonka School Board authorized the creation of the Facilities Study Task Force. Applications were sought across the district leading to the creation of a 27- member task force that is a great cross section of the community including:
  - Open enrolled families
  - Elementary, middle school and high school families across the community
  - Empty nesters
  - Teachers, paras and district employees



# Facilities Study Task Force Members

- Patrick Becker
- Christine Breen
- Trey Davis
- Jon Fahning
- Cassie Frick
- Dan Geislinger
- Elizabeth Hartwell
- Kyle Heitkamp
- Chad Herman
- Jill Johnson
- Karen Jordan
- Charlie Kanan
- Amy LaDue
- Pam Langseth
- Bill Lester
- Jennifer Lipsky
- Tammy Magney
- Carrie Prehoda
- Jennie Przybilla
- Heather Richins
- Ingrid Roberts
- Lynae Schoen
- Jason Schommer
- Caleb Schultz
- Cortney Swenson
- Susan Thomas
- Amy Vohs

# Charge to the Task Force

- The Facilities Study Task Force will support the School Board of Minnetonka ISD 276 as it works to meet future instructional needs by:
  - Assessing each District facility as to its ability to support current and future instructional needs, and;
  - Developing recommendations of potential future actions to meet any identified needs for consideration by the School Board.

## **The Task Force met fifteen times between April and November 18th:**

- April 15th - Kick off meeting
- April 29th – MME
- May 6th – MMW
- May 20th – MHS Activities
- June 10th – Groveland
- June 24th - MCEC
- August 5th – Excelsior
- August 26th – Scenic Heights
- September 9th – MHS Academics
- September 23rd – Clear Springs
- October 7th – Minnewashta
- October 21st – Deephaven
- October 29th – DSC,TSP and VANMO
- November 11th – Facilities Discussion
- November 18th – Facilities Discussion

# Process

- In late spring the District surveyed all teachers and staff regarding the needs in each building. These results were shared with building principals and incorporated into each building presentation.
  
- The Task Force heard presentations from building principals and assistant principals including:
  - Curt Carpenter, Clear Springs Elementary
  - Bryan McGinley, Deephaven Elementary
  - Jennifer Smasal, Excelsior Elementary
  - Matt Breen, Assistant Principal, Excelsior Elementary
  - Andrew Gilbertson, Groveland Elementary
  - Cindy Andress, Minnewashta Elementary
  - Joe Wacker, Scenic Heights Elementary
  - Nicole Snedden, Assistant Principal, Scenic Heights Elementary
  - Pete Dymit, Minnetonka Middle School East
  - Freya Schumacher, Minnetonka Middle School West
  - Jeff Erickson, Minnetonka High School

# Process, continued

- The Task Force also received department specific presentations from:
  - Trent Boyum, Executive Director of Arts Center on 7
  - Ted Schultz, Activities Director
  - Tim Litfin, Executive Director of Community Education
  - Christine Breen, Executive Director of Special Education and Student Support Sevices
  - Dr. JacQui Getty, Executive Director of Communications
  - Dr. Amy LaDue, Associate Superintendent for Instruction
  - Dr. Mike Dronen, Former Executive Director of Technology
  - Amanda Fay, Executive Director of Technology
  - Scott Gerlicher, Security and Emergency Management Coordinator



# General Meeting Format

- Introductions
- Paul Bourgeois presented a historical perspective on the building construction and additions
- Building principals and assistant principals presented the results of the staff survey priorities and the needs/priorities identified by administration
- Tour of the building
- Questions
- Identification of issues and identification of priorities

# Final Discussion



- The Task Force had two final discussion meetings.
- Prior to the meeting, the members were asked to rank each building item as high, medium and low priority. A numerical value was assigned to each ranking.
- The prioritized list was reviewed and discussed at the final meeting.
- The following is a list of the priorities in order of importance, as well as a list of schools by highest level of need:

# Schools Ranked by Priority of Need

- Minnetonka Middle School East
- Minnetonka Middle School West
- Deephaven Elementary
- Minnewashta Elementary
- Groveland Elementary
- Excelsior Elementary
- Minnetonka High School
- Scenic Heights Elementary
- Clear Springs Elementary
- Minnetonka Community Education Center

# Ranked prioritization list

2.80	MME Flex space auditorium
2.76	MME Science classrooms
2.76	MMW Flex space auditorium
2.72	MMW Science labs
2.68	MME Small flex spaces
2.64	MMW small group space
2.52	DH Gymnasium
2.48	GR Staff restrooms
2.48	MME gymnasium
2.48	MMW gymnasium
2.48	MHS Remodel student services
2.44	DH Small Group space
2.44	MW Small group spaces
2.44	MME Staff restrooms
2.40	CS Small group space
2.40	EX Restrooms upper floors
2.40	SH Small group spaces
2.40	CS Staff Restrooms
2.40	MW Staff restrooms

2.40	MHS more collaborative spaces
2.40	MHS Staff restrooms
2.36	GR Small Group rooms
2.32	EX Small Group spaces
2.32	SH Staff restrooms
2.28	GR Second music room
2.28	MW Media center
2.28	MHS Wrestling facilities
2.24	MHS gymnasium
2.20	DH Staff Restrooms
2.20	MHS Relocate fitness center
2.04	MHS locker room remodel
2.00	EX Larger nurse space
2.00	MCEC ECCE classrooms
1.96	CS Large educational space
1.92	Ex second music room
1.84	TSP Additional loft space
1.76	EX Lobby reconfiguration
1.72	MCEC Parking deck

# The middle schools have the highest need.

**Minnetonka Middle School East**

**Minnetonka Middle School West**



# Middle School Priorities

## **Minnetonka Middle School East**

1. Large and small flexible instructional space
2. Auditorium (performance space/meeting venue)
3. Science classrooms
4. Staff restrooms
5. Gymnasium (fourth PE station)

## **Minnetonka Middle School West**

1. Large and small flexible instructional space
2. Auditorium (performance space/meeting venue)
3. Science classrooms
4. Staff restrooms
5. Gymnasium (fourth PE station)

# Minnetonka Community Education



1. Classrooms for Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)
2. Parking Deck

# Minnetonka Education Center (TSP)



1. Collaboration space for future loft style classes

# Minnetonka High School



1. Remodel the student services area
2. More collaborative spaces (loft style learning)
3. Relocate the fitness center for aviation classroom
4. Staff Restrooms
5. Gymnasium (PE station and varsity sports training capacity)
6. Wrestling program facilities

# Clear Springs Elementary



1. Increase staff restrooms
2. Larger special education space
3. Small group spaces

# Deephaven Elementary



1. Gymnasium (PE space)
2. Small group spaces
3. Staff restrooms

# Excelsior Elementary



1. Lobby reconfiguration
2. Larger health/nurse space
3. Restrooms on upper floors
4. Small group spaces
5. Second music room

# Groveland Elementary



1. Second music room
2. Small group rooms
3. Staff restrooms

# Minnewashta Elementary



1. Media center replacement
2. Staff restrooms
3. Small group spaces

# Scenic Heights Elementary



1. Small group spaces
2. Staff restrooms



# Final Overall Recommendations

- The Task Force agrees with the ranking of priorities
- The two middle schools are the highest priority
- Large group flex space for daytime use (e.g. classrooms opening up for flex space)
- Large space in buildings to create community
- Free up space in buildings for teaching and learning
- Equitable solutions for all elementary schools (no marked difference in amenities between schools)
- Remodeling student services area at MHS
- Increase usability of courtyards in buildings throughout district



# Final Recommendations, continued

- Focus on land acquisition of adjacent properties
- Prioritize changes to Minnetonka Community Education to bring new students into the district early
- As buildings expand, it's important not to lose outdoor activity space
- Important to elevate the non-revenue sports (gymnastics, wrestling, etc.)
- Continue focus on the three A's: Academics, Athletics, and the Arts



**THANK YOU**