SDRP Phase III
Board of Education Update

May 5, 2025

EVANSTON/SKOKIE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 65

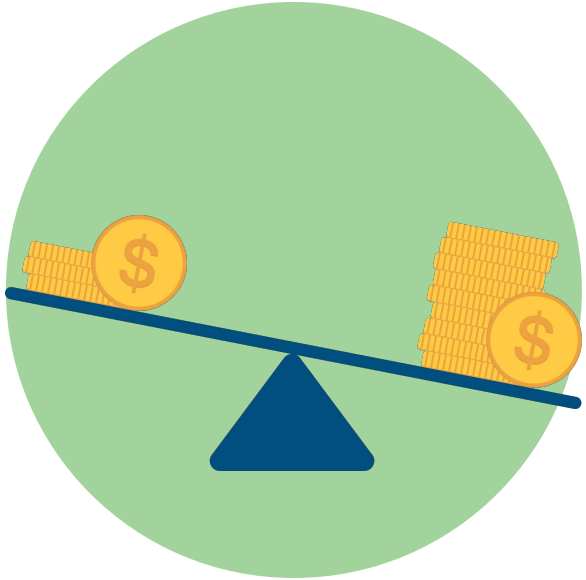
Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes

Presentation Agenda

- Revisit our “why”for Phase III
- Review the SDRP Ecosystem
- Update on Stakeholder Engagement
- Review Subcommittee Meeting Schedule
- Discuss Each Subcommittee's Purpose
- Review the SDRP Timeline
- Share Highlights of Discussions to Date



Why consider the need for consolidation/closures?



Ensuring long-term Financial Stability



Buildings in Need of Significant Repairs and Improvements



Declining Student Enrollment and Underutilized Schools

Why are we considering the need for consolidation/closures?



$189 Million
operating budget

$20 Million
in operational reductions over the past two years

$10-15 Million
in estimated additional reductions necessary for FY27

2.3% Expense Growth
expenses outpace revenues on an annual basis *(structural deficit)*



18 School Buildings
(+Foster) with 1.2M sq ft of building space

8 Square Miles
D65 Attendance Boundaries

79 Years Old
(average building age)

$188 Million
in recommended facility repairs/improvements

Poor or Very Poor
building conditions



6,193 Students
declining enrollment for the next 10 years (aging population)

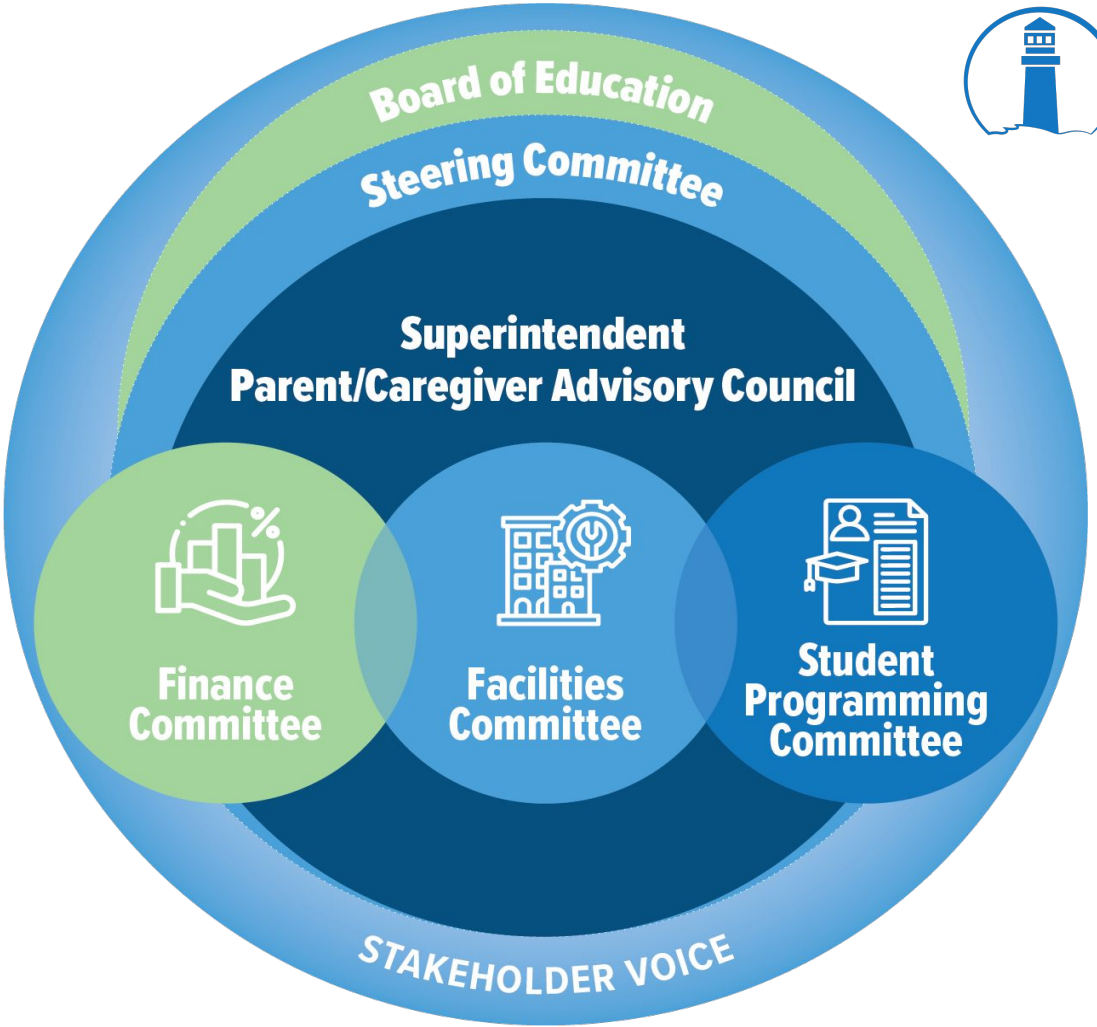
65% Occupancy
school building occupancy

Decreasing # of Youth
2020 Census indicates a decreasing # of youth under 13

79.3% Enrollment Average
D65 returns to pre-pandemic student enrollment

SDRP Ecosystem

- All school closure and consolidations decisions are that of the Board.
- Ensure checks and balances
- Open application processes for both SPAC and SDRP committees.
  - 16 schools represented on SPAC.
  - 45 parents/caregivers, community members, and staff on SDRP
- All aspects are rooted in stakeholder voice and input.



Update on Stakeholder Engagement

- Analysis currently underway through Northwestern - School of Education and Social Policy
- Will be utilized by SDRP Committees and Superintendent Parent/Caregiver Advisory Council
- Will be made available online in addition to in-person engagement data

Online Survey



140 Responses



557 Ideas



n/a

In-Person Stakeholder Engagement Sessions



~260 Participants



330 Ideas



545 sticker ratings

In-Person Sessions *Exit Survey Responses*

96.6% - purpose of the meeting was clear and well-communicated

93.2% - information presented helped build my understanding of the topic(s) discussed

93.2% - voice and perspectives were heard and respected

84.8% - understand what the next steps are and how to stay engaged

Steering Committee/Subcommittee Meeting Schedule

- Biweekly on Wednesdays through June 18
  - April 9
  - April 23
  - May 7
  - May 21
  - June 4
  - June 18
  - *Board presentation scheduled for June 23*
- Committee Hiatus - No meetings from June 19-August 5
- Biweekly meetings resume August 5 (flexible scheduling)

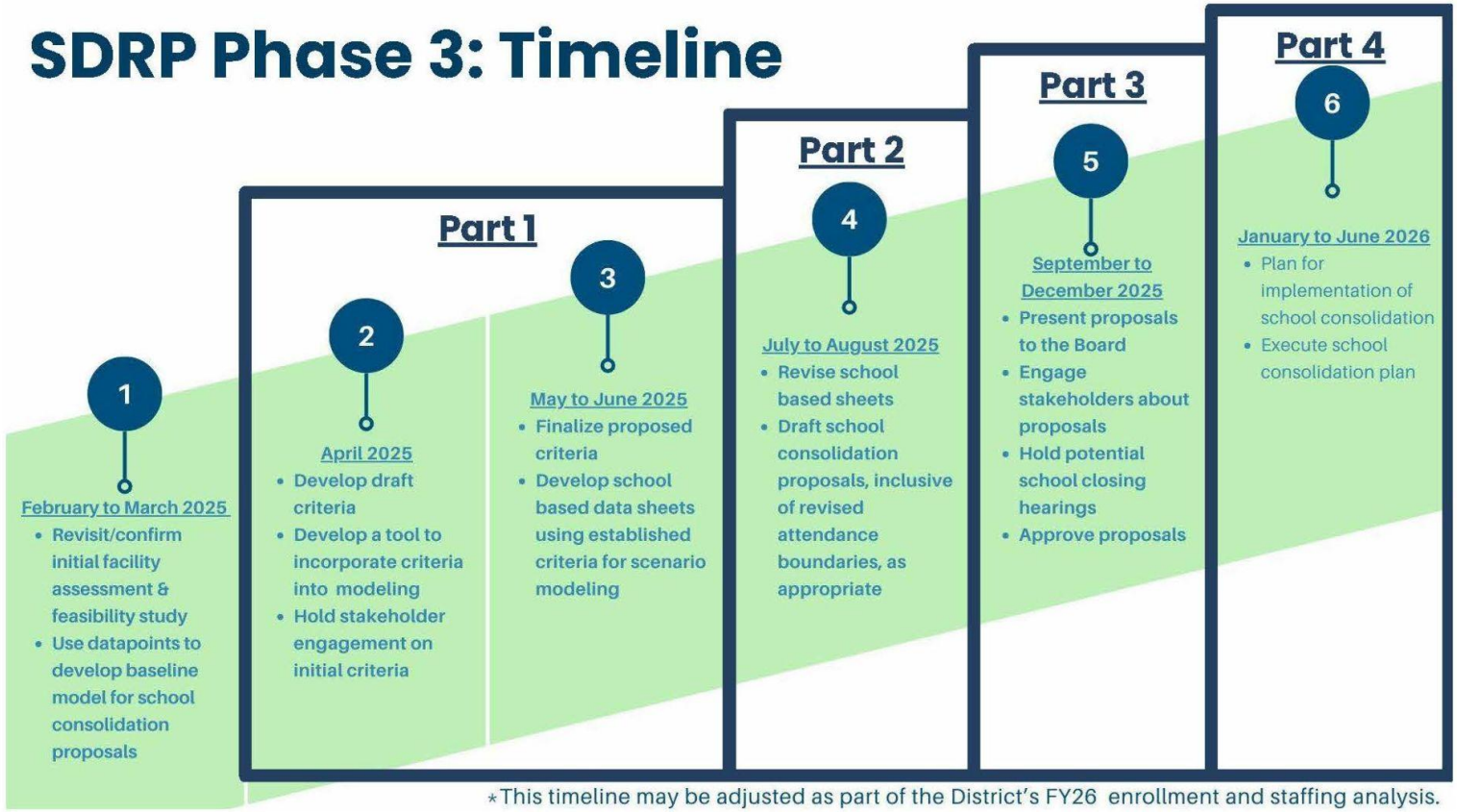
Each Subcommittee's Purpose

Provide feedback into the following areas:

- Finance: Budget deficit and return to financial sustainability
- Facilities: Declining enrollment and aging facilities
- Programs: Optimize student programming in alignment with the District's finances and facilities challenges



SDRP Phase 3: Timeline



*This timeline may be adjusted as part of the District's FY26 enrollment and staffing analysis.

Part	Dates	Group	Work
1	Apr-Jun 2025	Community Steering Committee (CSC)	Establish SDRP 3 framework for programs, facilities and finances
2	Jul-Aug 2025	Internal Steering Committee	Develop preliminary scenarios grounded in CSC framework
3	Aug-Oct 2025	Community Steering Committee	Provide feedback on preliminary scenarios
3	Oct 2025	Internal Steering Committee	Finalize scenarios based on CSC feedback
3	Nov 2025	Board of Education	Votes on scenarios (tentative)
4	Jan-Aug 2026	Internal Steering Committee	Implement scenarios

Subcommittee Meeting Recap

- **Finance**
  - School Finance 101
    - Understanding Our Revenue, Spending and Fund Accounting
  - Revisiting Our “Why”
    - Revenue vs Expenditure Growth Rates
- **Facilities**
  - Master Facilities Plan
    - Facilities Condition Index
  - 2024 Demographics Study
    - Declining Birth Rates
- **Student Programs**
  - Overview of the District’s Programs
  - Deep dive - magnet programs



Feedback: How We Close Our Meetings

Questions For Full Committee Share-out

- What progress did we make toward our goals today?
- What are our next steps as a committee?
- What do we need from the other subcommittees to continue our work?
- Is there anything else we should share?



Questions?