

RECOMMENDATION: EXPAND OLDSMAR ELEMENTARY INTO A K-8 SCHOOL

This recommendation expands **Oldsmar Elementary School into a K-8 school on the existing campus in phases beginning in the 2026-27 school year**. There will be no changes to the current Oldsmar ES zone. All students who attend grade 5 at Oldsmar ES will be able to attend grade 6 at Oldsmar K-8 beginning in 2026-27. The transition to a K-8 school will occur over three years, adding grade 6 in 2026-27, grade 7 in 2027-28, and grade 8 in 2028-29. Through the school choice process, a proximity preference will be applied for any open middle grades seat for students who do not reside in the Oldsmar ES zone. The current Oldsmar ES VPK program will transition to the current service center or Forest Lakes Elementary over the next three years as the middle grades are phased in.

COMMUNITY INPUT SUMMARY: RECEIVED AS OF 1/16/26

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS MEETINGS: COMMON THEMES

- **Additional K-8 schools.** Call for continuity and smoother transition for students in a K-8 model.
- **Intentional program offerings** that provide more STEM, IT, and career learning in K-12 program offerings.
- Maintain positive school cultures and **retain strong teachers and support staff**.
- Use buildings for added **infant through age 3 child care** with a community partner and/or for employee childcare.
- Repurpose buildings/convert surplus **space for community use** for day care, elder care, etc.
- **Lease buildings to child care and/or community partners** that will provide school and community impact.
- **Combine facilities** to increase usage in buildings.
- If **selling land or repurposing facilities**, prioritize beneficial community use, including green space, recreation centers, and affordable housing opportunities.

PRINCIPAL/DISTRICT STAFF SESSIONS: COMMON THEMES

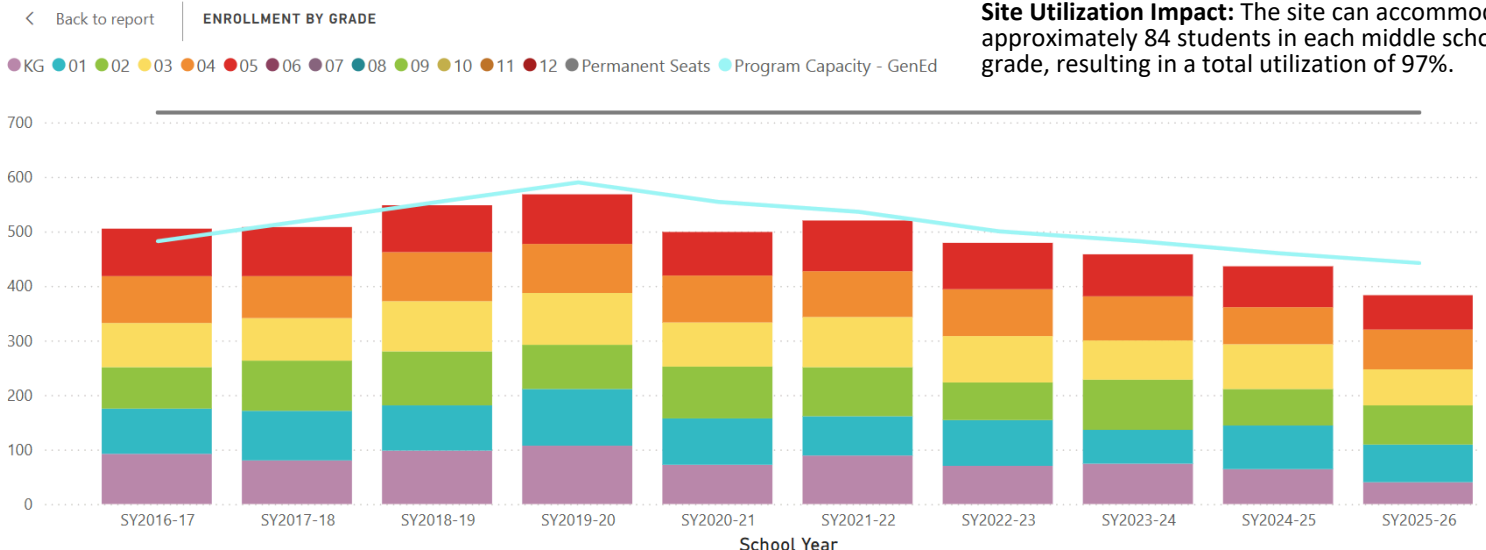
- **Additional K-8 schools.** Intentional program offerings to **provide electives in K-8 model**.
- Intentional program offerings to better **align elementary schools to MS/HS programs**.
- **Retain teachers and support staff to create/sustain a positive culture**.
- **Expand hands-on career learning** to provide increased opportunity to earn industry certifications.
- Combine offerings to **maximize space while maintaining personalized culture**.
- Use buildings for added **infant through age 3 child care** with community partner and/or for employee childcare.
- **Lease to other childcare and/or after-care partner**.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND HISTORY

Oldsmar Elementary currently has a K-5 enrollment of 383 students with a building capacity of 718 student stations. Current building utilization is 53%. Expanding to offer grades K-8 is expected to increase total enrollment to 694 students following phased implementation, increasing total utilization to 97%.

TABLE: OLDSMAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAPACITY & ENROLLMENT

Year Opened: 1921
Grades Served: PK-5
Site Utilization Impact: The site can accommodate approximately 84 students in each middle school grade, resulting in a total utilization of 97%.



Official Count Snapshot Data (Survey 2), FISH and Program Capacity Tables demonstrate student enrollment in bar charts, total permanent building capacity (student stations) in the grey line graph, and staffing for the student population and programs in the teal line.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND PROGRAM OFFERINGS

“Where learning is a family affair,” is the Oldsmar ES motto. This describes the dedication of the school community to meet the needs of each and every scholar. Oldsmar ES has demonstrated excellence in student outcomes, earning an A or B from the Florida Department of Education since 2014. The expansion of Oldsmar ES to a K-8 school extends the high-quality academic programming and reduces the number of school transitions for students within a geographically isolated community in Pinellas County.

2024-25 SCHOOL GRADE

Oldsmar ES

A

Carwise MS

A

Academic program enhancements and grade configuration changes are designed to support academic achievement, reduce the number of transitions for students and families, and improve student success. Based on current school grade rules, and utilizing current Carwise students who would be eligible to attend Oldsmar K-8, both Oldsmar K-8 and Carwise MS are estimated to maintain school grades of A.

OTHER SCHOOL IMPACTS

Carwise MS

May experience a slight decrease in enrollment. Overall utilization of the site would be minimally impacted.

Forest Lakes ES

Explore grade expansion, if demand exceeds the capacity at Oldsmar K-8 over time.

FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

RECENT FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

PROJECT	YEAR	INVESTMENT COST
Exterior Painting	2020	\$250K
Carpet/Tile	2016	\$816K
Roof	2014	\$1.8M

ESTIMATED FACILITIES INVESTMENT

The current Oldsmar ES site can accommodate classroom space for the K-8 program model. Updates for the middle-grade science classrooms may be needed, with an estimated cost of approximately \$200K. This update will be phased over the implementation of the K-8 and will not need to be completed for the 2026-27 school year.

This recommendation may require additional capital investment in the Oldsmar Service Center buildings adjacent to the current Oldsmar ES site. To convert the service center to usable space, facility updates will require demolition and land elevation, as it is located in a coastal high-hazard zone. The estimated cost exceeds \$3M. The district will leverage the support and commitment of the City of Oldsmar for a K-8 school.

NEXT STEPS:

RECOMMENDATION COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

- **Notification:**
 - Tuesday, January 20, 2026.
 - Email and phone communication regarding the recommendation sent to families, staff members, and school-based community partners.
- **Staff Meetings Recommendation Overview:**
 - Staff should refer to their PCS email for date/time
- **Family and Community Meetings Recommendation Overview:**
 - Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Meet with faculty and staff members who may have specific questions regarding the recommendation and how it may impact them individually.
- If the recommendation is approved by the School Board, begin the staffing processes to ensure highly-qualified middle-grades instructional staff are in place for the 2026-27 school year.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- If the recommendation is approved by the School Board, collaborate and partner with the City of Oldsmar to invest in the K-8 site and provide access to extra-curricular opportunities (e.g., athletic venues).

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

- If the recommendation is approved by the School Board, begin the planning process to make the phased, physical updates to the current elementary school campus.

To learn more about or provide feedback on any district recommendation, visit www.pcsb.org/progress.