

## PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

Pinellas County Schools (PCS) is committed to keeping the community informed as we navigate important decisions that affect students, families, staff, and the community. In response to the annual decline in school-age population across the county, district staff have presented the enclosed recommendations as part of a broader effort to ensure that resources are used effectively and that all students have access to high-quality learning environments.

PCS is committed to providing clear and timely information, creating opportunities for open dialogue, and ensuring that all stakeholders remain informed and actively involved throughout every step of this process. All information, including recommendations, site-specific timelines, stakeholder input, and community engagement opportunities, can be found at [www.pcsb.org/progress](http://www.pcsb.org/progress).

The communities impacted by the January 2026 recommendations will be invited to engage in site-specific meetings (between January 20-February 6). These recommendations are scheduled for public discussion and School Board vote at the regularly scheduled public School Board Meeting on February 24, 2026. Additionally, the School Board will discuss the recommendations and community feedback at the February 17, 2026, School Board Workshop. Broad community engagement will also occur during the Summer of 2026 to inform recommendations in the Fall of 2026, with implementation beginning in the 2027-28 school year.

## COMMUNITY INPUT: AS OF 1/16/26

Since September 2025 over 600 community stakeholders have attended dedicated Planning for Progress input sessions. Feedback from the Planning for Progress Community Meetings and staff sessions is available at [www.pcsb.org/progress](http://www.pcsb.org/progress). Additionally, individuals have emailed and messaged the district and School Board with ideas and concerns to guide the process. The district will continue to communicate, listen, and work in partnership with community members as recommendations and decisions are made.

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025

- School Board Workshop Presentation
- Principal focus groups

### NOVEMBER 2025

- Principal input sessions
- District staff input sessions
- Planning for Progress Community Meetings:
  - Boca Ciega High School
  - Largo High School

### DECEMBER 2025

- Planning for Progress Community Meetings:
  - Dunedin High School
  - Hollins High School
  - Lakewood High School

## JANUARY 2026 RECOMMENDATIONS OVERVIEW

### SCHOOL/PROGRAM IMPACTS

- **Create a K-8 school combining Bay Point Elementary and Bay Point Middle** to be located on the middle school campus in 2027-28. Lease the elementary campus to a community partner.
- **Expand Oldsmar Elementary into a K-8 school** beginning 2026-27.
- **Expand Employee Child Care** to the **McMullen-Booth Elementary** campus in the 2026-27 school year.
- **Close Cross Bayou Elementary** at the end of the 2025-26 school year. Rezone the current students to Bardmoor and Pinellas Central Elementary. Transition the Deaf/Hard of Hearing program to Walsingham Oaks K-8. Sell or lease the Cross Bayou property.
- **Close Disston Academy** at the end of the 2025-26 school year and relocate programs and students to established educational alternative sites. Sell or lease the Disston property.

### PROPERTY IMPACTS

**Explore the sale of entire or partial district-owned land parcels/buildings** at the following locations:

- Manning Road (entire parcel located in the Palm Harbor area).
- Wilcox Road (entire parcel located in Largo).
- MLK Center and Former Palmetto ES/Curtis Fundamental site (partial parcel located in Clearwater). Explore potential with Pinellas Urban League. No impact to the Pinellas High Innovation portion of the parcel.
- Keystone Road (portion of the parcel located in the East Lake area). Explore with the East Lake Fire District.

Engage in a procurement **Request for Information (RFI) process** to determine the feasibility and operational cost/benefits of **operating employee wellness centers within district buildings**.

Explore a detailed **facilities evaluation process** to verify costs and efficiencies for long-term building needs, informing **future planning**.

### ESTIMATED DISTRICTWIDE UTILIZATION IMPACT

- Reduction of 1,781 student stations

### ESTIMATED DISTRICTWIDE BUDGETARY IMPACT

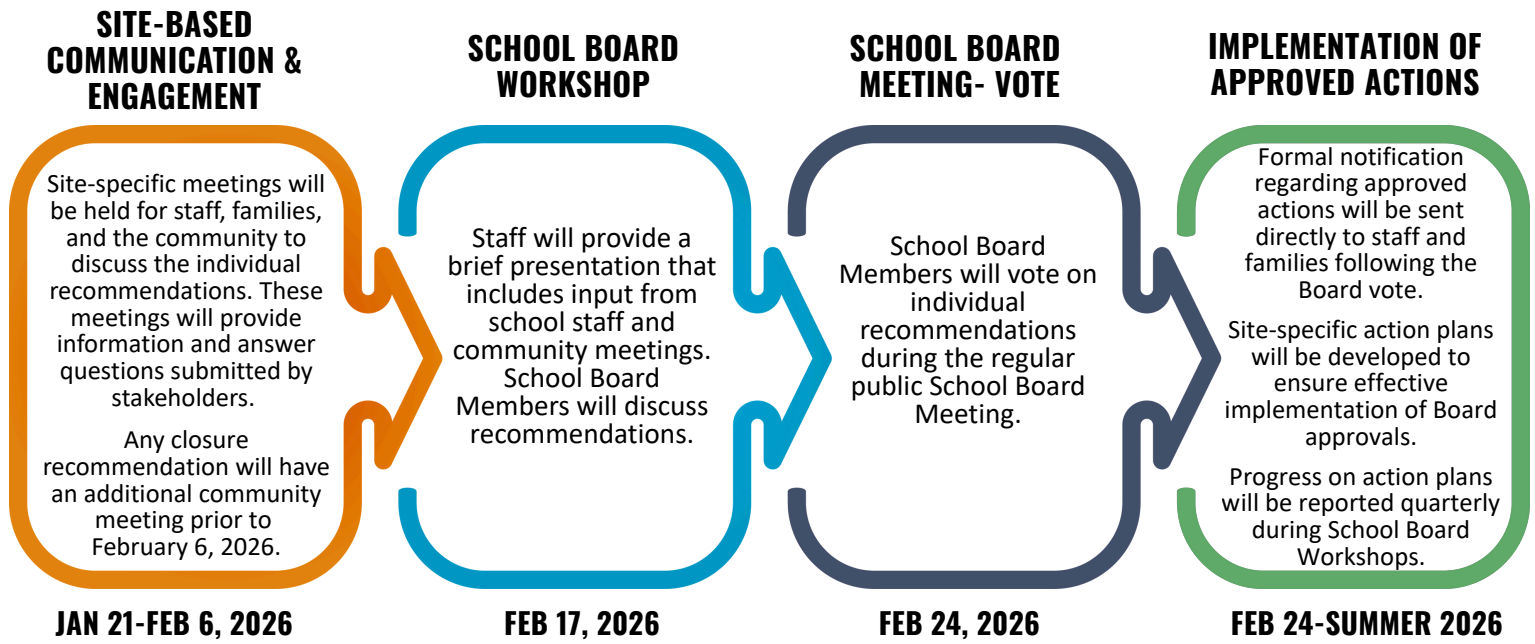
- Reduction of \$7.7M in recurring annual expenses.
- Estimated one-time capital investment of \$2.4M.

## PARTNERSHIPS

The district is currently collaborating with county and municipal leaders and the following organizations to explore long-term partnership opportunities:

- Feeding Tampa Bay
- Great Explorations Children’s Museum
- Habitat for Humanity - Tampa Bay Gulfside
- Museum of Archaeology, Paleontology and Science (MAPS)
- R’Club
- St. Pete Free Clinic
- YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg
- YMCA of the Suncoast

## RECOMMENDATION TIMELINE



## NEXT STEPS

### RECOMMENDATION COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

- **Notification:**
  - January 20, 2026.
  - Email and phone communication regarding the recommendation sent to families, staff members, and school-based community partners of impacted schools.
- **Site-Based Staff Meetings:**
  - Week of January 19, 2026.
- **Site-Based Family and Community Meetings:**
  - January 21-February 6, 2026.
  - See individual recommendation pages for specific dates/times.

### SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS - TUESDAY, JAN 27 & FEB 10, 2026

- The School Board **will not vote** on the recommendations at the regularly scheduled public School Board Meetings on Tuesday, January 27 at 5 pm or February 10 at 10 am. There are public speaking opportunities at all School Board meetings.

### SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP - TUESDAY, FEB 17, 2026

- Materials will be publicly posted Tuesday, February 10, 2026.
- The School Board **will discuss recommendations and input from the community.**
- The School Board Workshop will take place in Conference Hall at the district Administration Building to ensure seating for community members.
- There are no public speaking opportunities at School Board Workshops.

### SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - TUESDAY, FEB 24, 2026

- Recommendations for Board action will be publicly posted Tuesday, February 17, 2026.
- The School Board **will vote** on the recommendations at the regularly scheduled public School Board Meeting.
- There are public speaking opportunities at all School Board meetings.

To learn more about or provide feedback on any district recommendation, visit [www.pcsb.org/progress](http://www.pcsb.org/progress).