# Planning for the Future

## Powell Area Solutions & Recommendations

February 5, 2026

KCS | KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

# Agenda

- ➔ Powell Area Challenges
- ➔ KCS Future Planning Process
- ➔ Powell Area: Future Planning Considerations
- ➔ Recommended Solution
- ➔ Next Steps

# Powell Area: **Current Challenges**

- ➔ Anticipated growth with limited capacity at Powell Elementary
- ➔ Congested traffic patterns and limited parking at Powell Elementary

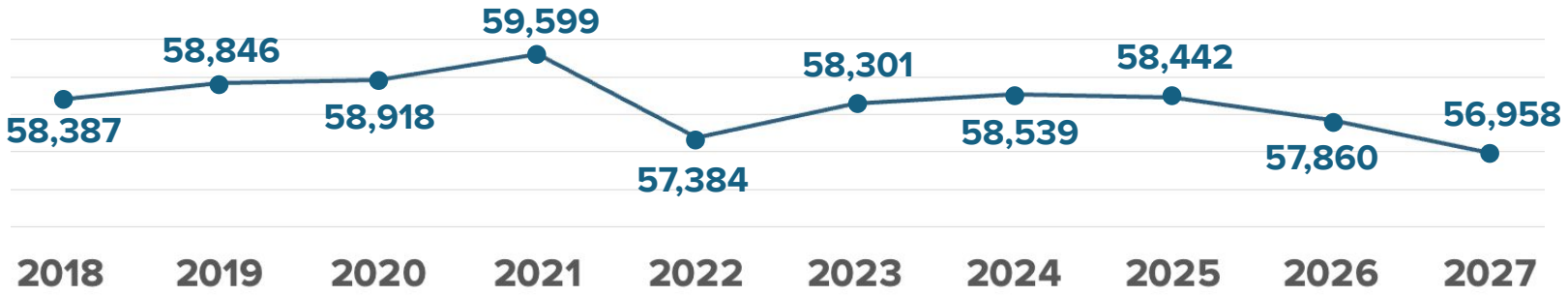
## OPPORTUNITIES:

- ➔ Eliminate need for portable usage
- ➔ Strengthen school feeder patterns

# Future Planning:

## Student-Focused, Fiscal Responsibility

**In the last 10 years, enrollment has decreased by 1,429:**




In that time, KCS has built **5 new schools.**

*By 2030, we will have built an **additional 3 schools** on top of that.*

# The Cost of New Construction

**Resources are finite.**

Carrying a debt burden in the General Purpose Budget is a threat to:

- ➔ Salary increases
- ➔ Instructional materials
- ➔ Technology

*... so every new build must be* ***necessary.***

| Fiscal Year | General Purpose Debt Paydown |
|---|---|
| 2022 | $13,379,356 |
| 2023 | $18,648,870 |
| 2024 | $35,151,000 |
| 2025 | $7,720,215 |
| 2026 | $6,178,573 |
| 2027 | $7,997,785* |
| 2028 | $12,242,425* |
| 2029 | $12,407,763* |
| 2030 | $16,112,105* |

*projected

# KCS | Future Planning **Framework**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **REZONE** | Underutilized capacity in the target area | Surrounding schools have long-term viability | *Feasible transportation* |
| | ✔ | ✘ | |
| **ADDITION** | Existing school has long-term viability | Space to support an addition | Acceptable cost compared to new build |
| | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ |
| **NEW SCHOOL** | Land available in target area | Market value land rate available | Estimated cost supported through debt service |
| | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |

# Future Planning Framework: **Past Projects**

KCS | KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

## FARRAGUT SOLUTION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **REZONE** | Underutilized capacity in the target area | Surrounding schools have long-term viability | Feasible transportation |
| | ✘ | | |
| **ADDITION** | Existing school has long-term viability | Space to support an addition | Acceptable cost compared to new build |
| | ✔ | ✔ | ✘ |
| **NEW SCHOOL** | Land available in target area | Market value land rate available | Estimated cost supported through debt service |
| | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |

## HVA SOLUTION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **REZONE** | Underutilized capacity in the target area | Surrounding schools have long-term viability | Feasible transportation |
| | ✘ | | |
| **ADDITION** | Existing school has long-term viability | Space to support an addition | Acceptable cost compared to new build |
| | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |
| **NEW SCHOOL** | Land available in target area | Market value land rate available | Estimated cost supported through debt service |
| | | | |

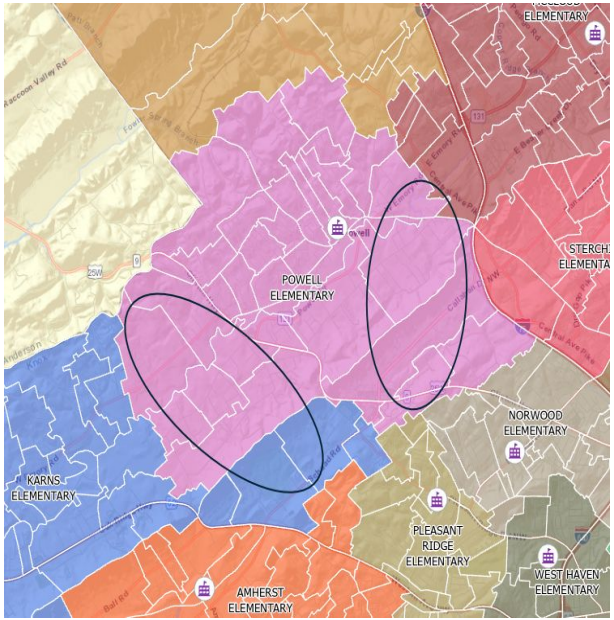
# Future Planning: **Powell**

| REZONE | Underutilized capacity in the target area | Surrounding schools have long-term viability | Feasible transportation |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |

| *ADDITION* | *Existing school has long-term viability* | *Space to support an addition* | *Acceptable cost compared to new build* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |

| *NEW SCHOOL* | *Land available in target area* | *Market value land rate available* | *Estimated cost supported through debt service* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |

# Recommended Solution: **Zoning**




| School | Capacity | Current Enrollment | WITH REZONE 2026-27* Enrollment | WITH REZONE 2030* Enrollment |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Amherst** | 948 | 665 | 730 | 800 |
| **Brickey McCloud** | 1,180 | 832 | 950 | 1,000 |
| **Karns** | 1,417 | 948 | 1,110 | 1,330 |
| **Powell** | 600 | 792 | 500 | 530 |

**projected*

# Recommended Solution: **Zoning**

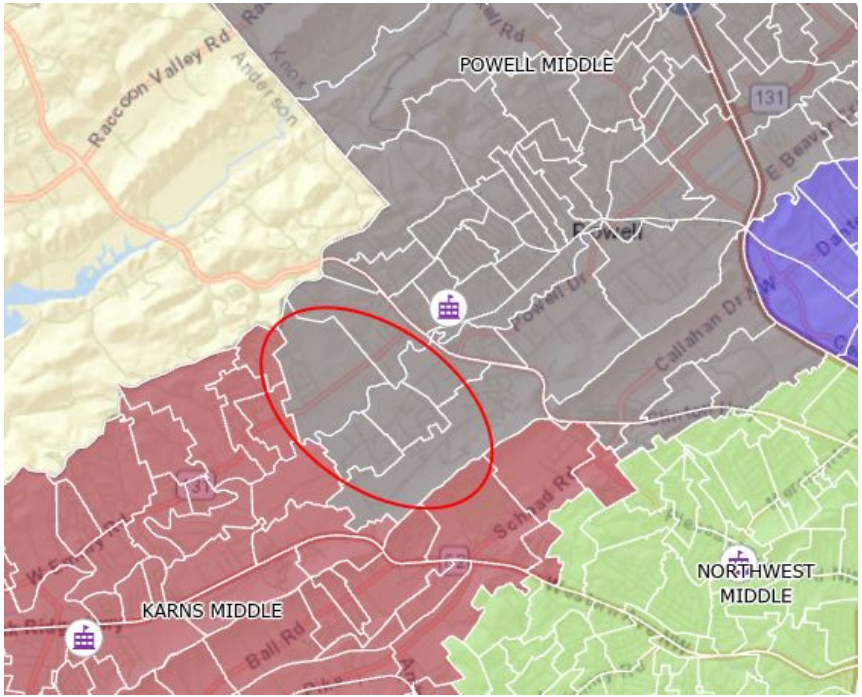
## Strengthening Feeder Patterns:

**POWELL**

*All students zoned for Powell Elementary could be zoned for Powell Middle and Powell High.*

**KARNS**

*Neighborhoods currently zoned for **Powell Elementary → Powell Middle → Karns High** could be zoned to Karns Elementary and Karns Middle for feeder pattern purity.*




KCS | KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

# Recommended Solution: **Zoning**

- ☑ Immediate solution
- ☑ Fiscally responsible
- ☑ Eliminates need for portable usage
- ☑ Relieves traffic congestion
- ☑ Addresses parking concerns
- ☑ Strengthens school feeder patterns

# Next Steps

- **February:** Community Zoning Meeting
- **March Board Meeting:** Final Proposal



# Questions