RICHMOND COUNTY SCHOOLS

February 12, 2026

Barton Chapel Meeting

Public Comment

Community Voice and Contribution

Public Comment Guidelines

Comment Card Required
To speak, you must complete and submit a public comment card. State your name, city of residence, and zip code.

One Opportunity Per Person
Each individual may speak once during the meeting.

Time Limit
Speakers are limited to 3 minutes each. Please be prepared to conclude when your time is called.

Respectful Conduct
No shouting, personal attacks or disruptive behavior. Please remain courteous to all participants.

Public Comment

Community Voice and Contribution

Public Comment Guidelines (cont.)

Use the Microphone
Please speak clearly into the microphone so your audio is picked up and understood.

Questions
Questions can be answered using our website at rcboe.org/masterplan or you can speak with school officials after the public comment period. Staff are located around the room at designated department signs.

Focus on the Plan
Comments should address the presented plan. Off-topic remarks may be ended by the moderator.

Moderator's Role
The moderator will enforce these rules to ensure everyone has a fair chance to be heard.

Stay Updated

Visit Our Master Plan Web Page

HOME > COMMUNITY > COMPREHENSIVE FACILITIES PLAN

Comprehensive Facilities Plan

- About Us +
- Students & Families +
- Academics & Curriculum +
- Staff & Departments +
- News & Events +
- Community −
  - Family & Community Engagement
  - Comprehensive Facilities Plan
    - 2026 Facilities Master Plan FAQ
    - Contact Us

Quick Links

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PUBLIC HEARING LIVESTREAM

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

2026 PROPOSED PLAN SCHOOL ZONE LOCATOR

Upcoming Events

Feb 9 2026

- **Facilities Master Plan Public Hearing: Barton Chapel**

Scan Or Visit Rcboe.org/masterplan

Looking Back to Move Forward (2023-24)

Community Engagement

By The Numbers

4

Task Force Meetings

One Community-Wide Meeting

3 Virtual Meetings

6

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Additional meetings in impacted communities

2 Community Surveys

259

Responses to survey #1

1,904

Responses to survey #2

Looking Back to Move Forward

Outlook 2023

Resources divided among too many facilities

Aging school buildings, away from the students they serve

Declining enrollment

Inequitable program distribution

District unable to capture maximum state funding for staff and programs

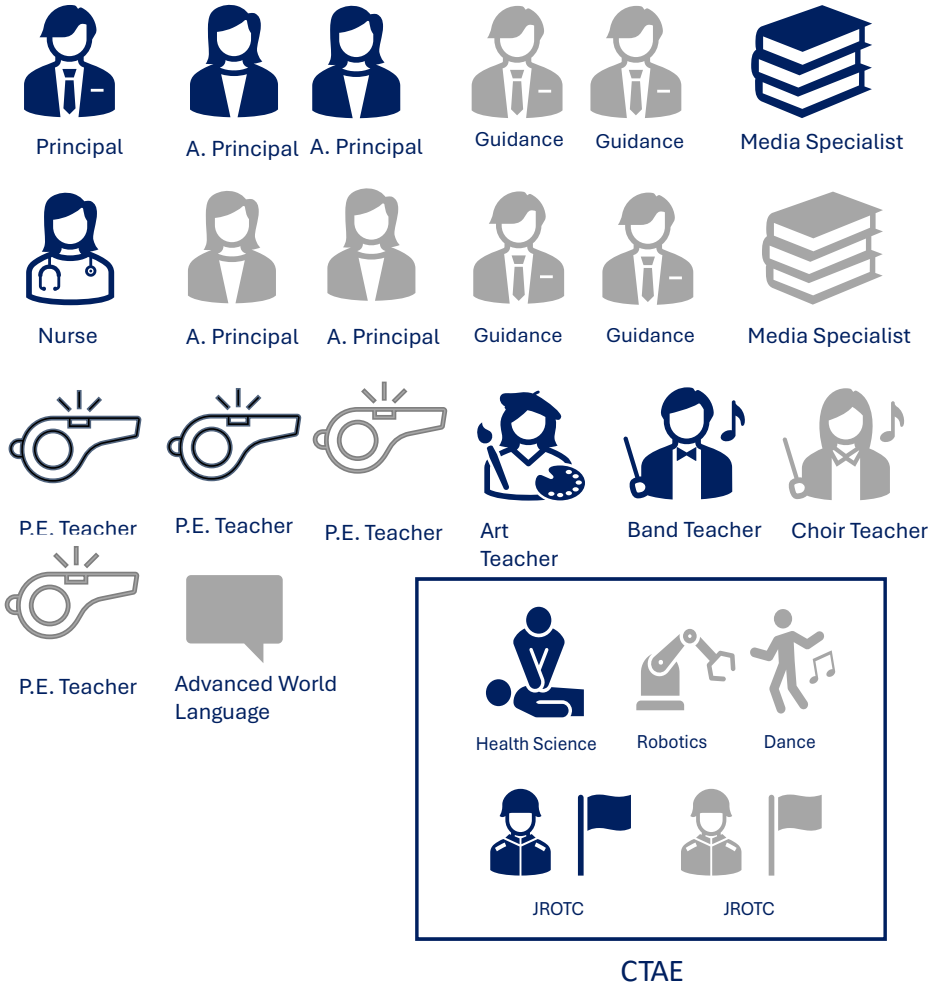
MAXIMIZING STAFFING RESOURCES

Minimum Staffing

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS <450 Enrollment

MIDDLE SCHOOLS <600 Enrollment

HIGH SCHOOLS <1,000 Enrollment



MAXIMIZING STAFFING RESOURCES

Maximum Staffing

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
> 450 Enrollment

- Principal
- Half A. Principal
- Half Nurse
- Guidance
- Media Specialist
- Art Teacher / Music Teacher / P.E. Teacher — **Pick 1 of the 3**

MIDDLE SCHOOLS
> 700 Enrollment

- Principal
- A. Principal
- Nurse
- Guidance
- Art Teacher
- Band Teacher
- P.E. Teacher
- Advanced World Language
- Media Specialist
- CTAE: Health Science, Robotics, Dance, JROTC, JROTC

HIGH SCHOOLS
> 1,500 Enrollment

- Principal
- A. Principal
- A. Principal
- Guidance
- Guidance
- Media Specialist
- Nurse
- A. Principal
- A. Principal
- Guidance
- Guidance
- Media Specialist
- P.E. Teacher
- P.E. Teacher
- P.E. Teacher
- Art Teacher
- Band Teacher
- Choir Teacher
- P.E. Teacher
- Advance World Language
- CTAE: Health Science, Robotics, Dance, JROTC, JROTC

Looking Back to Move Forward

Key Milestones from 2023 to Today

FMP Process begins

Richmond ES opens
Richmond K-8 to MS
Boundary changes

Close Merry ES
Boundary Change (Garrett, Warren, Lake Forest Hills

New Langford-Tutt opens
Close Tutt

2023 **2024** **2025** **2026**

Belair MS opens
Richmond K-8 to ES
Boundary changes (Langford-Tutt)
New Langford Groundbreaking

Spirit Creek MS Closes
Boundary Change: to Hephzibah, Pine Hill & Richmond Hill

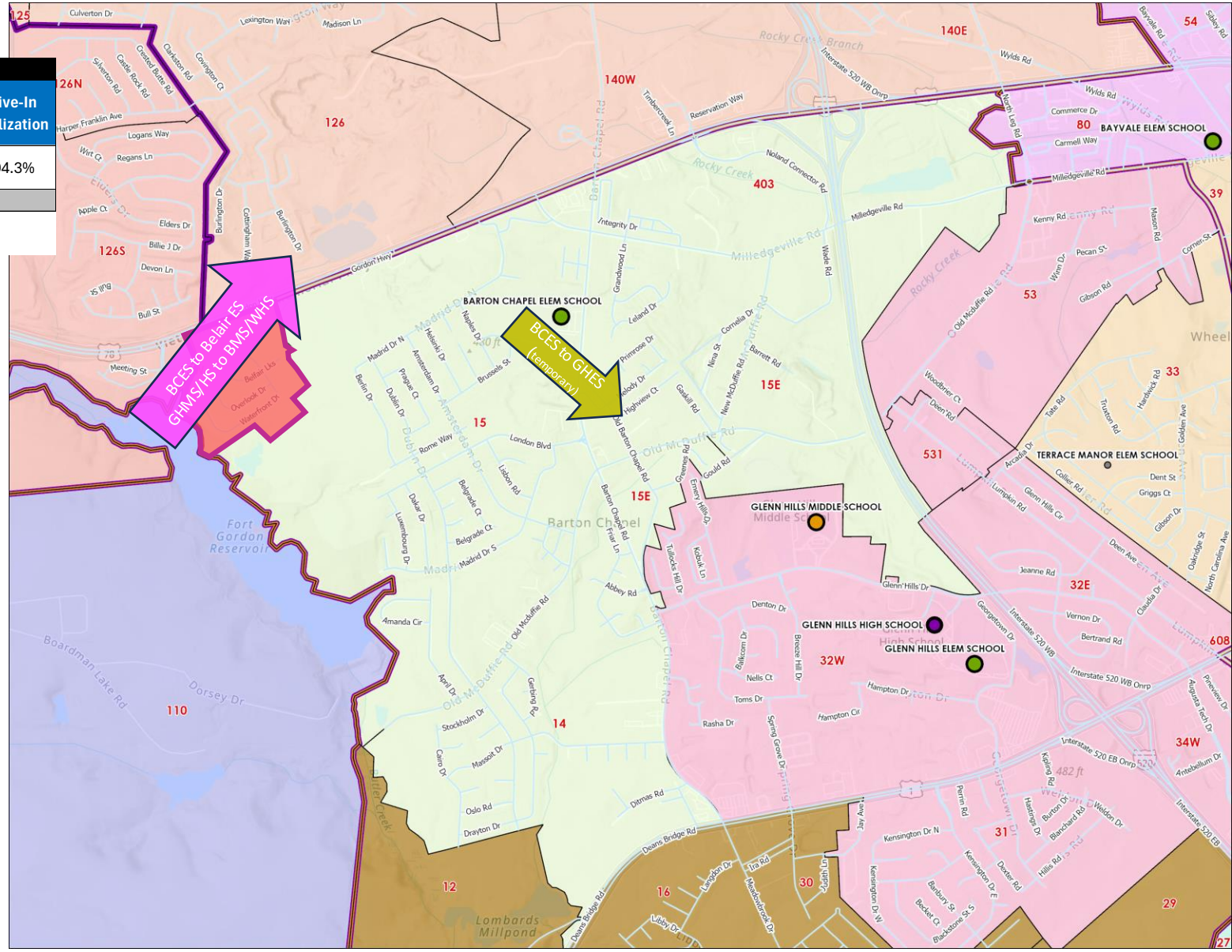
Recommendations for 2026-27

Barton Chapel ES

School	Current					Proposed		
	Capacity	2025-26 Live-In	Live-In Utilization	2025-26 Attend	Attend Utilization	Capacity	2026-27 Projected Attend	Live-In Utilization
Barton Chapel ES	598	511	85.5%	399	66.7%		660	94.3%
Glenn Hills ES	575	356	61.9%	301	52.3%	700		
Total	1173	867	73.9%	700	59.7%			

*10 portables would be added to Glenn Hills ES to accommodate Barton Chapel students during construction

**2 Pre-K classes currently at Barton Chapel would be moved to other locations to reduce enrollment at GHES



Barton Chapel ES

- Demolition of existing facility begins at completion of 2025-26 school year, and construction of New Barton Chapel ES begins
- Belfair Lakes subdivision boundary change to Belair ES, Belair MS & Westside HS: 14 PK-12 students
  - Becomes part of NPU 15W
- Remainder of Barton Chapel temporarily moves to consolidate with Glenn Hills ES with 10 portables added
- Two Barton Chapel PK classes moved to nearby elementary schools

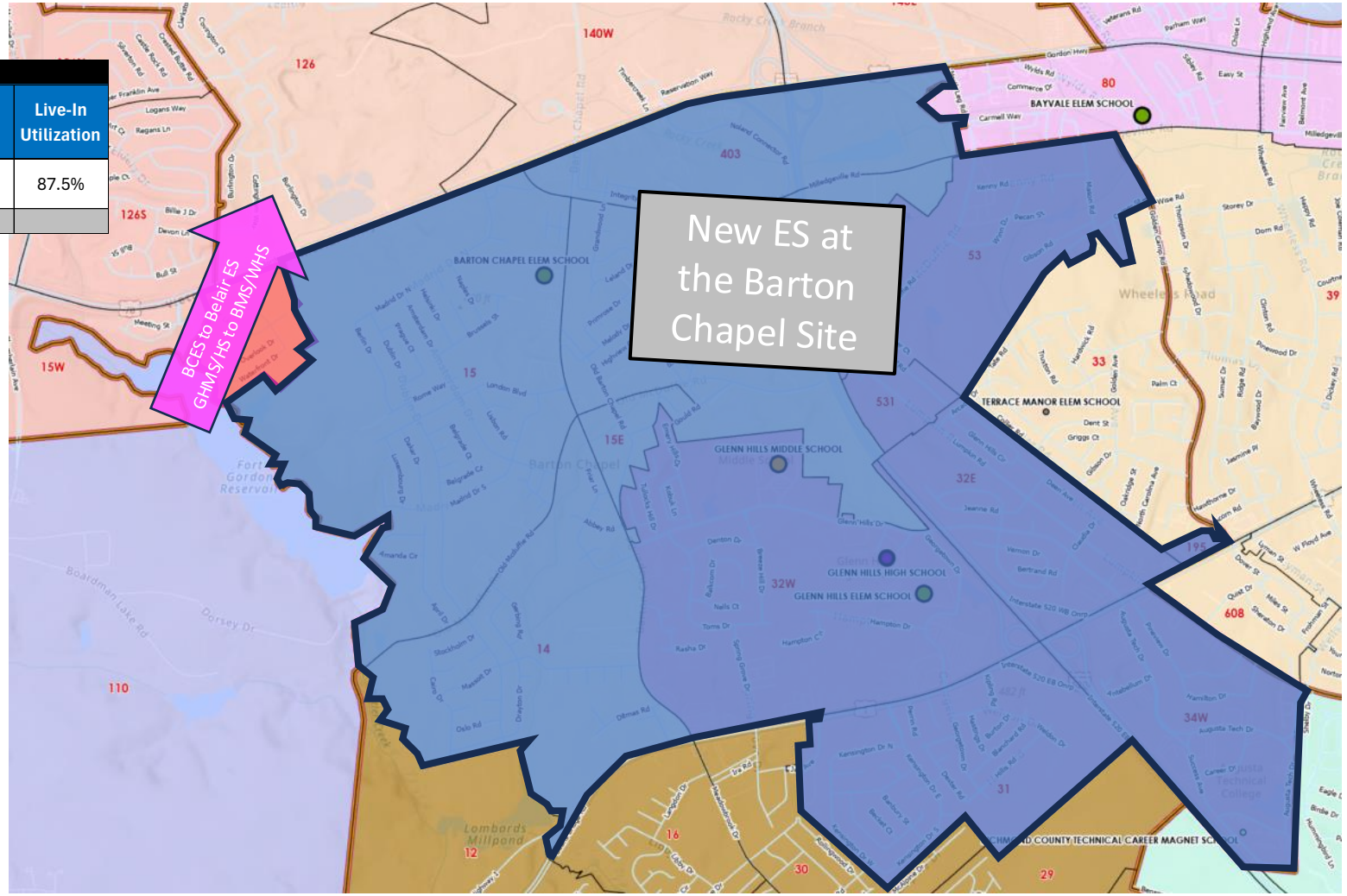
Recommendations for 2028-29

Barton Chapel & Glenn Hills ES

School	Current					Proposed		
	Capacity	2025-26 Live-In	Live-In Utilization	2025-26 Attend	Attend Utilization	Capacity	2026-27 Projected Attend	Live-In Utilization
Barton Chapel ES	598	511	85.5%	399	66.7%	800	700	87.5%
Glenn Hills ES	575	356	61.9%	301	52.3%			
Total	1173	867	73.9%	700	59.7%			

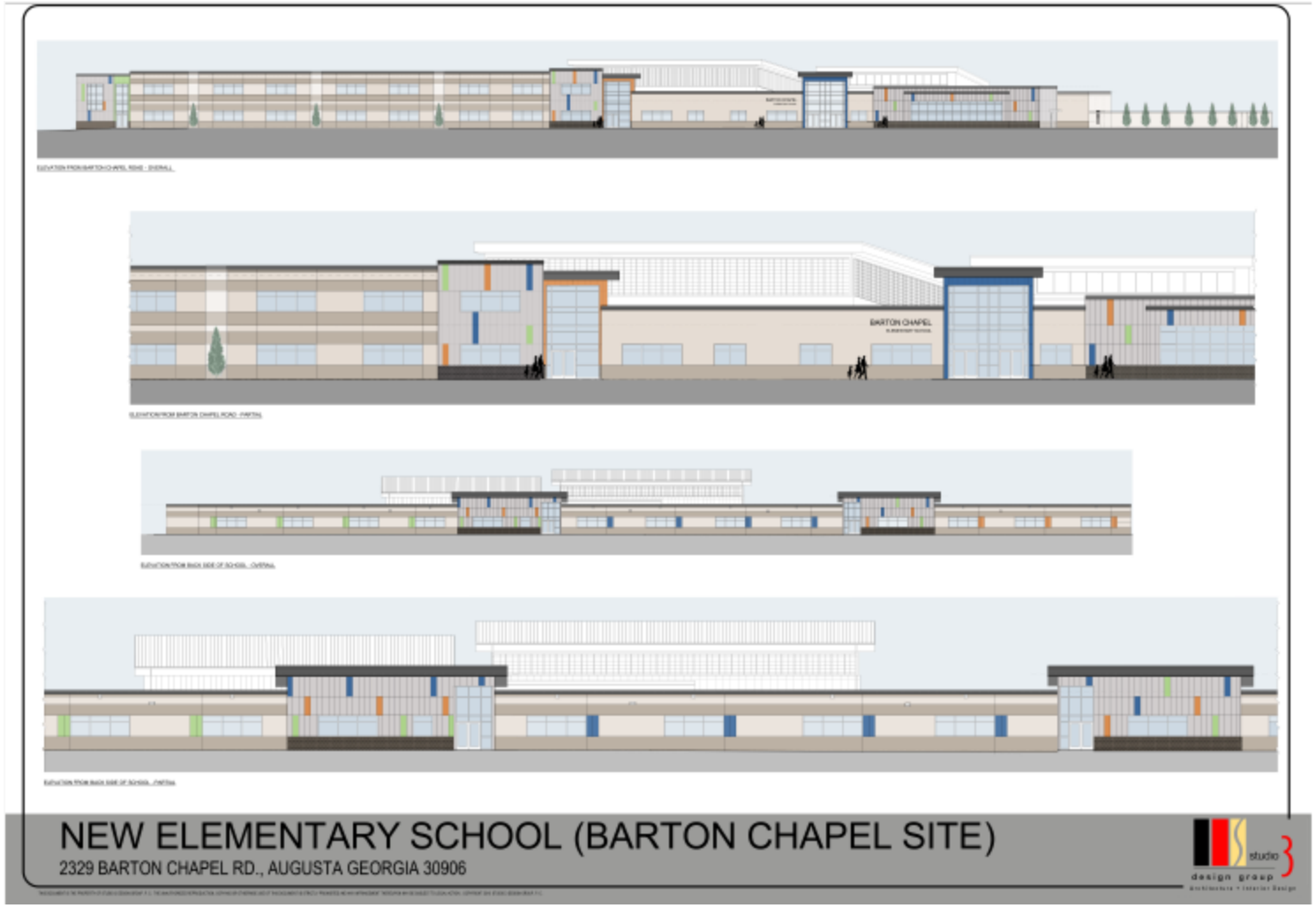
New Barton Chapel ES & Glenn Hills ES Closure

- New Barton Chapel ES opens in Fall 2028
- Glenn Hills ES consolidated into new Barton Chapel ES
- NPU 31, 32E, 32W, 34W, 53, 195, and 531 move from Glenn Hills ES to New Barton Chapel ES: 356 PK-5 students



Envisioning

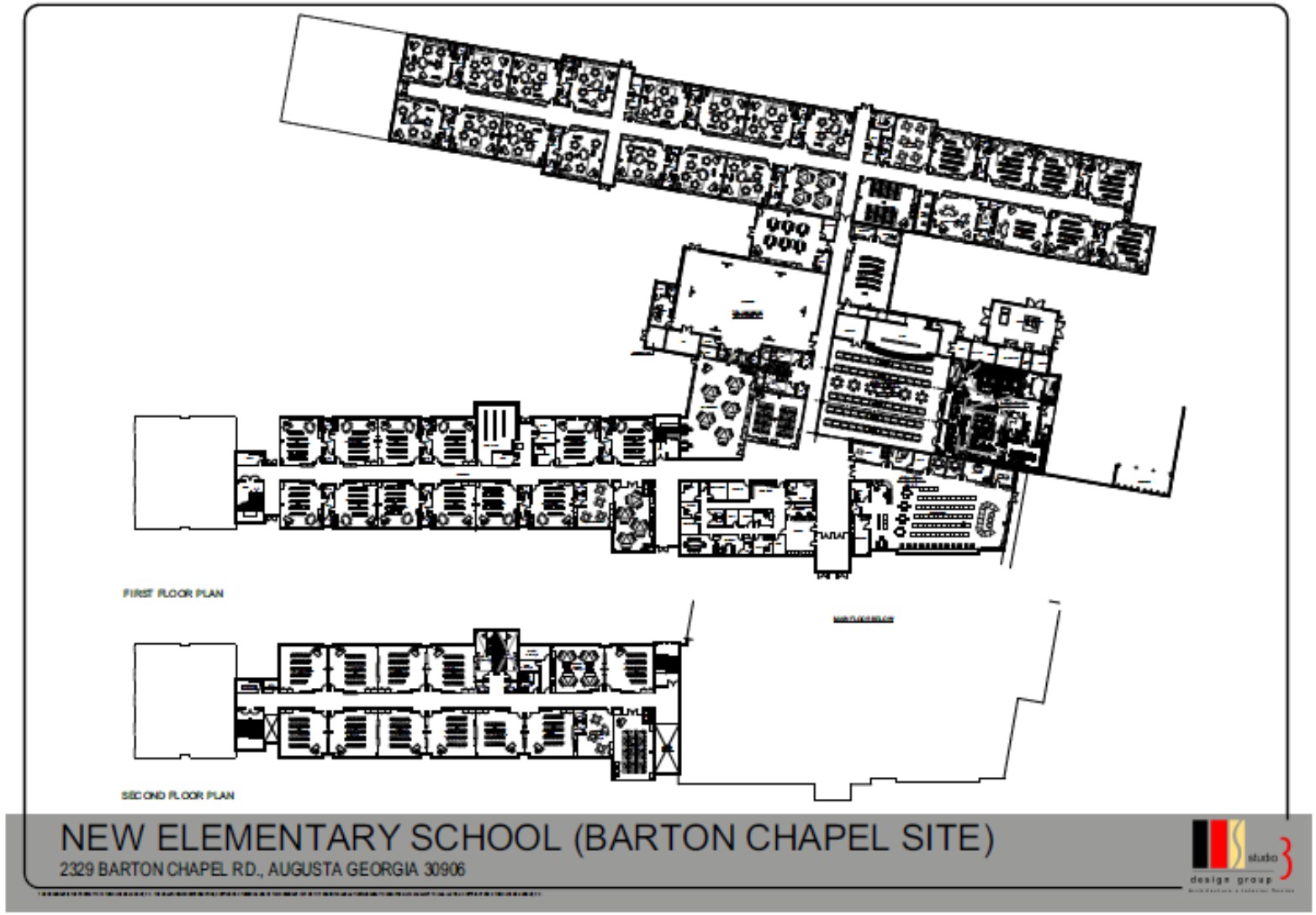
The New Elementary School at the Barton Chapel Site



- $47.5 million investment
- New Elementary School at the Barton Chapel Site Opens 2028-29

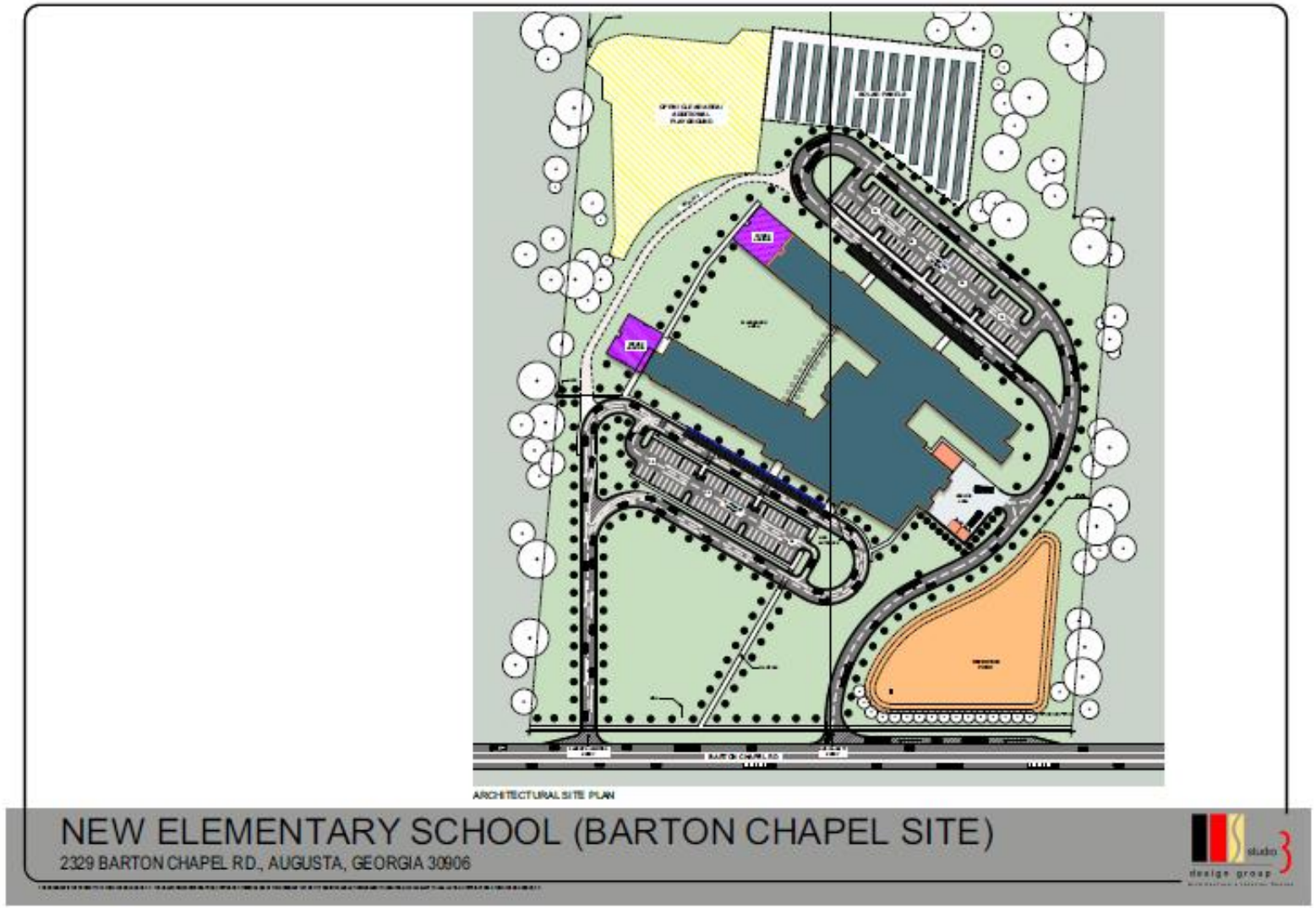
Envisioning

The New Elementary School at the Barton Chapel Site



Envisioning

The New Elementary School at the Barton Chapel Site



What Happens Next

Student Transition

During Construction

- Students transition to Glenn Hills Elementary
- Additional staff resources for transition
  - Examples could include: additional MTSS, social worker and public safety officers.
- 10 additional portables added to accommodate temporary enrollment

What Happens Next - During Construction

Faculty & Staff Transition

Staff:

- Richmond County has a continued need for all faculty and staff.
- Staff would predominantly follow students' temporary move to Glenn Hills, then back to the new school.

Faculty:

- Faculty would predominantly follow students' temporary move to Glenn Hills and back to the new school.

What Happens Next

Student, Faculty & Staff Transition

ELEVATION FROM BACK SIDE OF SCHOOL - OVERALL

After Construction (SY 2028)

- The Consolidated Glenn Hills Elementary Staff and Students will move from Glenn Hills Elementary into the new facility.

What Happens Next

Facilities

Construction Start-up

- Demolition starts this summer, immediately after end of semester
- Construction through June 1, 2028
- Naming Committee formed to select name, mascot and colors.
- Target move-in during summer of 2028.
- Target occupancy starting 2028-2029 school year.

Naming Committee Process

- Process Outlined in RCSS Policy FDC-R (1): Naming of Facilities
  - Discusses the Board's responsibility to name a facility
  - Outlines the process of the Naming Committee to determine a facility's name

- Procedure outlines the development of a naming committee comprised of: Board members, district staff, school staff, parents, community members, local historian (if available) and alumni with close ties to the school.

- Naming Committee will meet a minimum of 2 times.

- At conclusion of Naming Committee meetings, the committee will make a name and mascot recommendation.

- This recommendation will be presented for final approval to the Board of Education by the Cluster Superintendent.

Langford-Tutt Transition

Student, Faculty & Staff Transition

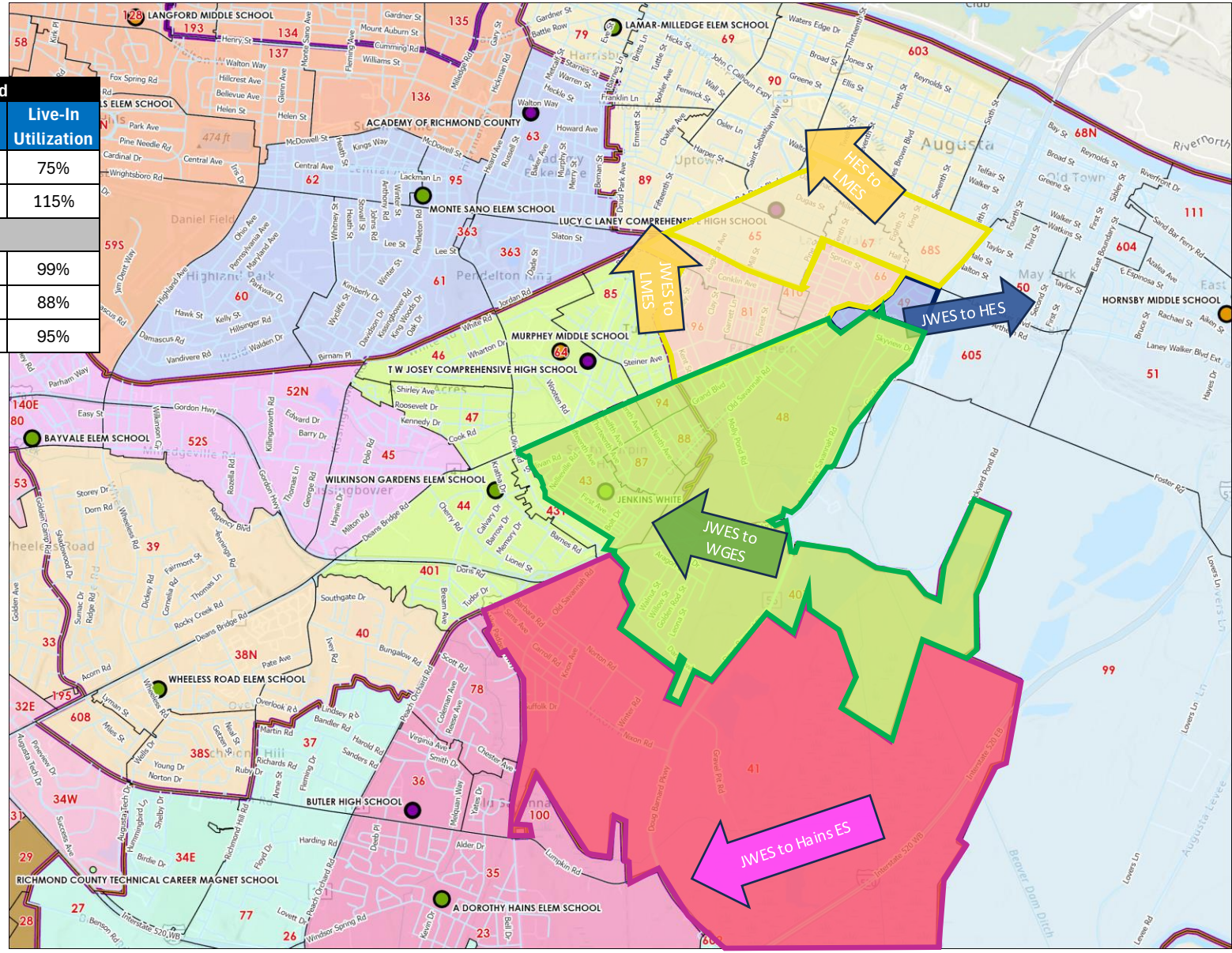
Fall 2026

- Tutt Middle School will close as a middle school at the end of the 2025-2026 SY.
- The consolidated school, named Langford-Tutt, will open for SY 2026-2027. They will be housed in the current Tutt Middle School facility until construction is complete. *We estimate a move in date around December 2026.*
- Students will begin attending Langford-Tutt Middle School at the permanent site second semester of the 2026-2027 SY.

Recommendations for 2026-27

Close Jenkins White ES

School	Current					Proposed		
	Capacity	2025-26 Live-In	Live-In Utilization	2025-26 Attend	Attend Utilization	Capacity	2026-27 Live-In	Live-In Utilization
Hains ES	500	345	69%	430	86%	500	374	75%
Hornsby ES	575	658	114%	519	90%	575	662	115%
Jenkins White ES	575	276	48%	230	40%			
Lamar-Milledge ES	475	326	69%	355	75%	475	470	99%
Wilkinson Gardens ES	625	454	73%	457	73%	625	553	88%
Total	2750	2059	75%	1991	72%	2175	2059	95%



Jenkins White ES Closure

- NPU 41 to Hains ES: 29 PK-5 students
  - Feeder change to RHMS/Butler HS
- NPU 49 to Hornsby ES: 60 PK-5 students
  - No feeder change
- NPU 66, 81, 96, 410 to Lamar Milledge ES: 88 PK-5 students
  - No feeder change
- NPU 43, 48, 87, 88, 94, 407 to Wilkinson Gardens ES: 99 PK-5 students
  - Feeder change to Hornsby MS/Laney HS (NPU 48 already feeds HMS/LHS)
- NPU 65, 67, 68S from Hornsby ES to Lamar Milledge ES: 56 PK-5 students
  - No feeder change

What Happens Next

Jenkins-White Student Transition

- Families will receive a letter in March notifying them of their zone change.
- Students will be invited to attend an orientation at their new school.
- Jenkins-White will close at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
- Students will attend their new zoned school beginning in August 2026.

What Happens Next

Jenkins-White Faculty & Staff Transition

Staff:

- Richmond County has a continued need for all faculty and staff.
- Staff would predominantly follow students' move to Wilkinson-Gardens, Lamar-Milledge, and Hornsby ES.

Faculty:

- Faculty would predominantly follow students' move to Wilkinson-Gardens, Lamar-Milledge, and Hornsby ES.

Recommendations for 2026-27

Close Murphey MS

Bayvale ES feeder change to Langford-Tutt MS

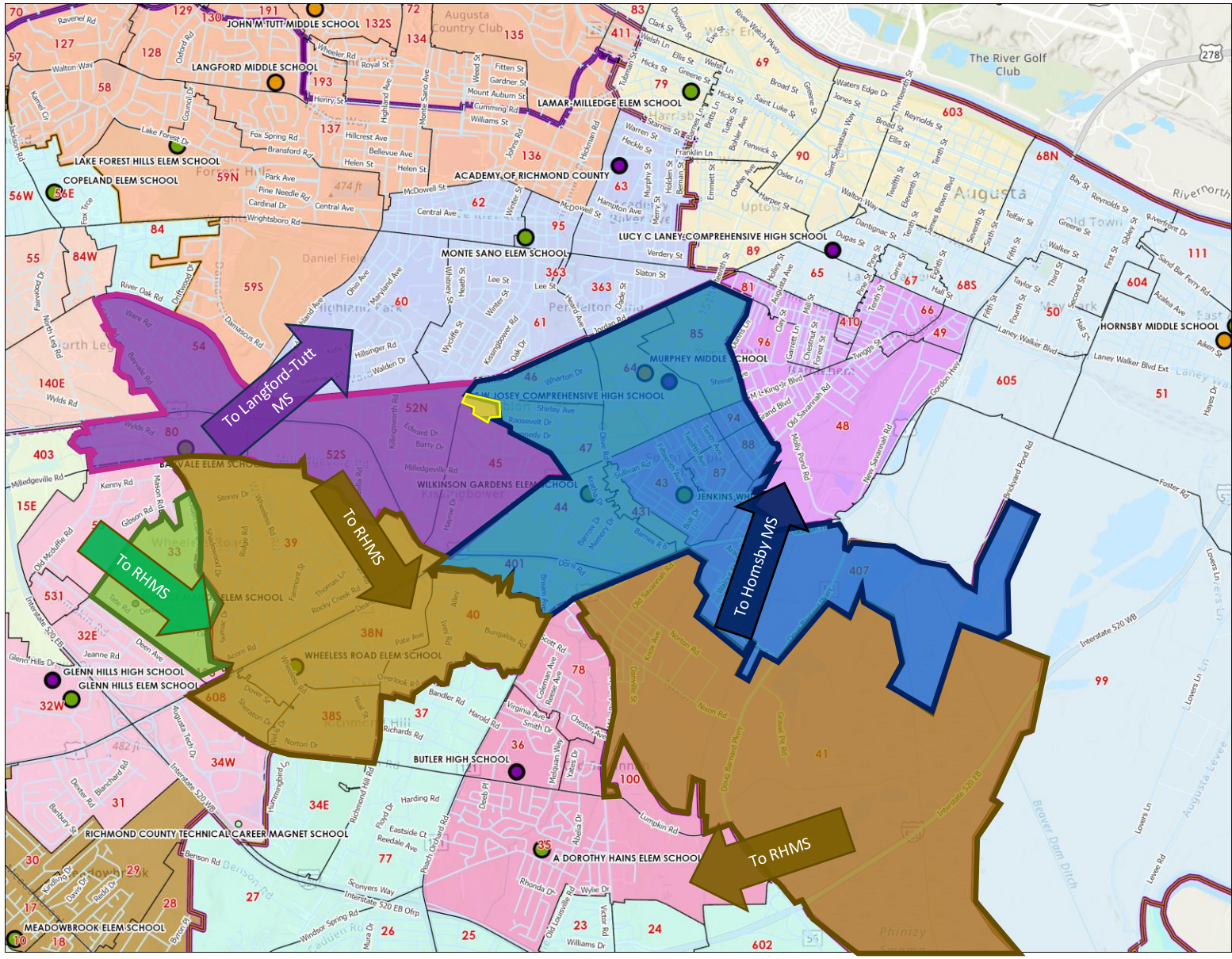
- NPU 45, 52N, 52S, 54, 80 (131 MS students, 167 HS students)
- Portion of current Wilkinson Gardens off Kissingbower Rd moves to Bayvale ES for improved transportation efficiency

Wheeless Rd ES feeder change to Richmond Hill MS

- NPU 33 from **GHMS/GHHS** (36 MS students, 56 HS students)
- NPU 38N, 38S, 39, 40, 41, 608 from **Murphey MS & Josey HS** (196 MS students, 275 HS students)

Wilkinson Gardens ES feeder change to Hornsby MS

- NPU 43, 44, 46, 47, 64, 85, 87, 88, 94, 401, 407, 431 (212 MS students, 241 HS students)



What Happens Next

Murphey Student Transition

- Families will receive a letter in March notifying them of their zone change.
- Students will be invited to attend an orientation at their new school.
- Murphey will close at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
- Students will attend their new zoned school beginning in August 2026.

What Happens Next

Murphey Faculty & Staff Transition

Staff:

- Richmond County has a continued need for all faculty and staff.
- Staff would predominantly follow students' move to Hornsby MS, Langford-Tutt MS, and Richmond Hill MS.

Faculty:

- Faculty would predominantly follow students' move to Hornsby MS, Langford-Tutt MS, and Richmond Hill MS.

Recommendations for 2026-27

Student Locator Dashboard

Recommendations for 2029-30

TW Josey

Bayvale ES feeder change to Langford-Tutt MS & ARC HS

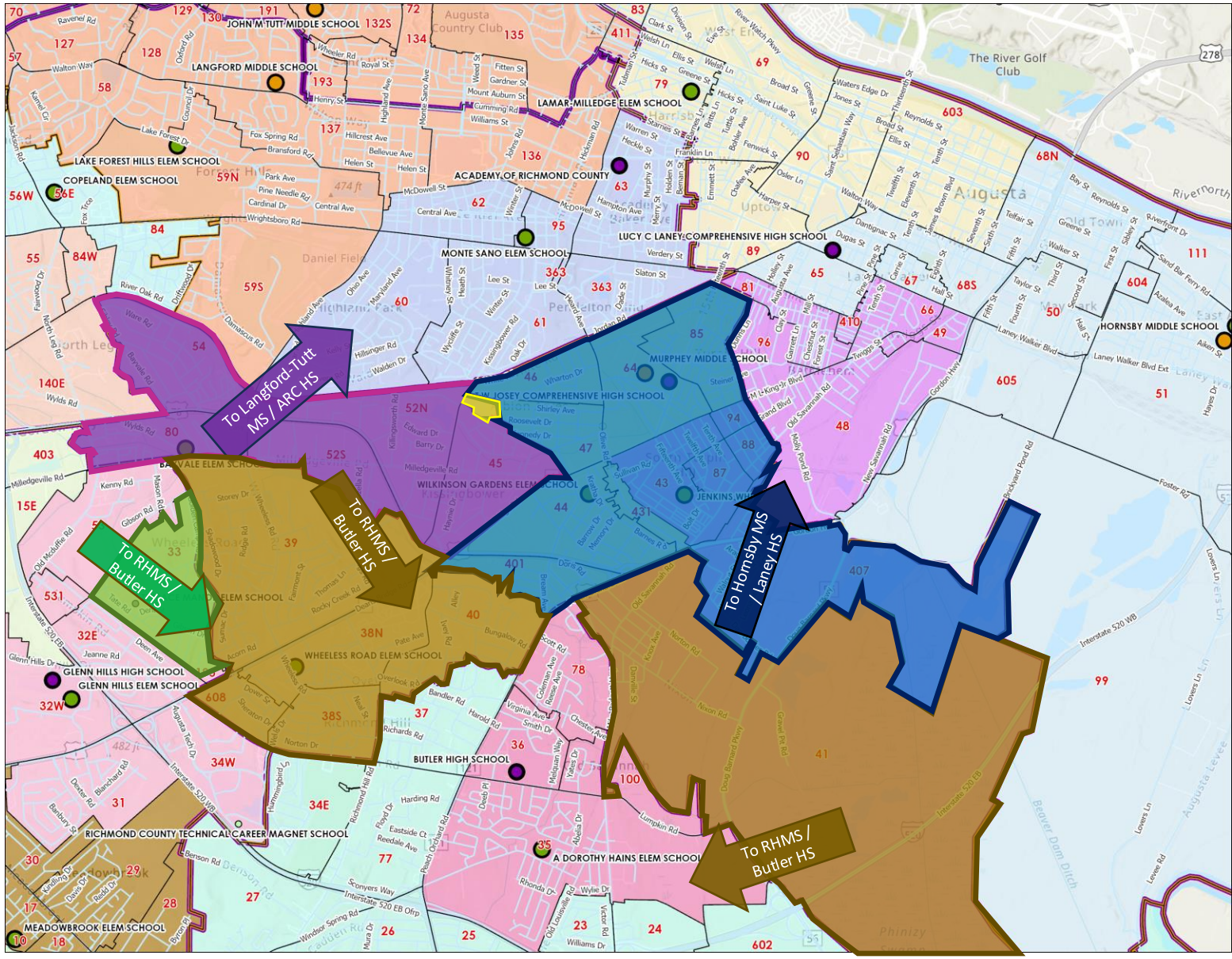
- NPU 45, 52N, 52S, 54, 80 from **TW Josey HS** (167 HS students)

Wheeless Rd ES feeder change to Richmond Hill MS & Butler HS

- NPU 33,38N, 38S, 39, 40, 41, 608 from **TW Josey HS** (275 HS students)

Wilkinson Gardens ES feeder change to Hornsby MS & Laney HS

- NPU 43, 44, 46, 47, 64, 85, 87, 88, 94, 401, 407, 431 from TW Josey HS (241 HS students)



What Happens Next

TW Josey Student Transition

- 9-12 grade students will attend TW Josey at the Murphey site for three years (26-27, 27-28, and 28-29).
- All sports and extracurricular activities will continue while students are housed in the Murphey building.
- Students will continue to graduate from TW Josey Comprehensive High School until the end of the 2028-29 school year.
- Students will receive a letter in the spring of 2029 notifying them of their newly zoned high school (ARC, Butler, or Laney).
- Students will attend their new zoned school beginning in August 2029.

What Happens Next

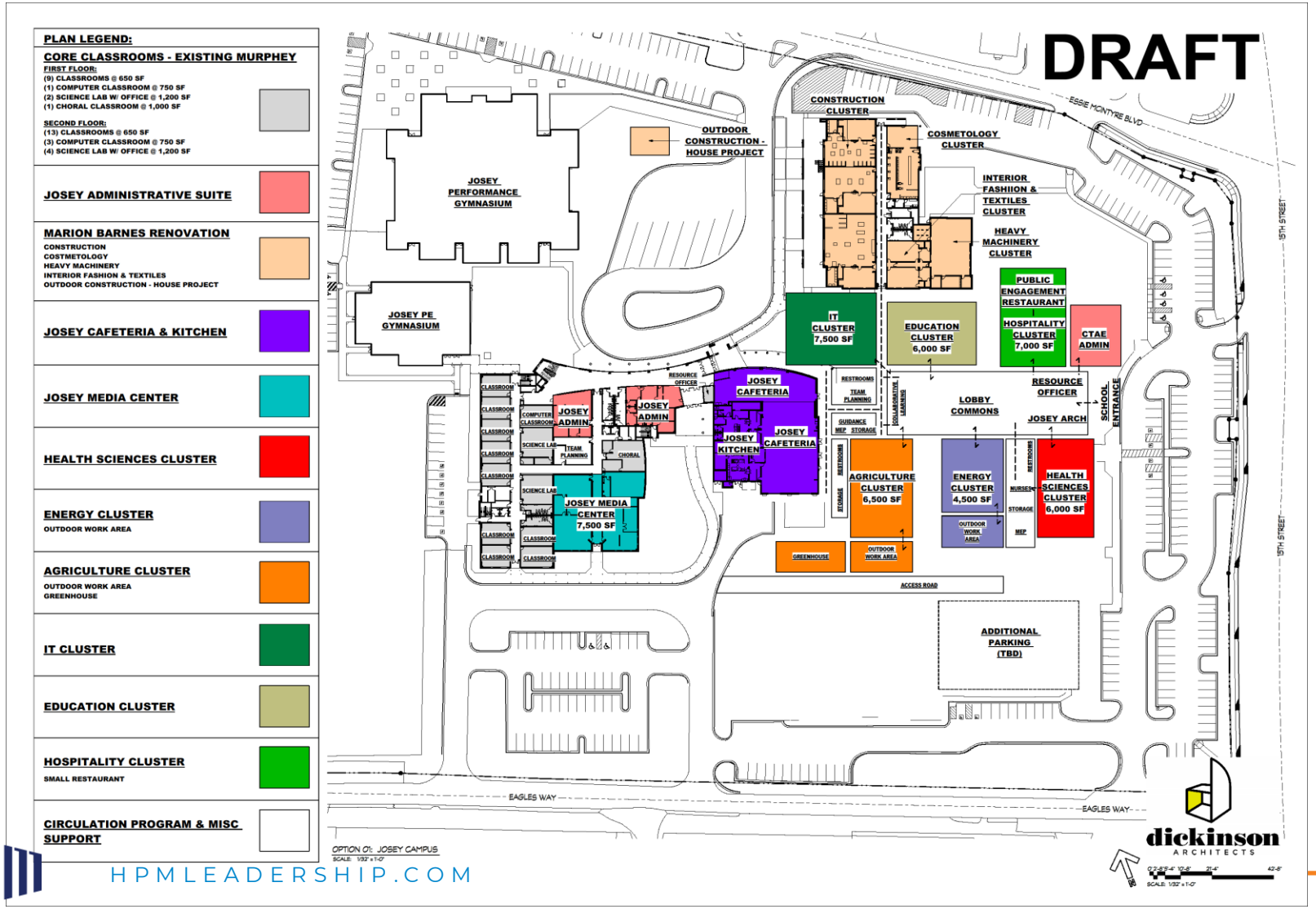
TW Josey Faculty & Staff Transition

Faculty and Staff:

- Richmond County has a continued need for all faculty and staff.
- Staff will remain with the TW Josey students in the Murphey building for three years (26-27, 27-28, and 28-29).
- Staff will be offered positions within the system for the 2029-2030 school year. Any staff wishing to interview for the new College and Career Academy at the TW Josey site will be guaranteed an interview.

Envisioning

College & Career Academy @ TW Josey Site - CONCEPT ONLY



- $43 million investment
- College & Career Academy opens in 2029-2030
- Marion E. Barnes Career Center remains open during construction
- The arch will be preserved
- The newly built competition gymnasium will be maintained

Envisioning

College & Career Academy Proposed Career Clusters

TOP STATE FOR TALENT

Georgia is identified as a Top State for Talent. The College & Career Academy will offer a world-class education, innovative workforce programs, and strategic partnerships create a pipeline of skilled professionals ready for high-demand careers that drive economic growth

Potential diplomas available: accelerated career diploma, associate's degree, traditional high school diploma

- **Academic Career**
- **Agriculture**
- **Construction**
- **Digital Technology, Cyber Security**
- **Education**
- **Energy**
- **Health & Human Services**
  - **Healthcare**
  - **Personal Services (Cosmetology)**
- **Hospitality, Events, & Tourism**
- **Heavy Machinery with Expanded Programing**

Envisioning

Advantages of the Accelerated Career Diploma

What is the Accelerated Career Diploma

Georgia's Accelerated Career Diploma (formerly Option B) allows 10th-12th grade public high school students to earn a high school diploma while simultaneously completing a technical college credential through the **Technical College System of Georgia.**

- **Postsecondary Credentials (Must complete one):** Associate of Applied Science (AAS degree, One Technical College Diploma, or Two Technical Certificates of Credit (TCCs) in a specific, approved career pathway (e.g., HVAC, welding).
- **Required High School Courses (9 credits):** Students must complete 9 core high school courses—2 English, 2 Math, 2 Science, 2 Social Studies, and 1 Health/PE—along with EOC exams.

Envisioning

How is the College & Career Academy at the TW Josey Site Distinctive?

- Community inclusive
  - Early learning center
  - Working restaurant

- Athletics & Clubs - Infrastructure for major sports to exist alongside College & Career programming.

- Carl Vinson Institute (UGA) – Findings underscored the need for a program like the College & Career Center.

- Additional opportunities for community and industry partnerships

- Transportation for students will be provided using our current specialized programs magnet shuttles (ex: Magnet Schools, International Baccalaureate at ARC, and Advanced Placement Academy at Laney HS).

Envisioning

Who will attend the College and Career Academy at the TW Josey Site?

- The proposed school will open in the Fall of 2029 for interested 9-12th grade students.
- This will be a choice program for interested students (no testing).
- Programming will incorporate students from the current Performance Learning Center, Learn from Home, Marion E. Barnes Career Center, and the Cyber Academy at RCTCM. Currently, there are 431 students in these programs.
- Current TW Josey students who would like to participate.
- Comprehensive HS Students who would like to attend the evening CTAE sessions from 4:00-6:00pm.

What Happens Next

Facilities

Construction Start-up

- Demolition of the current TW Josey facility starts this summer.
- Construction through summer of 2029.
- Naming Committee formed to select name, mascot and colors.
- Target move-in during summer of 2029.
- Target occupancy starting 2029-2030 school year.

Naming Committee Process

- Process Outlined in RCSS Policy FDC-R (1): Naming of Facilities
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- Procedure outlines the development of a naming committee comprised of: Board members, district staff, school staff, parents, community members, local historian (if available) and alumni with close ties to the school.

- Naming Committee will meet a minimum of 2 times.

- At conclusion of Naming Committee meetings, the committee will make a name and mascot recommendation.

- This recommendation will be presented for final approval to the Board of Education by the Cluster Superintendent.

Murphey Student Experience

Scenario 1: 6th Grade Student living in the Wheeless Road Attendance Zone attending Murphey today.

6th Grade (25-26): Murphey Middle School
7th Grade (26-27): Richmond Hill MS
8th Grade (27-28): Richmond Hill MS
9th Grade (28-29): Josey HS at Murphey site
10th Grade (29-30): Butler HS **or** College and Career Academy

Murphey Student Experience

Scenario 2: 6th Grade Student living in the Bayvale Attendance Zone attending Murphey today.

6th Grade (25-26): Murphey Middle School
7th Grade (26-27): Langford-Tutt MS
8th Grade (27-28): Langford-Tutt MS
9th Grade (28-29): Josey HS at Murphey site
10th Grade (29-30): ARC HS **or** College and Career Academy

Murphey Student Experience

Scenario 3: 6th Grade Student living in the Wilkinson-Gardens ES Attendance Zone attending Murphey today.

6th Grade (25-26): Murphey Middle School
7th Grade (26-27): Hornsby MS
8th Grade (27-28): Hornsby MS
9th Grade (28-29): Josey HS at Murphey site
10th Grade (29-30): Laney HS **or** College and Career Academy

Recommendations for 2029-2030

Josey

Student Locator Dashboard

Next Steps

Approval & Phased Implementation

January 15 February 9 February 12	Dec 17-Feb 22	February 23	February-May	February-November	June & Beyond
Public Hearings & Board Consideration	Board Review	Board Vote	Implementation: *Staffing, Transport, Programs*	High School Task Force	Phased Rollout & Planning

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Community Voice and Contribution

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Community Voice and Contribution

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Focus on the Plan
Comments should address the presented plan. Off-topic remarks may be ended by the moderator.

Moderator's Role
The moderator will enforce these rules to ensure everyone has a fair chance to be heard.