Cedar Grove, McNair, Towers, Columbia, and Southwest DeKalb Clusters

Round 2 Scenario

March 20, 2026

Summary

The southwest area of the District had consistent feedback around the importance of maintaining high school clusters. Round 2 is responsive to this by converting McNair HS to a 6-12 and by swapping the facilities for Cedar Grove ES and Cedar Grove MS, this effectively creates a 6-12 campus with a parking lot in between. As a result of converting Cedar Grove MS to an elementary, Oak View ES is proposed to close or be repurposed.

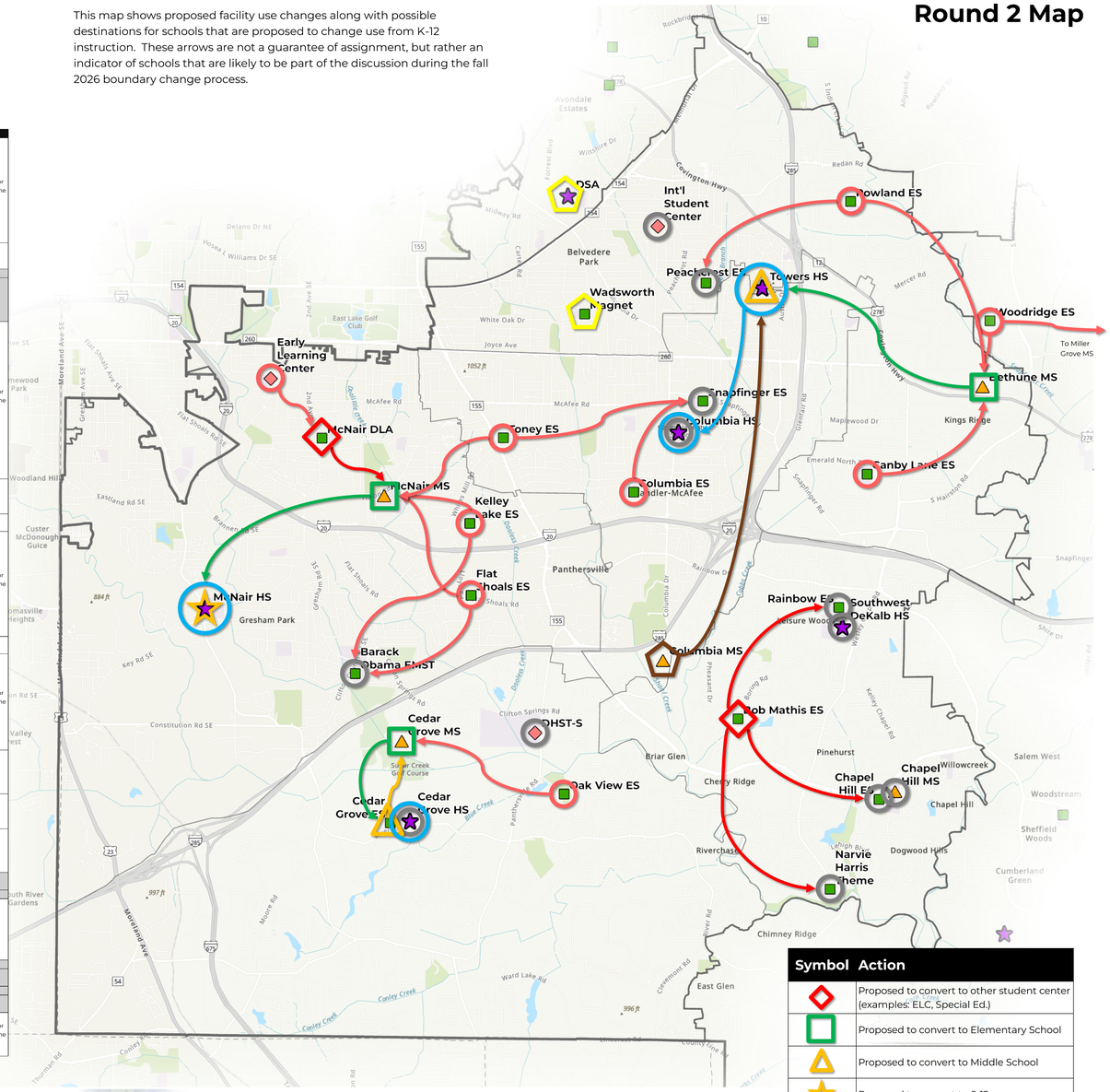
Additionally, the ELC is proposed to move into McNair DLA (which was proposed to close in Round 1). Bob Mathis is proposed to keep its diagnostics center and convert to a special program like Coralwood to serve the south of the District.

Because Columbia High School would serve a larger number of students across fewer grades (9–12), it will be better resourced than McNair HS, which has a smaller enrollment spread across more grades (6–12).

Campus	Cluster	Original Scenario 1 Action	Original Scenario 1 Rationale	Frequent Survey Feedback	Scenario 1 Refinements / Clarification	Scenario 2 Action	Map Symbol	Scenario 2 Rationale	Capital Project Consideration	Phasing Consideration
Cedar Grove ES	Cedar Grove	Close or Repurpose	Cedar Grove ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed because of excess capacity in the area.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to convert to a middle school		Cedar Grove ES is on the same site with Cedar Grove HS. Converting the elementary to a middle school effectively creates a 6-12 campus with separation		These actions are not dependent on any major capital projects and can be implemented in the near to Medium-term.
Oak View ES	Cedar Grove	No change in school use				Proposed to close or be repurposed		This facility would no longer be needed with the conversion of Cedar Grove MS to an elementary school		
Cedar Grove MS	Cedar Grove	Close or Repurpose	Cedar Grove MS is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to the cascading use of Cedar Grove HS converting to a MS along with forecasted low enrollment (580 in 2030).	Strong perception that small schools = small class sizes, concerns around longer travel times		Proposed to convert to an elementary school		By moving the middle school component in this cluster to the high school campus, Cedar Grove MS would convert to an elementary school serving all elementary students in the cluster.	Minor fixture replacement	
Cedar Grove HS	Cedar Grove	Convert to MS	Cedar Grove HS is proposed to convert to a middle school due to a low building adequacy score (71%) and low forecasted enrollment (890).	Strong desire to maintain Cedar Grove as a cluster.		No change in school use		Effectively creates a 6-12 campus with a parking lot for separation between the middle (Cedar Grove ES) and the high school.	Proposed Capital Improvement Project	Medium-Term
DHST-S	Cedar Grove	Not addressed in Scenario 1				No change in school use				
Barack Obama EMST	McNair	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Flat Shoals ES	McNair	Close or Repurpose	Flat Shoals ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low forecasted enrollment (315 in 2030) along with excess capacity in the area from cascading use.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to close or be repurposed		Unchanged		These actions are not dependent on any major capital projects and can be implemented in the near to Medium-term.
Kelley Lake ES	McNair	Close or Repurpose	Kelley Lake ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low forecasted enrollment (293 in 2030) along with low building adequacy (72%), and excess capacity in the area from cascading use.			Proposed to close or be repurposed		Unchanged		
McNair DLA	McNair	Close or Repurpose	McNair DLA is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low forecasted enrollment (371 in 2030) along with excess capacity in the area from cascading use.			Proposed to convert to an ELC		This would provide a better facility for the ELC and also give it room to expand to serve more students in the area.	Minor fixture replacement	
McNair MS	McNair	Convert to ES	McNair MS is proposed to convert to an elementary school due to the cascading use of Cedar Grove HS (converting to a middle school). This will allow for the consolidation of smaller elementary facilities.	support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to convert to an elementary school		Unchanged	Minor fixture replacement	
McNair HS	McNair	No change in school use		Strong desire to maintain McNair as a cluster.		Proposed to convert to a 6-12 school		McNair HS has the capacity to consolidate McNair MS. The building can be segmented in a way to reduce contact between middle and high school populations.	Proposed Capital Improvement Project	Medium-Term
ELC	McNair	Not addressed in Scenario 1				Proposed to close or be repurposed		Program would move to McNair DLA		Medium-Term
Columbia ES	Columbia	Close or Repurpose	Columbia ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low enrollment (310 in 2030) along with excess capacity in the area.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to close or be repurposed		Unchanged		These actions are not dependent on any major capital projects and can be implemented in the near to Medium-term.
Snapfinger ES	Columbia	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Toney ES	Columbia	Close or Repurpose	Toney ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to forecasted low-enrollment (166 in 2030) along with excess capacity in the area			Proposed to close or be repurposed		Unchanged		
Columbia MS	Columbia	No change in school use				Proposed to become available		Students would consolidate into Towers HS converted into a middle school making this facility available.		
Columbia HS	Columbia	No change in school use				No change in school use		Columbia is newer and more adequate than Towers HS.	Proposed Capital Improvement Project	Near-Term
Canby Lane ES	Towers	Close or Repurpose	Canby Lane ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low forecasted enrollment (377 in 2030) along with excess capacity in the area from cascading use.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to close or be repurposed		Unchanged		These actions are not dependent on any major capital projects and can be implemented in the near to Medium-term.
Peachcrest ES	Towers	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Rowland ES	Towers	Close or Repurpose	Rowland ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low forecasted enrollment (382 in 2030) along with excess capacity in the area from cascading use.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to close or be repurposed		Unchanged		
Bethune MS	Towers	Convert to ES	Bethune MS is proposed to convert to an elementary school due to the cascading use of Towers HS (converting to a middle school). This will allow for the consolidation of smaller elementary facilities.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to convert to an elementary school		Unchanged	Minor fixture replacement	Near-Term
Towers HS	Towers	Convert to MS	Towers HS is proposed to convert to a middle school due to a low building adequacy score (71%), low forecasted enrollment (63%), and additional high school capacity in the area.	Some resistance to closure, but more understanding of the demographic realities.		Proposed to convert to a middle school		Unchanged	Towers HS is proposed for a Capital Improvement Project. This can be tailored to address the new proposed use as a middle school	Near-Medium Term
Wadsworth Magnet	Towers	Not addressed in Scenario 1				Proposed to move to a more adequate facility		The Wadsworth facility is currently adequate for the program, but if a better facility becomes available Wadsworth may be a candidate to move. There are also likely high level programmatic discussions that will occur in future iterations.		TBD
International Student Center	Towers	Not addressed in Scenario 1				No change in school use				
Rainbow ES	Southwest DeKalb	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Bob Mathis ES	Southwest DeKalb	Close or Repurpose	Bob Mathis is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to small size (480 seats), excess capacity in the area, and low forecasted enrollment (441 in 2030). The diagnostics center could remain at Bob Mathis making it a similar standalone program like Coralwood, or it could move to a different location.	Strong support for maintaining the diagnostics center that is currently at Bob Mathis		Proposed to convert to an ELC		This preserves the diagnostic center and also provides additional PK space to serve students in the area.	Minor fixture replacement	Near-Term
Chapel Hill ES	Southwest DeKalb	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Narvie Harris Theme ES	Southwest DeKalb	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Chapel Hill MS	Southwest DeKalb	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Southwest DeKalb HS	Southwest DeKalb	No change in school use				No change in school use				
Woodridge ES	Miller Grove	Close or Repurpose	Woodridge ES is proposed to be closed or repurposed due to low forecasted enrollment (374 in 2030) along with low building adequacy (73%) and excess capacity in the area from cascading use.	Resistance to closure, support for maintaining small school communities, concerns around a disproportionate amount of consolidations in the south and investment in the north.		Proposed to close or be repurposed		Woodridge students are in the Miller Grove cluster, but could be served by capacity from the converted Bethune MS.		These actions are not dependent on any major capital projects and can be implemented in the near to Medium-term.

Round 2 Map

This map shows proposed facility use changes along with possible destinations for schools that are proposed to change use from K-12 instruction. These arrows are not a guarantee of assignment, but rather an indicator of schools that are likely to be part of the discussion during the fall 2026 boundary change process.

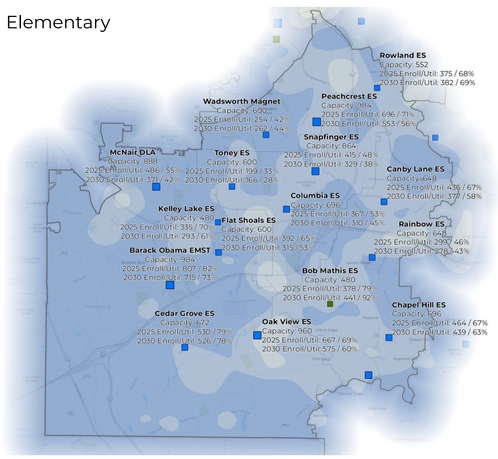


Symbol	Action
	Proposed to convert to other student center (examples: ELC, Special Ed.)
	Proposed to convert to Elementary School
	Proposed to convert to Middle School
	Proposed to convert to 6-12
	Capital Improvement Project
	No Proposed Change in School Use
	Proposed Closure / Repurpose
	Special School needing a more adequate facility
	Unused Available Facility

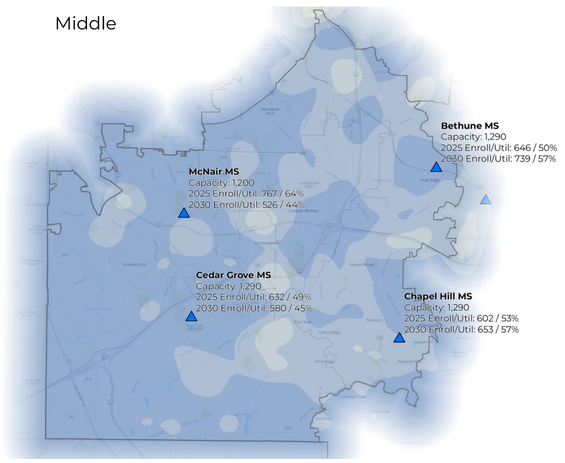
Symbol	Facility Type
	Elementary
	Middle
	High
	Other / Special

Capacity, Utilization, and Student Density Heatmaps

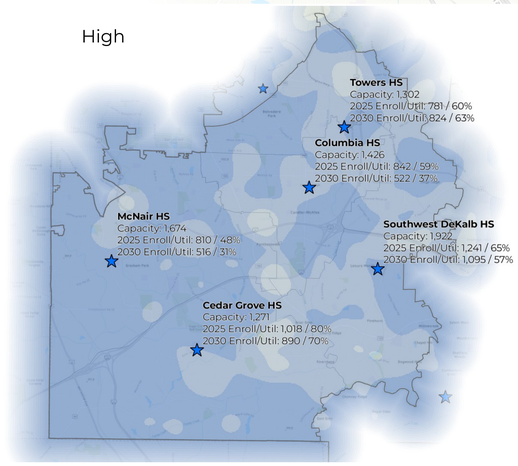
Elementary



Middle



High



Please note:

- 2030 enrollment forecast figures and utilization figures do not assume any boundary changes.
- Capacity includes any projects that are currently under construction.

Additional Consideration for Future Iterations	Benefits / Challenges / Trade-offs
PK-3 / 4-5 split grade configuration was studied for this area and it was determined that there would be no advantage because of the relatively large capacity of the elementary buildings.	None
For Theme Schools, consider a series of PK-8's located around the District. Example: • Theme programs at Narvie Harris and Bouie Theme could be consolidated in the available Columbia MS or a repurposed Oak View ES.	• Gives more structure to the Theme school concept. • May result in the closure of additional elementary schools because this could be adding overall capacity.
Consider PK-6 / 7-12 as an alternative to PK-5 / 6-12 campuses	• Better alignment with developmental needs of students.. • Reduces enrollment in high school buildings further diluting resources. • Some elementary schools may need additions to get to 700 (4 sections per grade PK-7)