

Master Planning and Visioning

1. Does this school budget include building a new school or replacing Chamberlin School?

The budget does not include building a new school or replacing Chamberlin School. At this time, we have no plans for either of these steps.

2. How much has the District spent on consultants related to the Master Planning and Visioning process? Fifth grade move to the middle school? Other activities over the past few years? How much is budgeted for consultants this year?

The District operates seven buildings, all which are over 50 years old, which have a significant cost to replace. Changes in how we configure those schools can have significant impacts on both cost and educational performance. During the last three years we engaged in study efforts, with the help of consultants, to determine if closing schools, building new schools, or reconfiguring grade levels, would be advantageous. The immediate impetus for that study was related to ensuring our students are being served in the best way possible within our facilities with a highlighted awareness of external factors such as potential changes in and around our schools (City Center, noise concerns, and safety). The information the analysis gave the District will be important in future years and provides key inputs that help the District plan for both the short term and the long term. The District expended a total of \$133,963 for those studies over the past three years. The proposed budget includes \$40,000 for an architectural study of the facility need of the High and Middle Schools.

3. Why is the District planning to spend \$75,000 on a Middle School - High School Facilities Analysis?

There is now \$40,000 in the proposed budget so that the major building systems can be evaluated by an architectural firm to prioritize building improvements needed to continue to operate efficiently.