

# Community Guide to The Columbus Public Schools' "Building a Legacy of Achievement"

## Rebuilding 38 Schools throughout Columbus



*"We must ensure the school plan allows for broader community use of facilities such as health facilities, libraries, recreation centers, or community centers."*

*– Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman  
State of the City Address  
February 28, 2002*



Produced by KidsOhio.org  
Also available at [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org)

## A Community Investment: \$521 Million (2003-2009)

On November 5, 2002, the voters of Columbus approved funding to modernize 38 Columbus Public School buildings. Twenty-six schools will be built new, 12 will be renovated, and two schools will be closed. Planning and work is also beginning on making repairs to over 50 school buildings — making them warm, safe, and dry.

Updating these schools presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Columbus to create cost-effective centers of learning that can also serve as community centers.

**The Bottom Line:** By 2009, more than 17,000 students will attend 38 modernized Columbus school buildings.

## How Best Can These Schools Serve the Entire Community?

Columbus has a significant opportunity to leverage public dollars in bricks and mortar by engaging the community in a thoughtful discussion about how best to serve our children and the community.

Possible questions:

1. How can the school building and grounds better support educational needs?
2. What types of services and partnerships are needed and make sense in our neighborhood? These partnerships could include libraries, recreation centers, senior centers, health services, and other programs.
3. Are all the possible community partners engaged in the planning discussions?
4. Does the school design encourage community use during evenings and weekends?

### The Public Favors Schools that Serve as Community Centers

In 2002, the KnowledgeWorks Foundation surveyed Ohioans on education issues affecting the state. A major finding of the report was that 2 in 3 Ohioans surveyed favored rebuilding schools that housed community services such as adult education, recreation, and senior programs. Learn more about schools as community centers at [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org).

## Schools as Community Centers: What Are Other Ohio Communities Doing?

Schools are not only centers of teaching and learning. They are community assets that are well-positioned to also support the health, cultural and recreational needs of all residents. For example:

- **South-Western City Schools.** Central Crossing High School serves as a branch of the Southwest Public Library system and is open for community use.
- **Canton City Schools.** The city paid to enlarge and upgrade the gyms in elementary schools for adult and family use during evenings and weekends.
- **Twinsburg High School.** The city funded construction of a new community recreation center as part of the new high school.
- **Portsmouth West Elementary School.** The school houses a community health clinic.

## How Can the Community Get Involved in Planning These New Schools?

During the next three years, planning teams will be organized for each of the 38 schools to plan new and renovated Columbus Public Schools. You can play an important role in the district's future by getting involved:

**Step 1:** Use this guide to locate schools in your neighborhood or area of interest that are currently planning for new or renovated facilities.

**Step 2:** Contact Columbus Public Schools FACTline at 221-FACT (3228) or [factline@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:factline@columbus.k12.oh.us) or visit [www.columbus.k12.oh.us](http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us) for details of future planning team meetings.

**Step 3:** Find basic information about those schools that prepares you to participate in the discussion. You can access the [KidsOhio.org](http://KidsOhio.org) website or call us at 228-6400 for key data and information.

**Step 4:** Attend the planning team meetings and participate. Be prepared to participate, open to new ideas, and share your thoughts.

## Online Resources

**Columbus Public Schools** - Learn more about the Facility Master Plan, enrollment projections, and construction timelines. [www.columbus.k12.oh.us](http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us)

**Educational Facilities Clearinghouse** - Read about how upgraded facilities affect academic achievement. [www.edfacilities.org](http://www.edfacilities.org)

**KidsOhio.org** - Learn more about the effort to rebuild Columbus schools and other important education policy issues affecting children throughout Ohio. [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org)

**KnowledgeWorks Foundation** - Take a virtual tour of the Zoo-School, the Minnesota School for Environmental Studies. [www.kwfdn.org](http://www.kwfdn.org)

**Ohio School Facilities Commission** - View examples of new and renovated school buildings statewide. [www.osfc.state.oh.us](http://www.osfc.state.oh.us)

### Innovative Schools with High Achieving Results

The opportunity to rebuild schools district-wide also presents us with the chance to rethink traditional school models. Some examples of innovative schools that incorporate small learning environments, internships, mentoring, and project-based learning are:

High Tech High School, San Diego, California

Henry Ford Academy, Dearborn, Michigan

King Drew Medical Magnet School, Los Angeles, California

The MET School, Providence, Rhode Island

Visit [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org) to read more about these innovative schools.

## A Volunteer Community Board Provides Oversight for School Construction

The Columbus Board of Education created the Neighborhood School Development Partnership (NSDP) to:

- Provide fiscal oversight to ensure that public dollars are spent properly and schools are built within budget.
- Facilitate community engagement.
- Provide support to create schools as community centers.

The Partnership's volunteer board members have experience in architecture, finance, engineering technology, education, labor and real estate and include parents and community representatives. The members are appointed by the Mayor, City Council, and the School Board based on public and self nominations.

Research funded by the Gates Foundation shows that small schools have a positive effect on academic achievement for poor urban youth. Learn more about small schools at [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org).

### Members

Paul Goggin (co-chair)	John Garland	Frederick Lamarr	Bob Woodward
Larry James (co-chair)	George Meiling	John Rosenberger	
Clarence Davis	Sam Gresham	Joan Leitzel	
Robert Livesey	Joan Platz	Marcus Ross	

### Ex Officio Members

Michael Coleman, Mayor of Columbus

Matt Habash, President, Columbus City Council

Stephanie Hightower, President, Columbus School Board

Jeff Cabot, Chair, Columbus School Board Finance and Operations Committee

Gene T. Harris, Ph.D., Superintendent, Columbus Public Schools

Jerry Buccilla, Treasurer, Columbus Public Schools

The NSDP meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 270 E. State St. at 7:30 AM. The public is encouraged to attend. Visit [www.columbus.k12.oh.us](http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us) for updates on the status of the school building program.

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KidsOhio.org is an Ohio-led, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization working to improve the lives and education of Ohio's nearly three million children, especially disadvantaged youngsters. With a statewide reach and a special focus on Columbus and Central Ohio, KidsOhio.org works to improve early child care and education, health care, and public education. To learn more, visit the web site at [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org). You can also phone (614-228-6400) or e-mail your questions ([KidsOhio@KidsOhio.org](mailto:KidsOhio@KidsOhio.org)).

**Segment 1: 15 Elementary Schools, 3 Middle Schools, and 2 Career Centers - Planning, design, and construction will take place from 2003 to 2007.**

School	Planning & Design	Area	Action	Planned Completion Date	Estimated Project Cost†
Linden Elementary (PK-5)	2001	Northeast	New	2004	\$11 million
New Career Center	Spring 2003	Central City	New	2006	\$32.5 million
Fort Hayes Career Center	Spring 2003	Northwest	Renovate/ Addition	2006	\$25.8 million
Arts Impact Middle School at Fort Hayes	Spring 2003	Northwest	New	2005	\$11.4 million
Weinland Park Elementary (PK-5)	Spring 2003	Northwest	New	2005	\$7 million
East Linden Elementary (PK-5)	Spring 2003	Northwest	New	2005	\$8.2 million
Parsons Elementary (PK-5)	Spring 2003	South	New	2005	\$8.7 million
Ohio Elementary (PK-5)	Summer 2003	Central City	Renovate/ Addition	2006	\$7 million
East Columbus Elementary	Summer 2003	East	New	2006	\$7.6 million
Fairmoor Elementary	Summer 2003	East	New	2006	\$8.5 million
Binns Elementary	Summer 2003	West	New	2006	\$7 million
Sullivant Elementary (PK-5)	Summer 2003	West	New	2006	\$7.9 million
West Mound Elementary	Summer 2003	West	New	2006	\$8.6 million
Champion Middle	Winter 2004	Central City	New	2006	\$13.2 million
Trevitt Elementary (PK-5)	Winter 2004	Central City	New	2006	\$11.6 million
Shady Lane Elementary	Winter 2004	East	New	2006	\$7.2 million
South Mifflin Elementary	Winter 2004	Northeast	New	2006	\$7 million
Lincoln Park Elementary (PK-5)	Winter 2004	South	New	2006	\$7.8 million
Watkins Elementary (PK-5)	Winter 2004	South	New	2006	\$7.9 million
Barrett Middle	Summer 2004	South	New	2007	\$13 million

† Cost does not include optional Locally Funded Initiatives



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**New Buildings**

- A ▲ Barrett Middle
- B ▲ Binns Elementary
- C ▲ Champion Middle
- D ▲ East Columbus Elementary
- E ▲ East Linden Elementary
- F ▲ Fairmoor Elementary
- G ▲ Arts Impact Middle at Fort Hayes
- H ▲ Lincoln Park Elementary
- I ▲ Linden Elementary
- J ▲ Parsons Elementary
- K ▲ Shady Lane Elementary
- L ▲ South Mifflin Elementary
- M ▲ Sullivant Elementary
- N ▲ Trevitt Elementary
- O ▲ Watkins Elementary
- P ▲ Weinland Park Elementary
- Q ▲ West Mound Elementary
- R ▲ New Career Center (Site not determined)

**Renovations / Additions**

- a ● Fort Hayes Career Center
- b ● Ohio Elementary
- Shaded Area = Columbus Public School boundaries



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**New Buildings**

- A ▲ Berwick Alt. Elementary
- B ▲ Eastgate Elementary
- C ▲ Gladstone Elementary
- D ▲ Huy Elementary
- E ▲ Leawood Elementary
- F ▲ Oakland Park Alt. Elementary
- G ▲ Oakmont Elementary
- H ▲ Wedgewood Middle

**Renovations / Additions**

- a ● Africentric (K-12)
- b ● Avondale Elementary
- c ● Burroughs Elementary
- d ● Crestview Middle
- e ● East High
- f ● Fort Hayes Metropolitan Alt. High
- g ● Indianola Alt. Elementary
- h ● Livingston Avenue Elementary
- i ● South High Urban Academy
- j ● Southwood Elementary

**Closed Schools**

- 1 ✚ A.G. Bell Elementary (spec. ed) Program moves to new Huy Elementary
- 2 ✚ Beatty Park Elementary (spec. ed) Program moves to new Trevitt Elementary

School	Planning & Design	Area	Action	Planned Completion Date	Estimated Project Cost†
Fort Hayes High	Summer 2004	Northwest	Renovate/ Addition	2007	\$17.6 million
Indianola Alternative Elementary (PK-5)	Summer 2004	Northwest	Renovate	2007	\$9 million
Avondale Elementary*	Summer 2004	West	Renovate/ Addition	2007	\$8 million
Huy Road Elementary (PK-5)	Fall 2004	Northeast	New	2007	\$13.3 million
Burroughs Elementary (PK-5)*	Fall 2004	West	Renovate/ Addition	2007	\$10.9 million
Wedgewood Middle	Fall 2004	West	New	2007	\$13.2 million
Gladstone Elementary (PK-5)	Spring 2005	Northeast	New	2007	\$7.2 million
Oakland Park Elementary (PK-5)	Spring 2005	Northeast	New	2007	\$7.1 million
Livingston Avenue Elementary (PK-5)	Spring 2005	South	Renovate/ Addition	2008	\$6.3 million
South High Urban Academy	Spring 2005	South	Renovate/ Addition	2008	\$22.6 million
Southwood Elementary (PK-5)*	Spring 2005	South	Renovate/ Addition	2007	\$7.7 million
East High*	Winter 2005	Central City	Renovate/ Addition	2009	\$25.5 million
Eastgate Elementary (PK-5)	Winter 2005	Central City	New	2008	\$7.1 million
Crestview Middle*	Winter 2005	Northwest	Renovate	2008	\$13.8 million
Berwick Alternative Elementary (K-8)	Winter 2005	East	New	2008	\$11.9 million
Leawood Elementary	Winter 2005	East	New	2008	\$7 million
Oakmont Elementary	Winter 2005	East	New	2008	\$7.1 million
Africentric School (K-12)	Summer 2006	South	Renovate/ Addition	2009	\$15.3 million
Beatty Park Elementary		Central City	Close	Demolition 2008	\$202,000
A.G. Bell		Northeast	Close	Demolition 2008	\$167,000

† Cost does not include optional Locally Funded Initiatives

\*Pending approval from the Ohio School Facilities Commission