

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL FACILITIES PLANNING RECOMMENDATION



April 30, 2024

OVERVIEW

1. Purpose
2. Educational Drivers & Considerations
3. Facilities Supporting Education
4. Preferred Option
5. Recommendations
6. Conceptual Application of POG & Educational Vision
7. Distribution of Students & Programs
8. Opportunities
9. Sustainability
10. Timelines
11. Communication Strategy

PURPOSE

Ensure our physical learning environments support the educational needs of ALL students today and in the future.

Provide appropriate educational spaces that meet program and enrollment needs and support high-quality learning experiences.

Develop a Comprehensive School Facilities Plan that provides short-term, mid-term, and long-term strategies for Franklin Public Schools.

EDUCATIONAL DRIVERS

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE EDUCATIONAL VISION



- Developed by School Committee 2018
- Applied by O2038 stakeholders in Application Workshop 2024



- Developed by O2038 stakeholders in 2024
- Confirmed best/next educational practices & facilities concepts to support them via focus groups

FEEDBACK FORUMS

SECONDARY EDUCATORS

Support for the educational direction established by the PoG with concern that “buy-in” from all of 02038 is achieved



PRIMARY EDUCATORS

Support for equity across the district, hope that current educational quality be maintained, and support for K-2/3-5 organization

FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Support for the PoG and the Educational Vision with concerns of costs, 02038-wide communication and that the sense of community schools will be lost

STUDENTS

Support for more active, engaged, participatory learning as established by the PoG

CONSIDERATIONS

1. Current organizational model/school assignments since 2003 (DT closure 2020)

2. Experienced enrollment decline

- a. 36% decline PK-5 (SY '04 to SY '24)
- b. 22% decline 6-8 (SY '04 to SY '24)

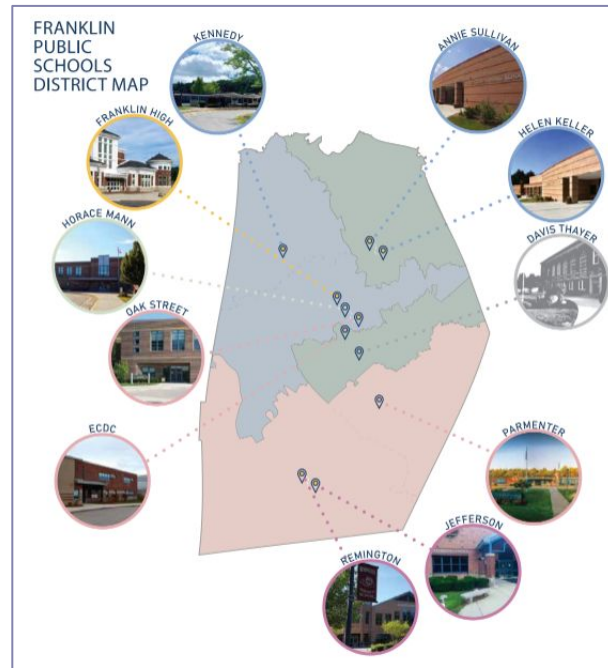
3. Imbalance of student enrollment across schools and grade levels

- a. Keller = 565; Oak = 404; Jeff = 338; JFK = 332; Parm = 289
- b. ASMS = 324; HMMS = 388; RMS = 351
 - i. Example: Gr. 6 - ASMS = 90; HMMS = 137; RMS = 112

4. Experience class size fluctuations at each school due to tight staffing margins (budget and scheduling)

5. Offering extra-curricular activities across three middle schools is a challenge (budget and logistics)

6. Providing equitable, consistent resources across all schools (PD, curriculum, shared staffing, special education, etc.)



FACILITIES SUPPORTING K-5 EDUCATION

Larger school building offers strategic advantages for resource utilization and educational synergy.

Elementary Schools

- Ensure utilization of most adequate educational facilities for all students that supports learning today and in the future
- Maximize resource utilization and provide more targeted approach to curriculum and instruction strategies for educator teams focused on the developmental ages of students
- Better distribution of staff and resources providing equitable and flexible supports for each school
- Focus professional learning to meet the unique developmental needs of learners, fostering a strong foundation for learning
- Increase opportunities to grow socially with access to larger number of familiar and new peers, and expansion of shared programs and activities
- Foster continuity & promoting community cohesion as many parents have children throughout elementary

FACILITIES SUPPORTING 6-8 EDUCATION

Larger school building offers strategic advantages for resource utilization and educational synergy.

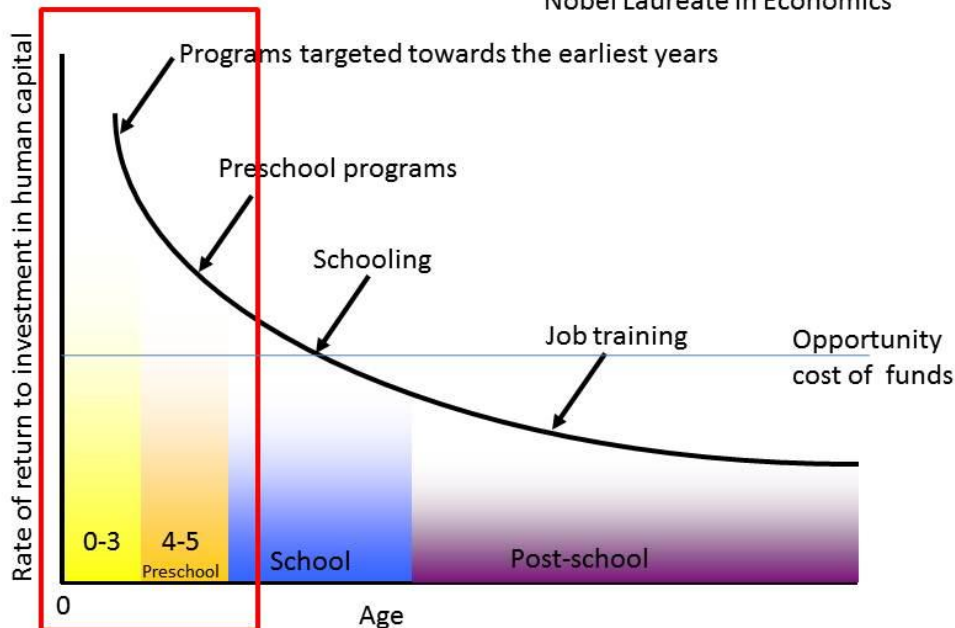
Middle School

- Preserve the core curriculum team areas, creating flexibility in class assignments to meet the needs of all students
- Focus professional learning to meet the unique developmental needs of learners, fostering a strong foundation for learning
- Better distribution of staff and resources, providing equitable and flexible supports for students
- Unify mental health/counseling staff levels to create teams of school counselors at the middle level
- Increase opportunities to grow socially with access to larger number of new and familiar peers
- Combine extracurriculars and expansion of clubs and activities increasing participation and opportunities for students
- Access to high school facilities and athletic fields, enhance middle school educational experience

FACILITIES SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

We have the greatest impact on the trajectory of student lives during the preschool years.

James Heckman, University of Chicago
Nobel Laureate in Economics



Return to an Extra Dollar Investment at Various Ages

EDUCATIONAL VISION RECOMMENDATION

Plan future expansion and repositioning of ECDC:

- Substantially increase number of children served
- Approaching Universal Pre-K numbers
- Explore space needs in multiple buildings

PREFERRED OPTION

Central Unified Middle School

- Allows for core curriculum teams at each grade with unified arts, and special education, and counseling staff
- Central location unifying all 6-8 students and staff
- 6th grade wing creating smaller community within middle school (6th Grade Academy)
- Supports vertical alignment with high school

Partner Elementary Schools (K-2 & 3-5)

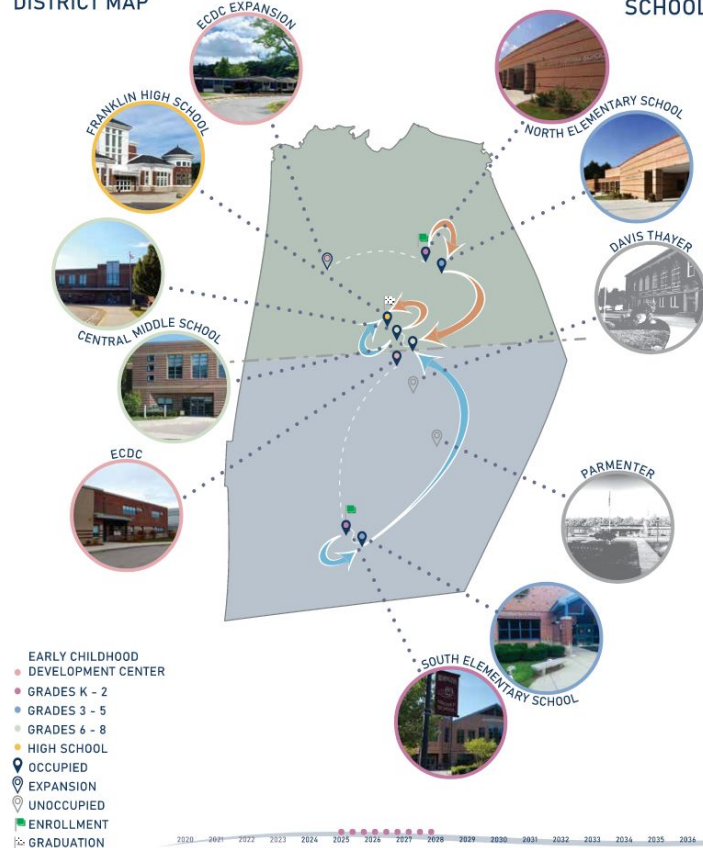
- Partner schools minimize transitions for students (K-5 experience in one building)
- Seven to eight sections per grade creates opportunities for student and teacher collaboration
- Special education programs duplicated at North and South elementary complexes allows students to attend their district school

Early Childhood

- Existing ECDC to remain
- Potential expansion opportunity at existing Pond Street building

FRANKLIN
PUBLIC
SCHOOL
DISTRICT MAP

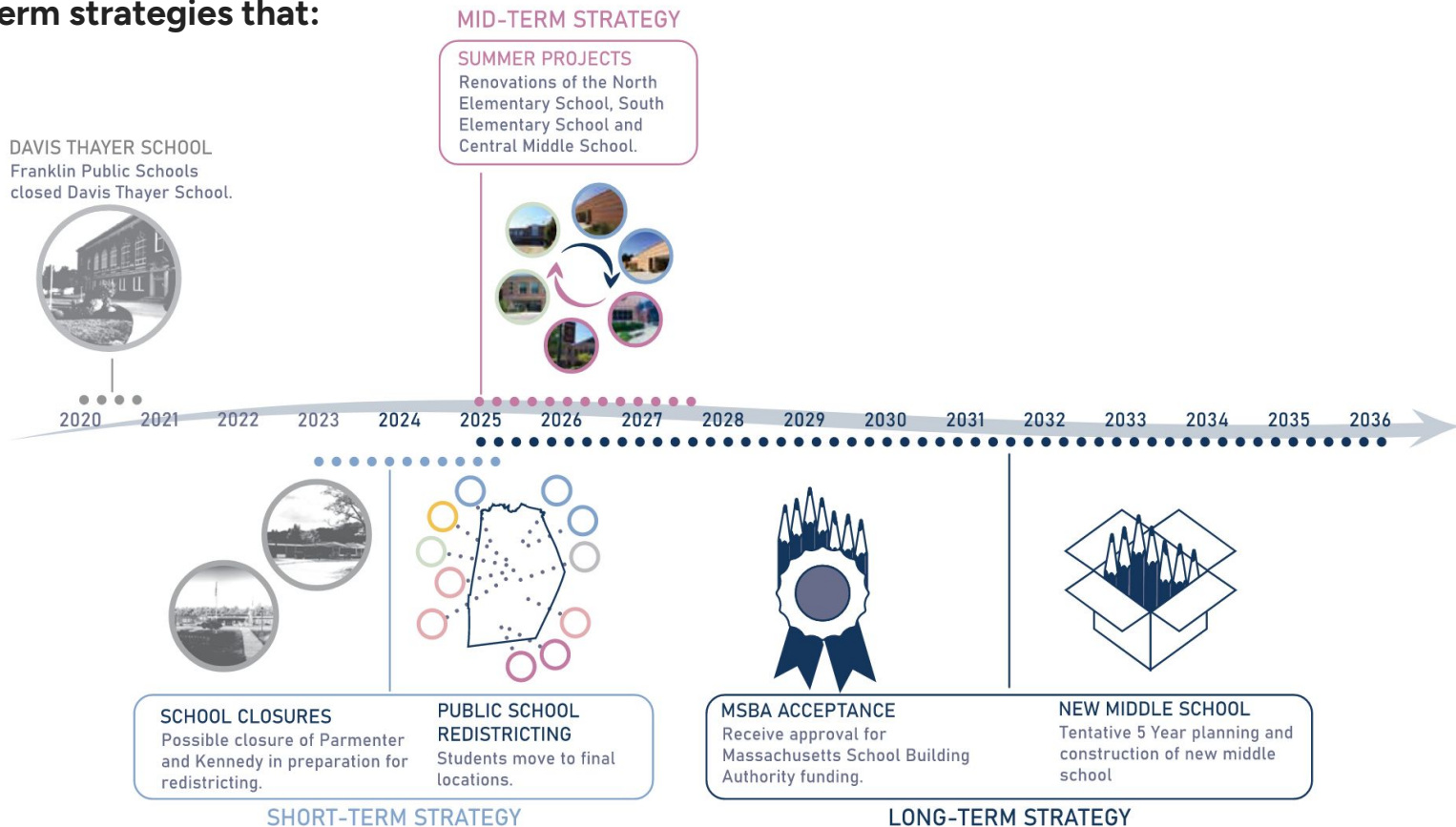
PREFERRED OPTION:
ELEMENTARY
SISTER
SCHOOLS



CONCEPTUAL TIMELINE

Develop strategy that incorporates short term, mid-term, and long-term strategies that:

- Align with Educational Vision and Portrait of a Graduate
- Creates equitable experience for all Franklin students
- Reduces operational costs for District
- Minimizes disruption to student experience

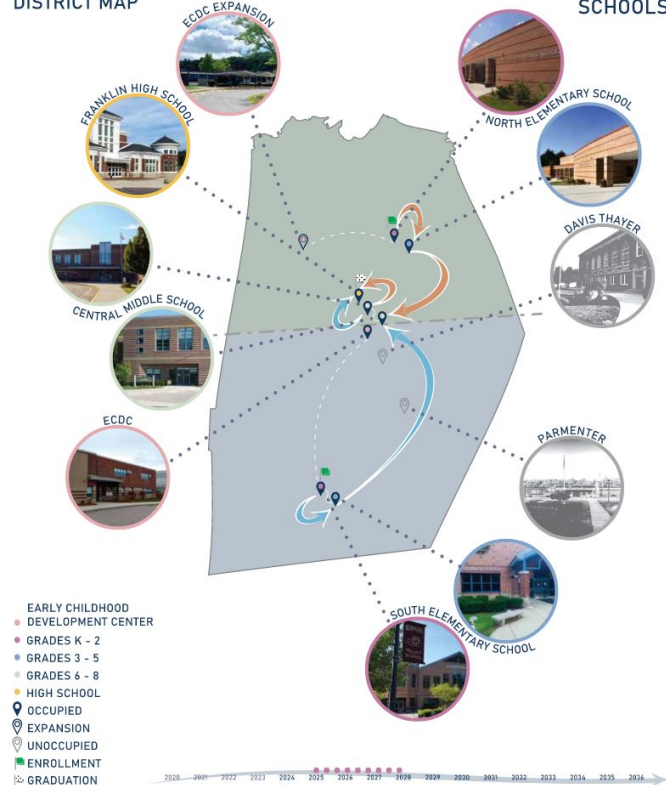


SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

Two strategic recommendations to implement in **SY 2025-26**.
Plan redistribution of all students incl. Special Ed. programs
during SY 2024-25

1. **Unify 3 middle schools into 1 middle school**
 - a. 6-8 student experience in same building
 - b. Located on Oak Street adjacent to the FHS site
 - c. Annie Sullivan and Remington 6-8s no longer used as middle schools
2. **Unify 5 elementary schools into 4 elementary schools in 2 buildings**
 - a. K-5 student experience in same building
 - b. Washington Street: "South Elem", K-2 & 3-5
 - c. Lincoln Street: "North Elem", K-2 & 3-5
 - d. Kennedy, Oak, and Parmenter K-5s no longer used as elementary schools

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SCHOOL
DISTRICT MAP



MID-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

Two strategic recommendations to implement for the **2025-2028**.

1. **Aligning Space Sizes with Ideal/Standard sizes**
 - a. Create appropriately sized Kindergarten classrooms with toilet rooms for all 8 sections
 - b. Creating breakout/collaboration spaces for each grade level small learning community
2. **Build New School Communities and Cultures**
 - a. Develop small learning community culture and physical space requirements
 - b. Create steering committee representative of communities to rename schools

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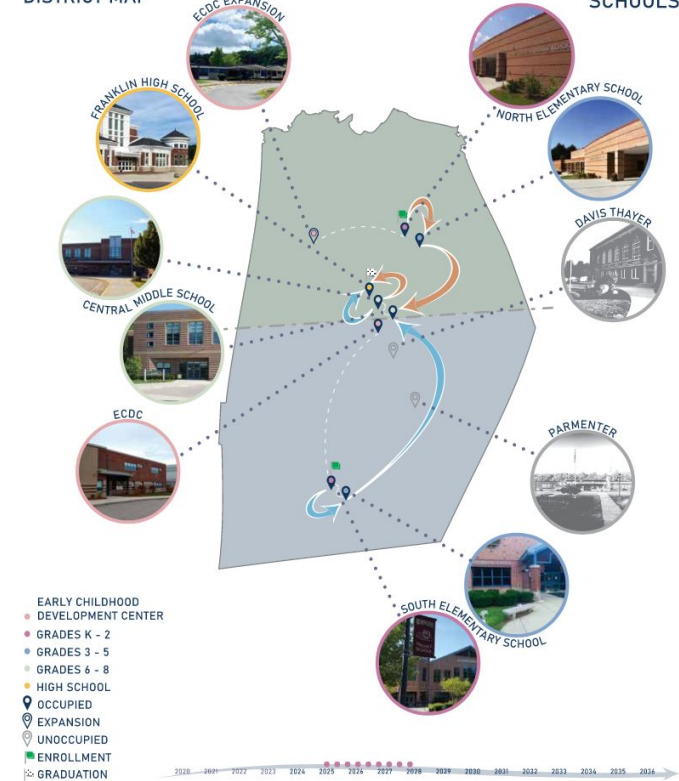
LONG-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

Two strategic recommendations for the **2025+ school year**.

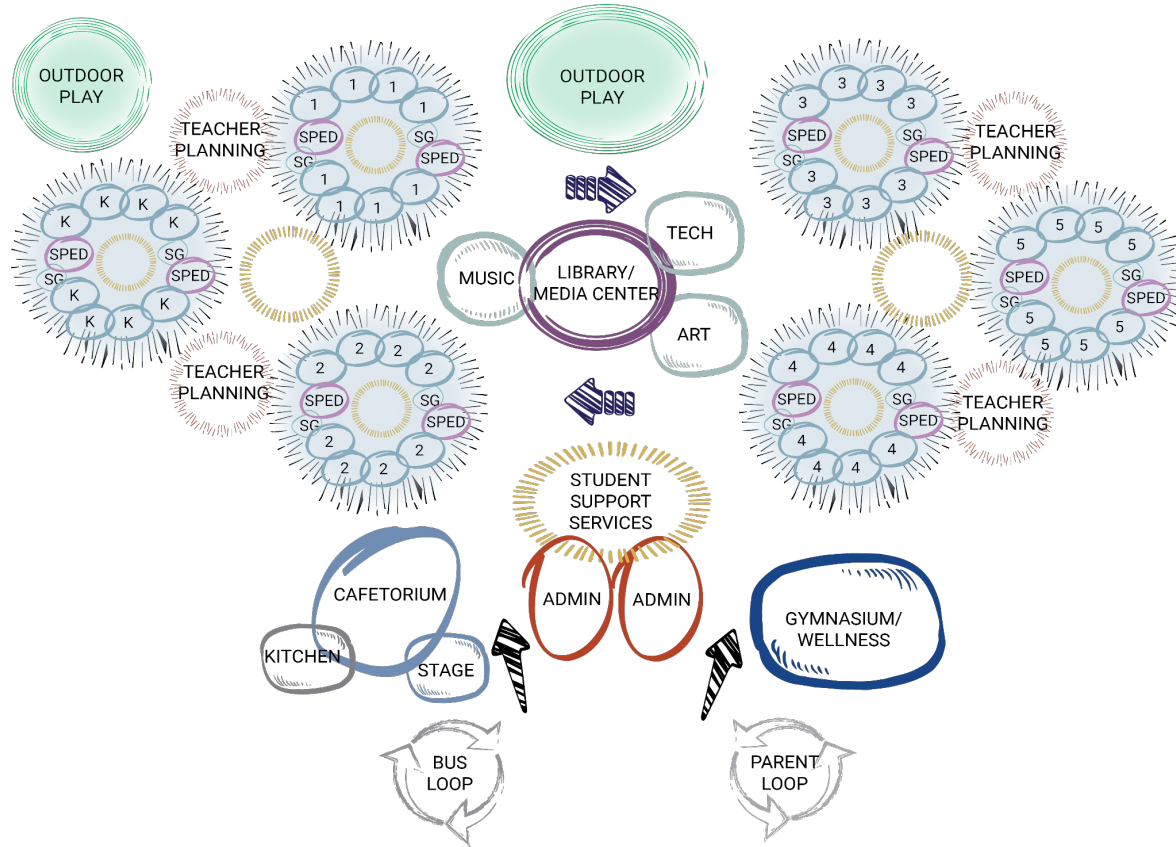
1. **Submit SOI for new Middle School to MSBA**
 - a. Acceptance into Program often takes submissions for several years
 - b. Make note of the facility challenges to PoG and Vision in existing building
2. Develop program for existing Pond Street school re-use

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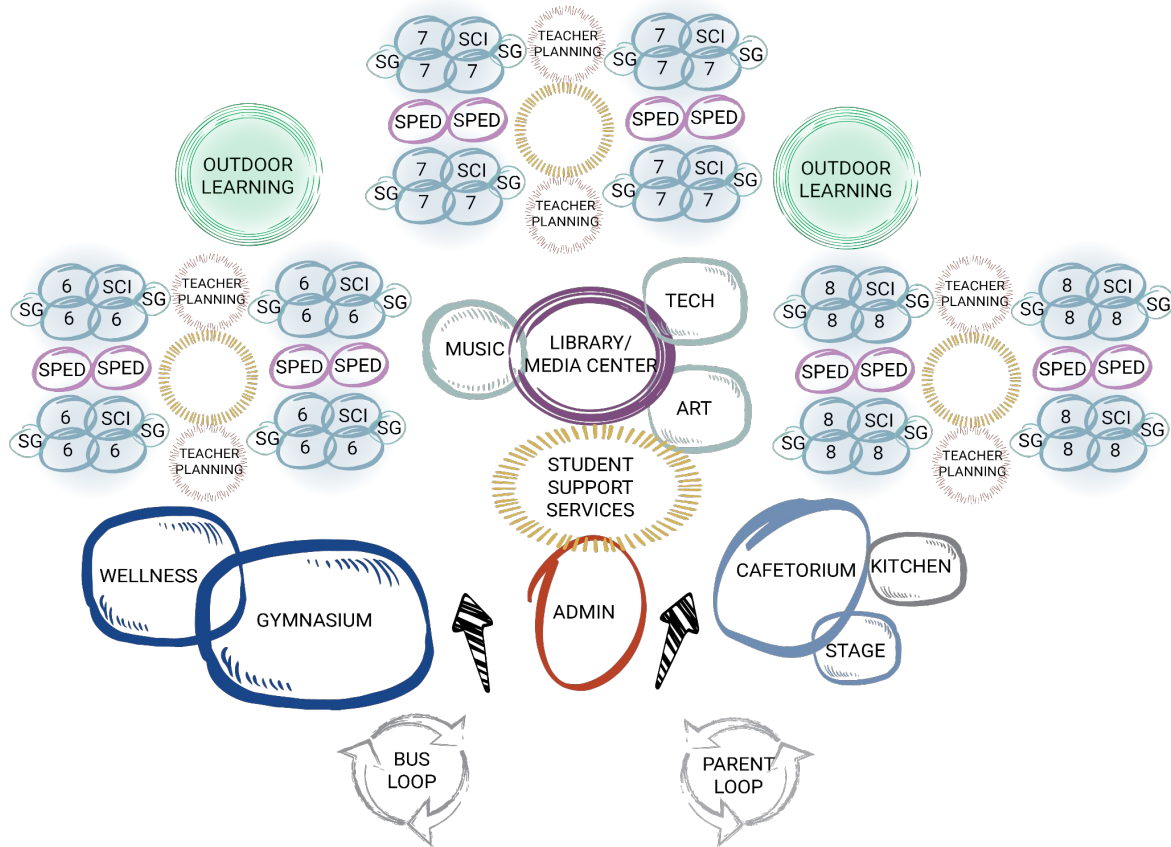
PREFERRED OPTION:
ELEMENTARY
SISTER
SCHOOLS



APPLYING POG/VISION CONCEPTS TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

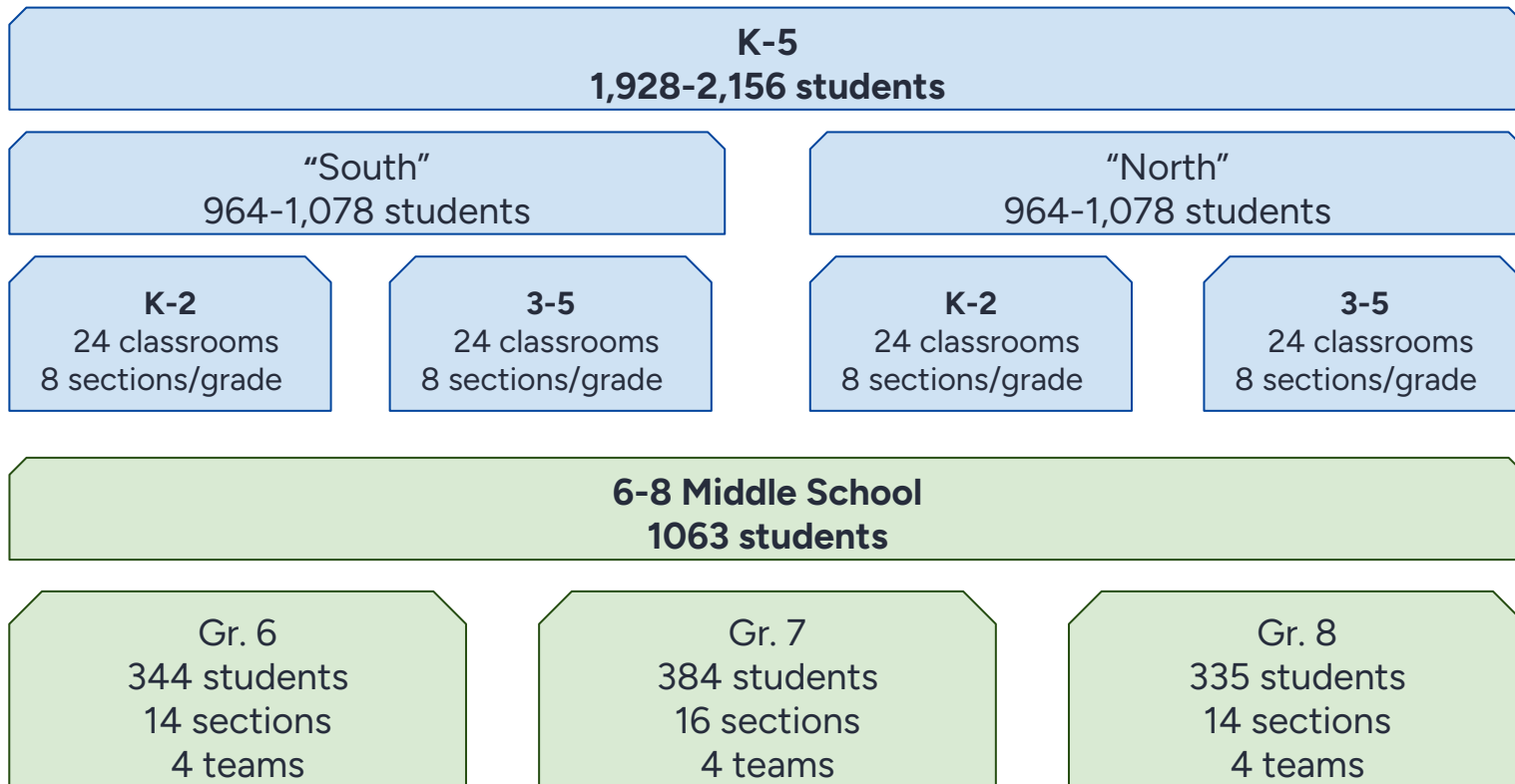


APPLYING POG/VISION CONCEPTS TO MIDDLE SCHOOL



DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS

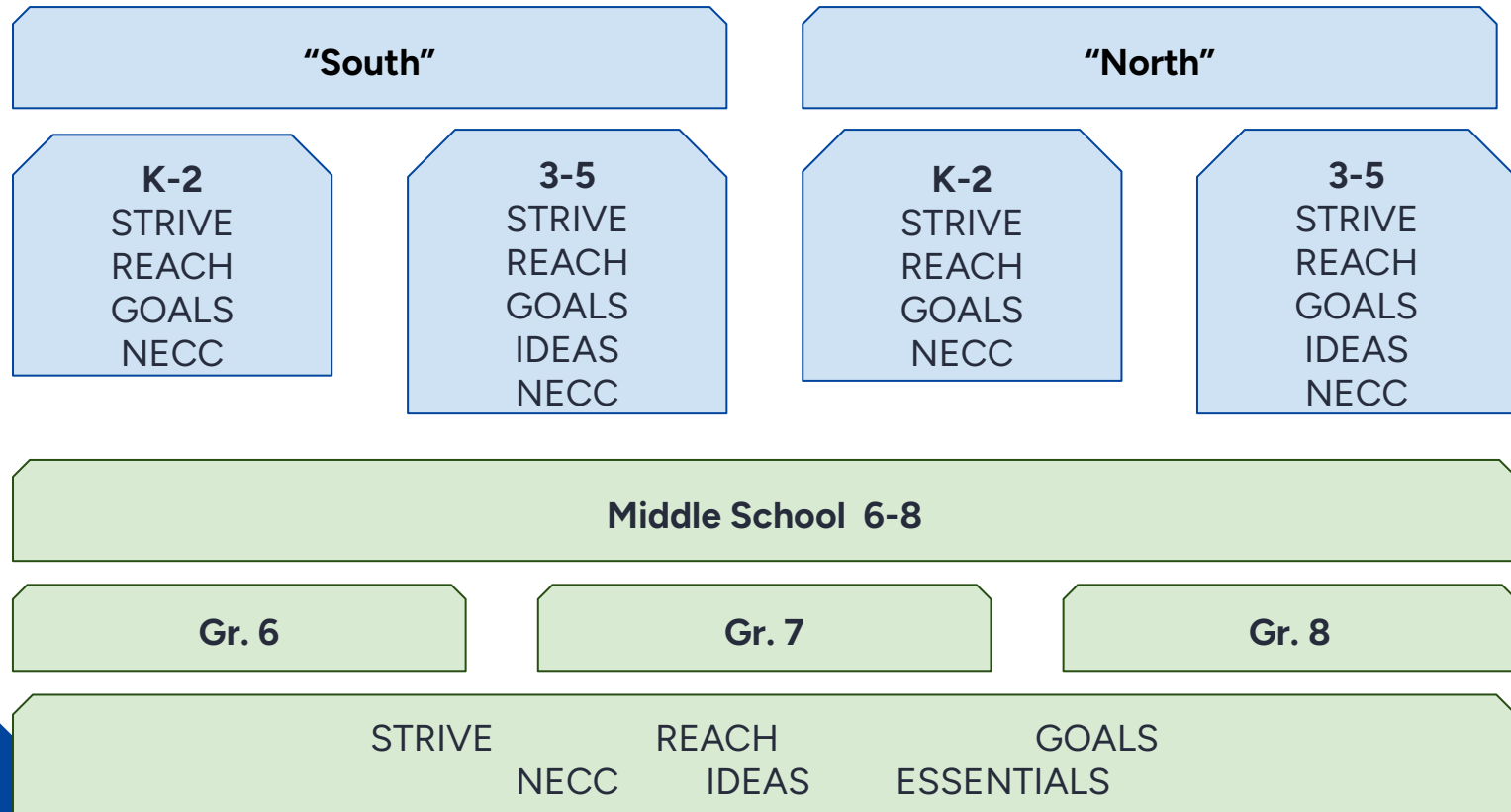
Conceptual Breakdown based on enrollment forecast from demographer



March 2024 K-5 Enrollment = 1,928 students 2033-34 Projected K-5 Enrollment = 2,156

SPECIAL NEEDS IN-DISTRICT PROGRAMS

Elementary specialized partner programs located at each elementary building. Students served in their own school. All middle level specialized programs unified at 1 middle school.



OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities to create/expand programming to serve the district

- Franklin Child Care facility prioritizing FPS Educators
 - Tuition-based to support budget
 - Staff recruitment and retention tool
- ECDC expansion
 - Provide more opportunity for a larger number of children to benefit from FPS programs
- Building Use/Space Rental to outside organizations
 - i.e. Head Start Program, Community access, etc.
- Non-Resident Tuition (Special Education)
 - Out of district students tuitioned into FPS Specialized Programs (pending capacity)

SUSTAINABILITY

SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Efficient resource allocation and operational efficiencies and resultant economies of scale
 - Supplies
 - More efficient and effective staffing
 - Minimize operational costs so that dollars can be spent on education

TOWN

- Short and long-term capital project plan reallocations & cost avoidance
 - \$6.5M planned through FY34
- Annual Facilities Savings
 - \$750,000

RETROSPECTIVE TIMELINE

DONE TO DATE

- 2019** - McKibben Enrollment Forecast presentation to School Committee
- 2020** - Kaestle Boos [Kaestle-Boos Facilities Report](#) presentation to SC
- 2021** - Davis Thayer Elementary School closure; reassignment of students to Keller Elementary
- Establish Space Needs Subcommittee
- 2022** - Conduct Redistricting Analysis to evaluate the distribution of students and optimize facility utilization
- 2023** - Present [Redistricting Analysis](#) options to SC
- SC votes no change to current attendance boundaries; recommends Comprehensive School Facilities Assessment (summary [letter](#))
- 2024** - Educational Planner and Architect conduct Comprehensive School Facilities Assessment
- Update Enrollment Forecast, Portrait of a Graduate, Educational Visioning, Educational Adequacy, Facilities Assessment, Community Feedback Forum

YET TO DO - Public discussion on Planning Options, School Committee vote

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

Spring/Summer 2024	2024-25 School Year	Summer 2025	2025-26 School Year
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administrative Leadership Structures• Student distributions at each school• Program Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff assignments• Transportation• Scheduling• Capital procurement• District Moving Plan• Arrival dismissal time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan Execution• Finalize Plans• Capital project work• District moving Execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementation year

Recommend deferring naming facilities and initiating that process during the SY 2025-26 once each new school community is established

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

- Website: [Comprehensive School Facilities Assessment Franklin School District](#)
- Group Email for Questions: facilities-planning@franklinps.net
- School Committee Listening Session
 - Saturday, May 4th 9:00-11:00 am @ FHS Media Center
 - Subcommittee to set additional times

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TOTAL ENROLLMENT

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34
PK	80	133	150	154	154	154	154	154	154	154	154	154	154	154
K	267	281	289	307	317	318	308	304	304	314	318	323	327	322
1	276	302	297	301	325	331	333	323	319	319	323	327	332	336
2	328	293	309	307	302	327	330	332	322	322	322	326	330	335
3	326	339	299	320	309	304	328	331	333	328	329	329	333	336
4	352	321	350	300	314	303	298	321	324	334	329	331	331	337
5	327	360	330	364	301	315	304	299	322	330	340	335	337	336
Total K-5	1956	2029	2024	2053	2022	2052	2055	2064	2078	2101	2115	2125	2144	2156
6	349	331	379	338	377	311	323	317	309	331	340	350	345	345
7	386	355	331	382	344	382	316	327	321	314	336	346	356	351
8	412	387	357	341	385	347	385	319	330	327	320	342	352	363
Total: 6-8	1147	1073	1067	1061	1106	1040	1024	963	960	972	996	1038	1053	1059
9	413	389	387	366	317	383	345	383	317	328	330	323	345	356
10	429	411	395	384	364	315	381	343	381	315	326	328	321	343
11	437	423	411	400	386	366	317	383	346	385	318	329	331	324
12	449	435	424	411	402	388	368	319	385	348	387	320	331	333
SP	10	14	15	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Total: 9-SP	1738	1672	1632	1572	1480	1463	1422	1439	1440	1387	1372	1311	1339	1367
Total PK-SP	4841	4774	4723	4686	4608	4555	4501	4466	4478	4460	4483	4474	4536	4582

- The budget reflects adjustments in staffing associated with fluctuations from grade to grade or from school to school

Enrollment Forecast

PK

- Increase from 2021-22 to 2023-24 approx. 50% (74 students). Possible increase in future years.

Elementary

- Decline through 2024-25 then steady increase through 2033-34+ (2156 students). Approx. 100 students

Middle

- Decline through 2028-29 then steady increase from 2033-34+ (1059 students) Approx. 80 students

High School

- Decline through 2031-32 then increase from 2032-33+ (1339 students)

District

- Decline through 2031-32 then increase in 2032-33+ (4536 students)

* Overall forecast trends verified with McKibben

** Numbers could be higher based higher assumption new single family homes built each year and existing home sales.

CLASS SIZE

Jefferson Elementary

Grade	Current January 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	Projected Sept. 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	
1	55	3	18.33	48	3	16.00	24
2	46	2	23.00	55	3	18.33	
3	66	3	22.00	46	2	23.00	
4	49	2	24.50	66	3	22.00	
5	71	3	24.00	49	3	16.33	
Sub Total	335	15	22.63	317	17	18.61	
K	48	2	24.00	48	3	16.00	24

Kennedy Elementary

Grade	Current January 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	Projected Sept. 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	
1	59	3	19.67	48	3	16.00	24
2	64	3	21.33	59	3	19.67	
3	65	3	21.67	64	3	21.33	
4	39	2	19.50	65	3	21.67	
5	58	3	19.33	39	2	19.50	
Sub Total	331	16	20.75	321	17	18.88	
K	46	2	23.00	46	3	15.33	23

Keller Elementary

Grade	Current January 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	Projected Sept. 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	
1	81	4	20.25	94	5	18.80	24
2	94	5	18.80	81	4	20.25	
3	85	4	21.25	94	5	18.80	
4	98	4	24.50	85	4	21.25	
5	112	5	22.40	98	5	19.60	
Sub Total	564	26	21.78	546	28	19.5	
K	94	4	23.50	94	5	18.80	24

Oak Elementary

Grade	Current January 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	Projected Sept. 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	
1	63	3	21.00	81	4	20.25	27
2	63	3	21.00	63	3	21.00	
3	68	3	22.66	63	3	21.00	
4	62	3	20.67	68	3	22.66	
5	70	3	23.33	62	3	20.67	
Sub Total	407	19	21.49	418	20	20.97	
K	81	4	20.25	81	4	20.25	

CLASS SIZE

Parmenter Elementary

Grade	Current January 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	Projected Sept. 2024	Staffing	Avg. Class Size	
1	46	2	23.00	48	3	16.00	24
2	44	2	22.00	48	3	16.00	24
3	42	2	21.00	44	2	22.00	
4	56	3	18.00	42	2	21.00	
5	55	3	18.33	56	3	18.00	
Sub Total	289	14	20.88	284	16	17.75	
K	46	2	23.00	48	3	16.00	24

Secondary Level Grades 6-12

Grade	Current January 2024	Projected September 2024
6	345	304
7	389	345
8	340	389
Subtotal	1074	1038
9	364	340
10	384	364
11	395	384
12	407	395
Ungraded	11	11
Subtotal	1561	1494