SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46

Unite46

Moving Forward Together

Nov. 2 Community Presentation

Welcome Back!

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- **Please introduce yourself to others seated near you**

- **Sign-in**

I Have A Question or Comment!

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Complete a form:

Let's Talk at u-46.org/letstalk

Email to UniteU46@u-46.org

Ask during small group work time

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I HAVE A QUESTION!

I would like to be contacted by a Unite U-46
representative who can respond to this question/comment:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Your question or comment may be directly related to the community
engagement project or any other matter regarding the school district.

_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

UniteU46@u-46.org
UniteU46.com

Meeting Materials

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In Your Packets Tonight:

- Agenda
- Verbatim Responses
- Executive Summary
- Presentation Slides
- Work Activity

Tonight's Agenda

- Review of elementary building analysis and priorities

- Findings from elementary site visits

- Scenario planning activity

Next Steps In The Process
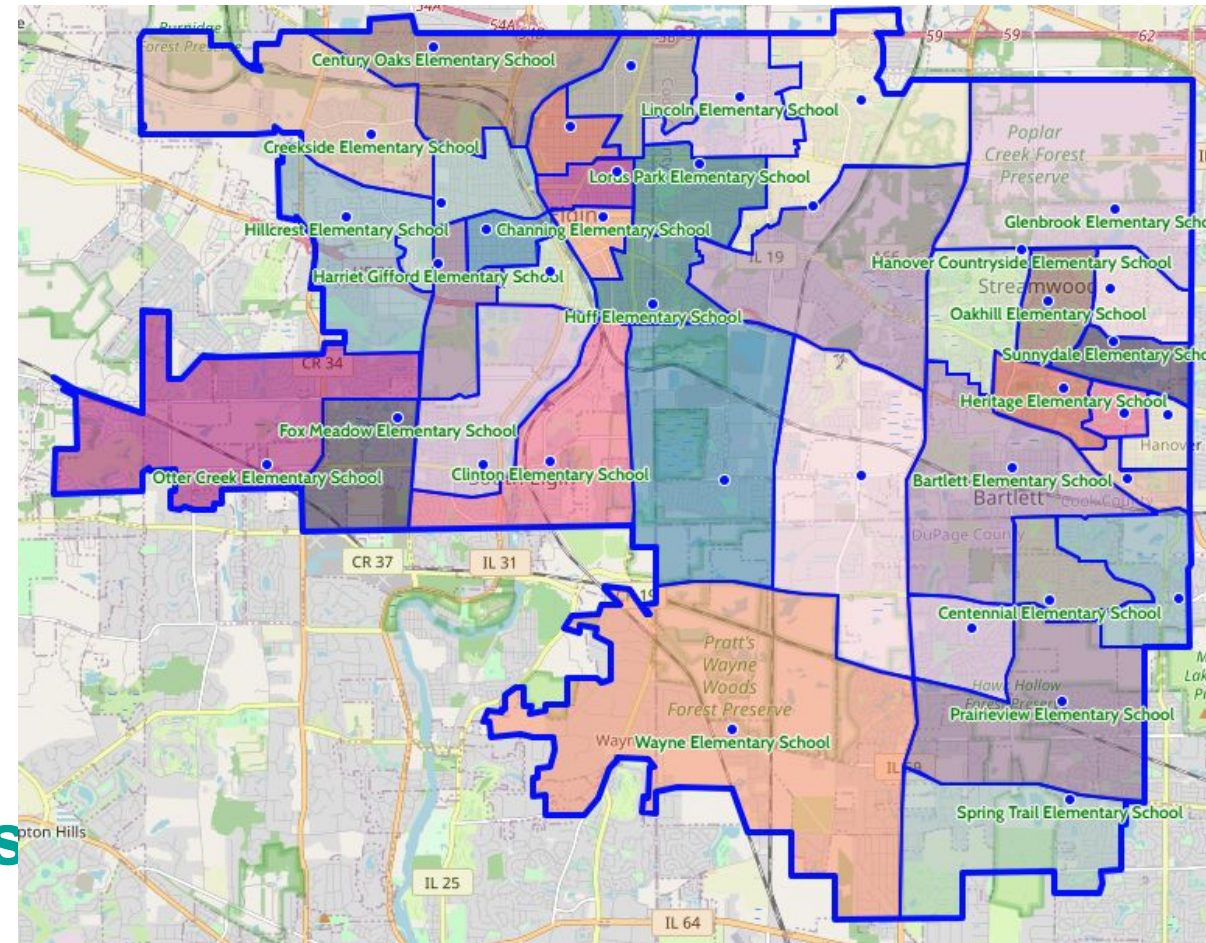
- **Complete audit of elementary buildings**
- **Determine number of elementary schools needed**
  - Considering declining enrollments and shift of 6th grade to middle school
- **Provide recommendations to the Board of Education**
  - Buildings to renovate, replace, or retire
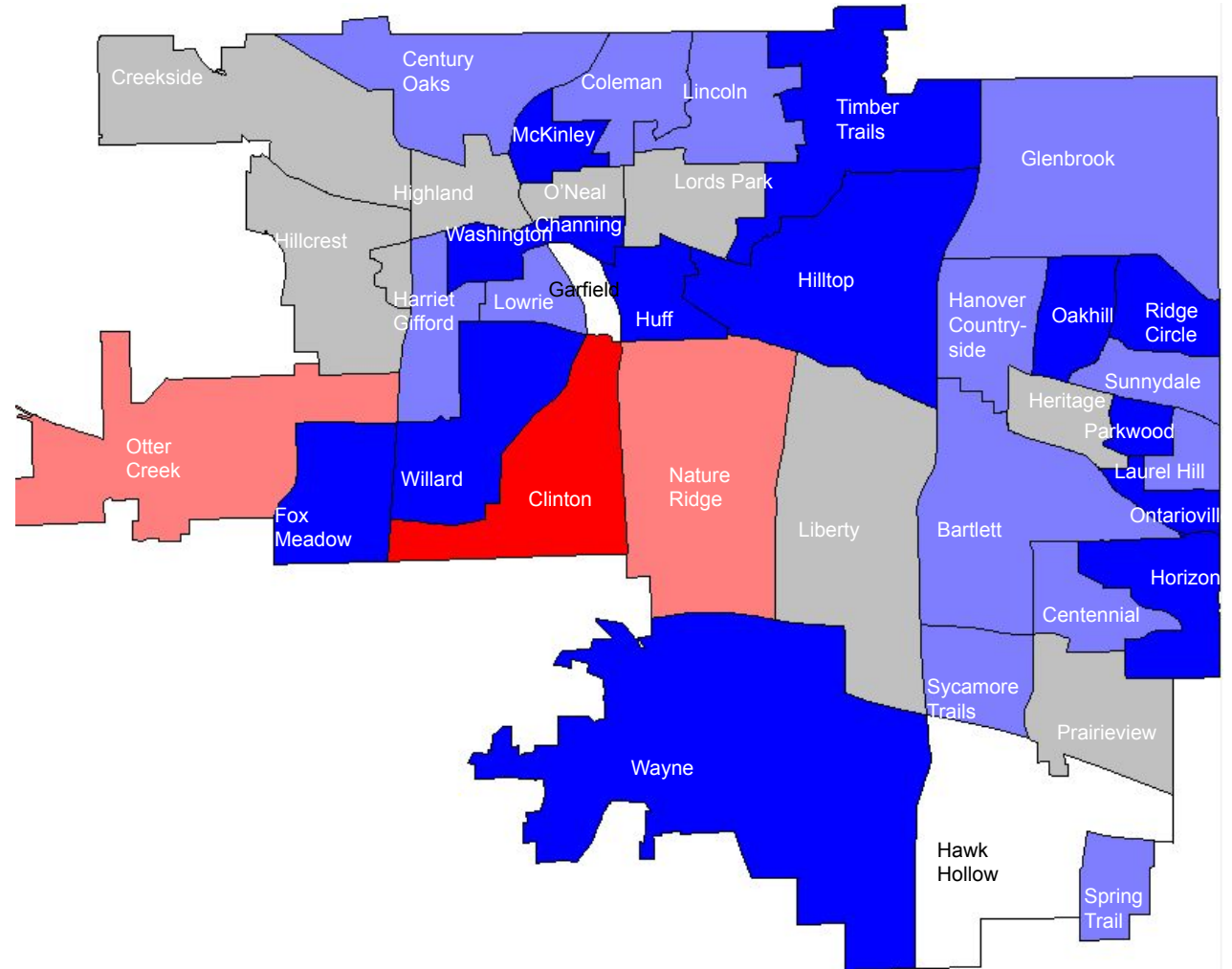- **Address attendance boundaries**

Elementary Enrollment Trend

6th grade students move to middle schools in 26-27

40% fewer students in our elementary schools
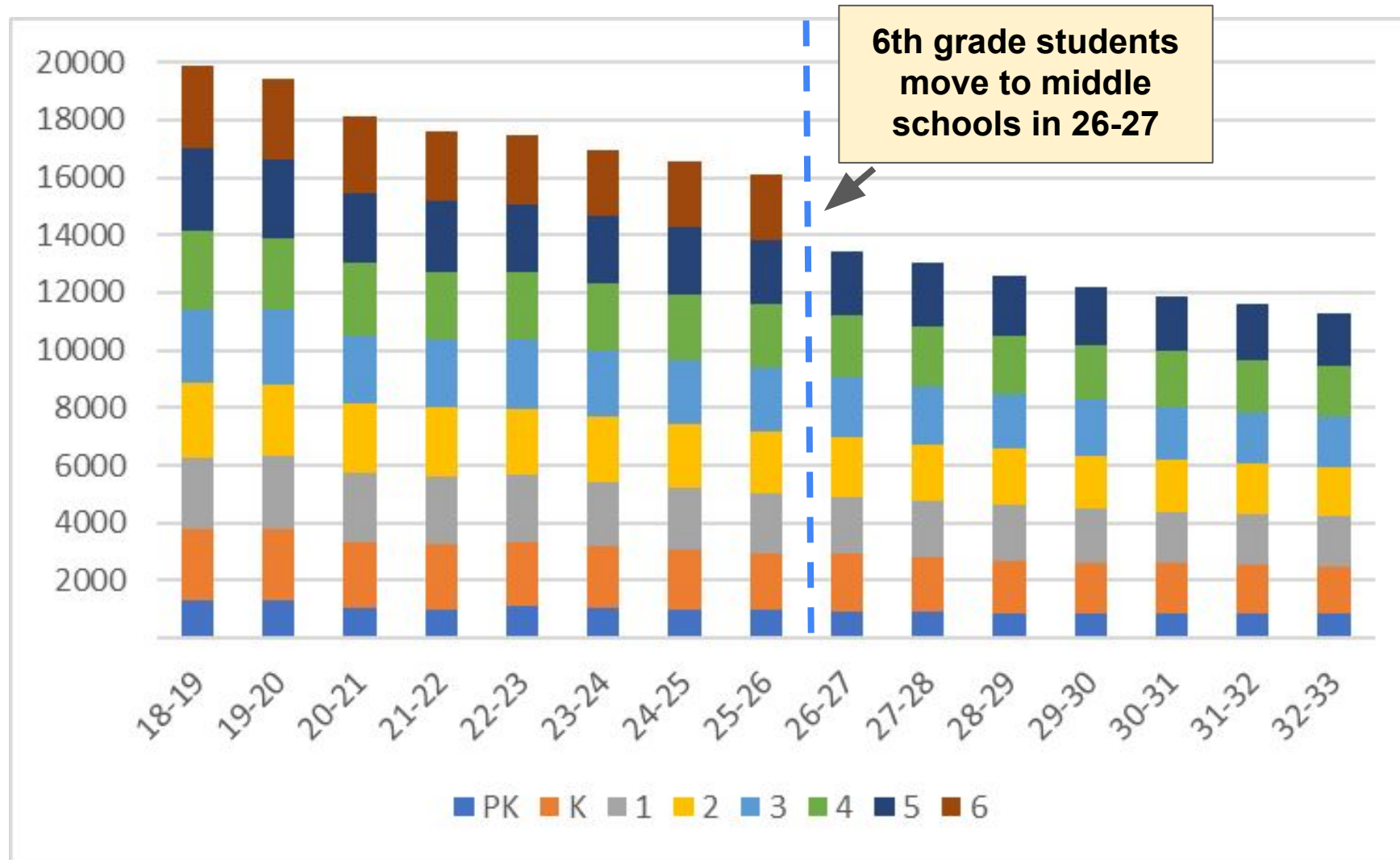
Projected Capacity Utilization of Elementary Schools (2026-2027)

	Percent Capacity	Schools
	51-62%	14
	63-74%	13
	75-86%	8
	87-98%	2
	99-113%	1

Note: 2027 elementary enrollment data includes only grades K-5

9

Age of U-46 Elementary Schools

3 built prior to 1900

10 built between 1900-1960

13 built between 1960-1980

12 built since 1980

68% of our elementary schools were built prior to 1980

- **Have the opportunity to learn in schools that are:**
  - Safe and secure.
  - Accessible to all.
  - Proactively maintained and updated as needed.
  - Adaptable to changing technology.
  - Integrated with the outdoors and nature.
  - Updated to include collaborative, flexible spaces that encourage group and self-learning.
- **Replaced when they have reached a point where they are more expensive to repair or renovate than replace.**

Renovate, Rebuild, or Retire Schools

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Illinois Park
1999

Washington
1893

Lowrie
1887

McKinley
1887

Hanover Countryside
1954

Glenbrook
1971

Century Oaks
1970

Parkwood
1971

Results of Elementary Site Audits

- **Current audit of every elementary building over 35-years-old by District leadership and architects to evaluate the following:**
  - Capacity
  - Safe, welcoming, and identifiable main entrance
  - ADA accessibility
  - Equitable access to learning spaces
    - Classrooms
    - Art & music spaces
    - Common spaces
      - Library, gymnasium, cafeteria, outdoor learning
  - Site size (acreage)
  - Traffic flow & parking

Community Feedback From Oct. 5 Unite-U46 Community Engagement Session

Task #1
- **How Important Are Each Of The Following Criteria For Elementary Schools?**

Task #2
- **Top 5 Planning Priorities**
  - Now, please rank the five criteria above that your group thinks are most important.

Top Five Priorities

1. Increase equitable access to educational programs (such as Dual Language, Gifted, Specialized Student Services, Early Childhood) at more schools districtwide.

2. Balance student enrollment at schools throughout the District

3. Create secure and easily identifiable entryways at the main entrance of school buildings.

4. Ensure that all of our schools are inclusive and ADA accessible to all of our students and families.

5. Provide dedicated classrooms for art and music classes.

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Community Feedback
From Oct. 5 Unite-U46 Community Engagement Session

Task #3: Other Suggestions/Questions
- **Use the space below to provide any suggestions or questions that should be considered during the process of addressing elementary schools.**

Findings from elementary site visits

Findings from the elementary visits

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Drainage and size of property

Findings from elementary site visits

Pick up and drop off - traffic flow

Findings from the elementary visits

Building envelope

Findings from the elementary visits

Building flow

Findings from the elementary visits

Ceiling heights and other limitations

Space needs

Findings from the elementary visits

Space needs - are rooms sized appropriately for future student populations?

Findings from the elementary visits

Accessibility
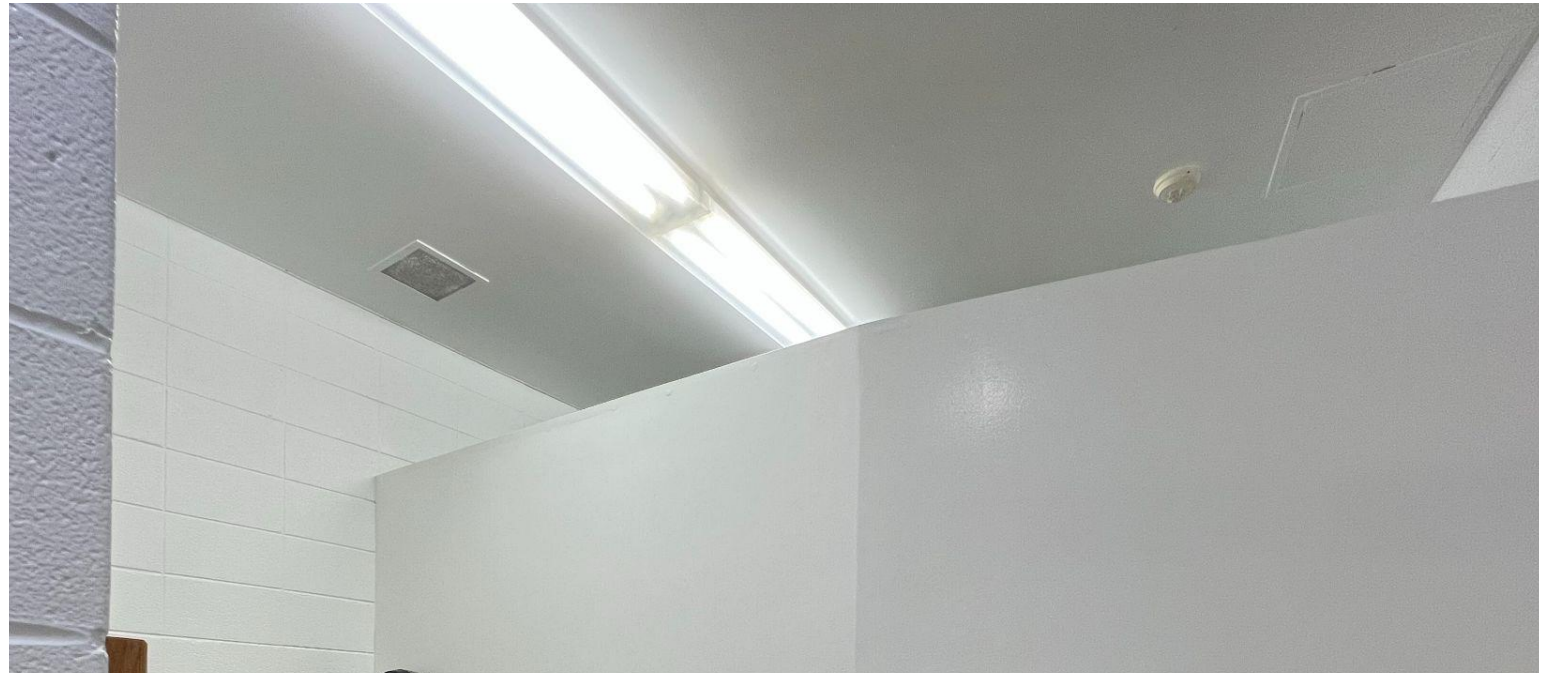
Is the building accessible to everyone?

Findings from the elementary visits

Status of Mechanicals, plumbing, electrical and other infrastructure needs

Acoustics

Size of classrooms and daylighting

Findings from the elementary visits

Secure and welcoming entries

How do visitors enter the building?

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**What Would You Do?
Renovate, Rebuild or Retire**

What Would You Do?

Let's Get To Work!

1. Learn about the building.

2. What are our options?

3. What would you do?

Not a U-46 school

What Would You Do?

Elementary School A Overview

- Built: 1906
- Lot size: 2.5 acres
- Capacity: 400
- 2026-27 Projected Enrollment (grades K-5): 250

Not a U-46 school

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Elementary School A Strengths

- Historical charm and landmark for the neighborhood
- Dual language site
- Neighborhood school
  - 80% of students walk to school
- Experienced teaching staff with average tenure of over 20 years
- Many families have sent generations of students to this school

Not a U-46 school

What Would You Do?

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Elementary School A Challenges

- Several classrooms below ground level and do not have natural light.

- Cannot create routes for ADA accessibility to these spaces, no routes for those in wheelchairs.

- Front entrances do not have secured entry.

Not a U-46 school

What Would You Do?

Elementary School A
Site Challenges

- Limited green space for recess and gathering of students before and after school.

- Space that does exist floods during heavy rains.

- Parking and parent drop off occur on the existing neighborhood streets that compromise safety.
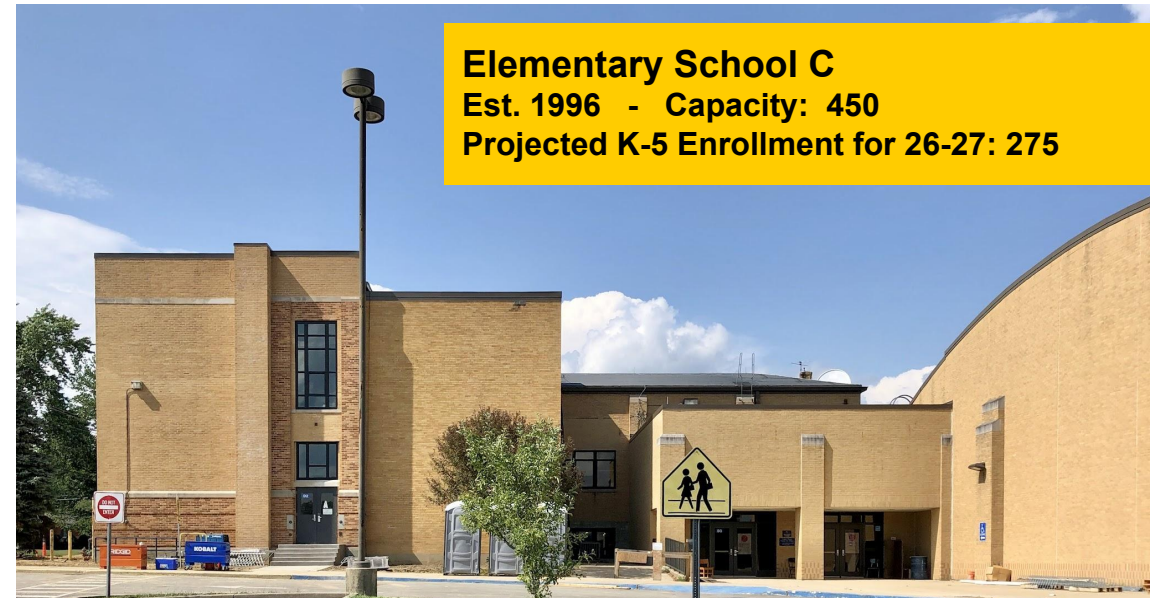

Not a U-46 school

What Would You Do?

Two Neighboring Schools:

- Both within one mile of Elementary School A

- Much newer and in better condition

- Have space to receive students from Elementary School A

  - Particularly after 6th grade moves to the middle school

Elementary School B
Est. 1970 - Capacity: 500
Projected K-5 Enrollment for 26-27: 325

Elementary School C
Est. 1996 - Capacity: 450
Projected K-5 Enrollment for 26-27: 275

Not U-46 schools

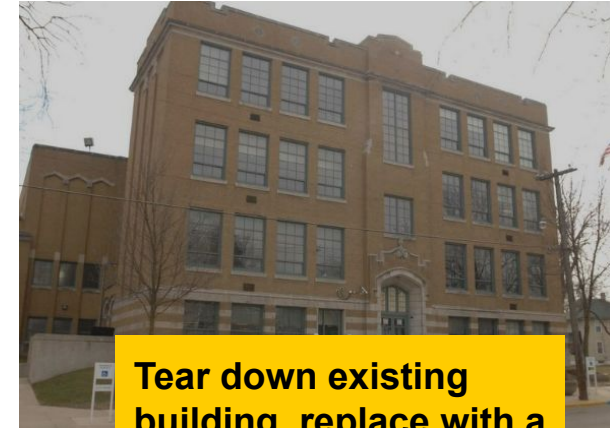# Option 1: Renovate
Construction Cost $$

- Renovate and/or add onto the existing building

- Students will not need to be relocated to another building during construction

- Will not be able to acquire any adjacent property, so any addition will need to fit in current 2.5 acres

- Tear down the existing building, rebuilding a new school on the same lot

- No room to build a new school on the site while the existing school is in use

- Once completed, new facility sits on the same location within the property
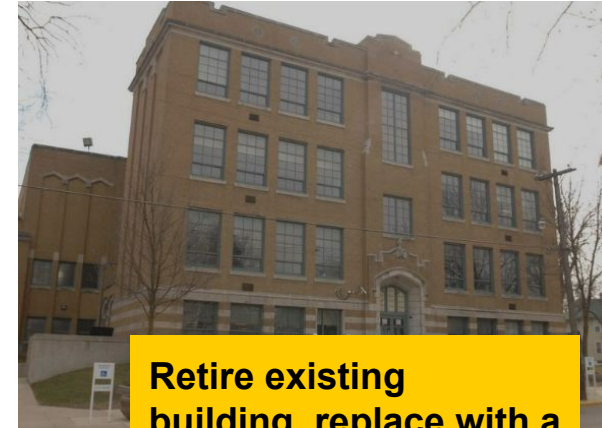

Tear down existing building, replace with a modern elementary building on the same location
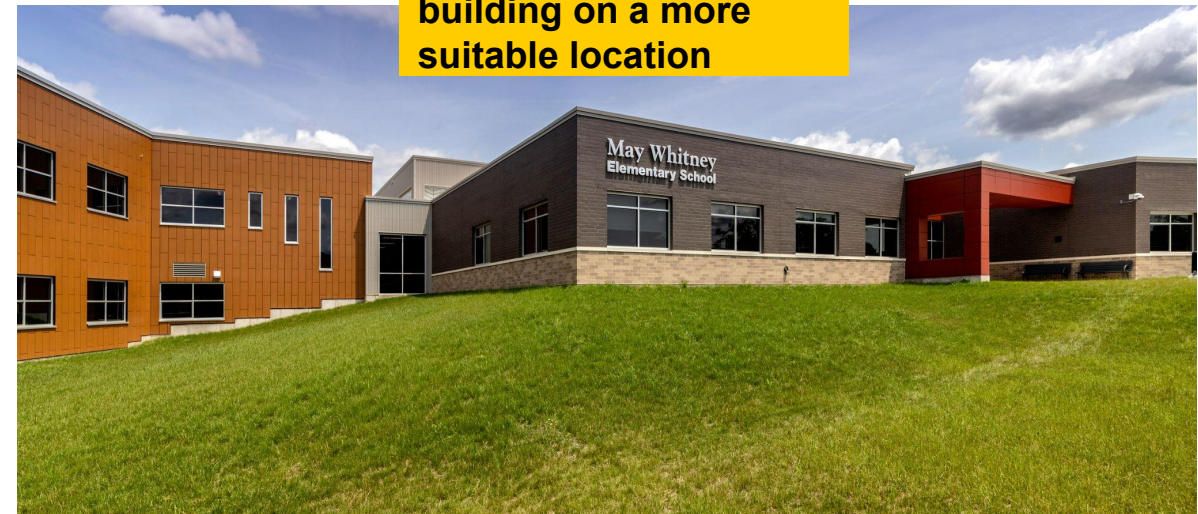
Option 3: Retire and Rebuild on New Site
Construction cost $$$$

- Identify a more suitable location to build a new school to accommodate the population of students

- Students will not need to be relocated to another building during construction

- Retire existing building once new school is ready

- New property may be 1 mile or more from the current location, but will be within attendance boundary

Retire existing building, replace with a modern elementary building on a more suitable location

- Update and modernize Elementary School B and/or C to accommodate more students and programs along with best practices in education

- Retire Elementary School A

- Relocate Elementary School A students to updated Elementary School B and/or C

- Will ensure that all students from School A will attend school in an improved learning environment

Retire existing building, relocate students to neighboring schools

What Would You Do?

Option 1: Renovate

- Construction Cost $$
- Save the neighborhood school
- Higher operating costs
- Ongoing high maintenance costs

Option 2: Rebuild on Current Site

- Construction Cost $$$
- Improved learning environment
- Lower operating costs
- No improvement to traffic/parking
- No additional green space

Option 3: Retire and Rebuild on New Site

- Construction Cost $$$$
- Lower operating costs
- Improved learning environment
- Traffic/parking resolved
- More green space

Option 4: Retire School and Relocate Students

- Construction Cost $$
- Higher operating costs
- Improved learning environment

Small Group Work Activity

Select Recorder & Spokesperson

Recorder Responsibilities

- **Complete the information on the group's worksheet**

Facilitator Responsibilities

- **Facilitate discussion**
- **Keep group focused and on task**
- **Report group's information**

Ground Rules

- **Focus on collective good, not just individual**

- **Be positive; focus on being productive**

- **Respect the opinions of fellow group members**

- **Give everyone an opportunity to speak**

- **Stay engaged with the conversation**

Small Group Work Activity

Task #1

- List up to three challenges and three opportunities for each option.

- Based on what you've heard tonight, what option would you recommend? Why?

- What additional information would you request to help make your recommendation?

Task #2

- What reaction would you expect from the families, community and staff impacted by your selected option?

- How would you address their concerns?

Small Group Work Activity

Next Steps/Schedule

Future Sessions:

- December 2 at South Elgin HS
- January TBD
- March TBD
- April / May TBD

Topics to cover in 2023-24:

- Building audit and priorities
- Criteria to determine how many schools needed to serve our community
- Attendance boundary planning criteria and parameters
- Transitioning to new schools

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Únete46
Siguiendo Adelante Juntos

Saturday Dec. 2 **Sábado**
8:30 a.m. South Elgin High School
760 E. Main St. in South Elgin
Register at uniteu46.org