



Cedar Rapids Community School District Facility Master Plan Process *Frequently Asked Questions*

What is the Facility Master Plan Process?

The District's Master Plan Process is our journey to **Reimagine, Re-envision, and Reinvest** in our Cedar Rapids Community School District students and school facilities. It is based on several factors, including:

- ever-increasing pressure on funding streams to support facility needs and improvements,
- potential replacement of schools,
- the possibility of needing new school facilities,
- necessary changes within the learning environment, and
- the location of District families within the community.

The process is intended to be transparent and to allow many topics to be discussed with diverse stakeholder representation and vetted by the greater community to assist in providing a Facility Master Plan recommendation to the Board of Education.

Why is there a Master Facilities Committee?

Because of the complexity of the process, a Master Facilities Committee of stakeholders was formed to engage in large group conversations as well as more focused small-group work to examine and analyze District needs. The 85-member committee is made up of community leaders, parents, employees, students, and other interested community members. The committee work is fluid through a series of meetings, group discussions, and activities; multiple opportunities for community input are also provided.

What was the role of the sub-committees?

There are many moving parts in developing a Facility Master Plan. To provide intentional time to examine the key areas of finance, program offerings, grade configuration, new schools/renovations, and criteria for closing/repurposing schools, the Master Facilities Committee was divided into five subcommittee groups that each met two or three times. These resulted in having "subject-matter experts" in each area. By focusing the smaller sub-committees on specialized areas of the discussion and bringing that new expertise to the larger committee, the process was also streamlined and made more efficient.

What happened during Phase 1?

Phase 1 (September – December 2016) included a series of meetings designed to focus the Committee work toward the final Facility Master Plan. This began with the creation of the Master Committee and five sub-committee groups. Each sub-committee was responsible for creating Belief Statements that will align the work of the Master Committee. The community had the opportunity to provide input regarding the Belief Statements through input sessions and an online survey.

What is planned during Phase 2?

Phase 2 (January – October 2017) will build on the work of each of the five sub-committees. Using the Belief Statements as a framework, the Master Committee will develop recommendations related to a Facility Master Plan. This process will include a series of Committee meetings, Board of Education meeting presentations, and public input sessions. A series of tours will include visits to District schools, facilities in neighboring school districts, and two school districts in Kansas City. This is intended to help Committee members better understand current District facilities and to see what 21st Century Schools look like in facilities built within the past five years. The Kansas City tours will additionally provide an opportunity for Committee members to see firsthand the ways that other school districts addressed facility needs issues to ensure students are college and career ready.

What will be involved in Phase 3?

Phase 3 (October 2017 - TBD) will involve action steps for implementation of the Facility Master Plan. This may include meetings of the sub-committees and Master Facilities Committee, as well as building tours, special presentations, and homework.

When will the process be completed?

A Facilities Plan will be submitted to the Board of Education for consideration on September 25, 2017, with the consideration for final Board adoption planned for October 23, 2017.

How can I provide my input to the Committee?

Attend one of the public input sessions scheduled for April 11, 12, and 13 and complete the online survey that will be available April 18-28.