

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
about the
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT CENTER

- 1. What is the name of the new District building and where is it located?**
 - a. The Educational Leadership and Support Center (ELS Center) will be located at 2500 Edgewood Road NW.*

- 2. What is the size of building footprint?**
 - a. 169,000 square feet*

- 3. How was the decision made to build a new facility to replace buildings damaged in the 2008 flood?**
 - a. The Board of Education voted unanimously to build the facility following a five-month public input process and at the recommendation of District administration.*

- 4. What is the construction timeline/schedule?**
 - a. Construction for site work began August 2, 2010. The building construction will begin in the fall of 2010 and is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2012.*

- 5. How much will the project cost and how is it funded?**
 - a. The budget for the Educational Leadership and Support Center is \$44.5 million. The District will utilize approximately \$12.8 million in FEMA and State Public Assistance funding for qualifying flood 2008 related damages with the remainder provided by SILO backed bonds.*

- 6. What is the interest rate being paid on bonds and when will they be fully repaid?**
 - a. In July 2010, the District sold \$30 million in SILO backed Bonds. These bonds will be repaid over a period of 18 years, maturing on January 1, 2030 at an average interest rate of 4.5%*

- 7. Will the funding for this project lessen funds available for student programs?**
 - a. No. FEMA and State public assistance funds must be used for flood recovery. Silo bond funds are restricted to infrastructure uses only.*

- 8. Is construction of ELS Center delaying the completion of projects originally associated with the SILO tax?**
 - a. No. All SILO funded projects that were proposed in February 2007 when the SILO was originally passed by a majority of voters are still scheduled to be completed as originally planned.*

- 9. Are my taxes going to increase because of this construction project?**
 - a. No. SILO is an existing local option sales tax that is scheduled to end on December, 31, 2029. No additional funding source supported by taxes is anticipated.*

- 10. If cost of construction for the ELS Center comes in below total budgeted costs what will happen to any savings?**
 - a. Any savings related to construction costs coming in under budget will increase SILO anticipated reserves and allow the District to consider other infrastructure improvements in the future.*

11. What departments and services will be located in this building?

- a. *The Educational Leadership and Support Center will house all support and administration services previously located at the ESC, Annex, Carpenter and Paint Shop, Warehouse, and Transportation Center. The building will also include meeting space for the Board of Education and a Professional Development Center. The District anticipates savings over time in utility costs and will experience an increase in staff productivity by having all support services located under a single roof.*

12. Will any student-based programs be located at the ELS Center?

- a. *No*

13. How will this facility support student needs?

- a. *The role of the District support facility will remain the same and will be further enhanced by having all departments under a single roof and by the addition of a Professional Development Center.*

14. How can the District support spending \$44 million on a building when staff members were laid off in 2009-10?

- a. *Reductions of \$8.4 million in State funding to the District during the 2009-2010 school year impacted only the District's General Fund and led to reduction in staff levels. Staff members who were laid off in 2009-2010 were supported by the District's General Fund.*

15. The area of construction was flooded in 2008. How is the District addressing the possibility of another flood?

- a. *The building will be located on the site in such a way that the lowest level is 8 feet above the 2008 flood line. Grading has also been designed to minimize the parking area that will be affected by future flood events.*