



PLANNING FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS  
**FUTURE-PROOFING USD 418 FACILITIES**

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING?**

Over the past five years, the USD 418 Board of Education has been evaluating our current buildings and looking at how facilities can help fuel student and community success for the next 50 years. We recently held visioning sessions with community and staff to look at key factors and develop possible solutions. We're now seeking advice from you on possible options that emerged from these meetings.

### **WHY IS A FACILITIES PLAN NEEDED?**

Our community's ability to thrive in the future depends on the quality of our schools, and facilities play a major role in the education of our children.

As you'll see in the following pages, we're at a crossroads. Many buildings—including the HVAC, electrical, and other systems within them—have exceeded their life expectancy. Our community demographics are shifting. The needs of our students and staff are different from when the original buildings were designed.

**In short, it's a complex puzzle. And, we need your input to solve it.**

## FACILITIES PLANNING: **CHALLENGES TO CONSIDER**

**21st Century  
Learning  
Environment**

**Aging  
Facilities**

**Logistics**

**Utilization &  
Demographics**

**Recruitment**

**Private  
Funding**

## CHALLENGE #1 LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

When it comes to learning, the physical environment matters. Many USD 418 classrooms present barriers for student success, including:

- Structurally-failing floors and walls
- Poor temperature regulation
- Insufficient infrastructure for technology
- Lack of space for group learning
- Poor lighting
- Outdated furnishings

These factors limit learning opportunities and are distractions for students and staff. In addition, in today's project-driven classrooms, students and staff need flexible space for collaboration.

### What Does A Modern Learning Environment Look Like?

#### Comfortable Classrooms

- Quality of HVAC controls
- Quality of artificial lighting
- Quality of natural light
- Noise Levels

#### Educational Spaces

- Classroom sizes
- Spatial flexibility
- Diversity of classrooms
- Visibility of learning spaces

#### Programmatic Spaces

- Spaces that don't exist
- Over-programmed spaces

#### Environmental Factors

- Natural daylight in building
- Views to outside

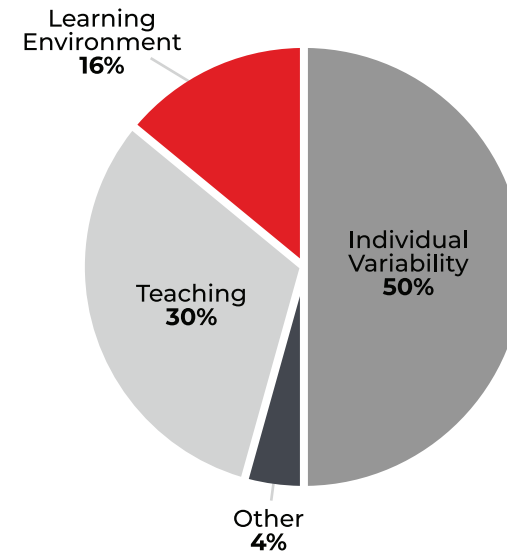
#### Furniture & Equipment

- Furniture support multiple modalities
- Furniture condition
- Technology supports learning/teaching
- Condition of Technology

#### Collaboration

- Collaboration spaces in school
- Classroom culture supports collaboration

### FACILITIES IMPACT LEARNING



Hattie, John. "Visible learning: A synthesis of over 800 meta-analyses relating to achievement." (2008)  
 Nye, Barbara, Spyros Konstantopoulos, and Larry Hedges. "How large Are Teachers effects?" Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis 26, no. 3 (2004): 237-57.  
 Barrett, Peter, Fay Davies, Yufan Zhang, and Lucinda Barrett. "The impact of classroom design on pupils' learning: Final results of a holistic, multi-level analysis." Building and Environment 89 (2015): 118-133.

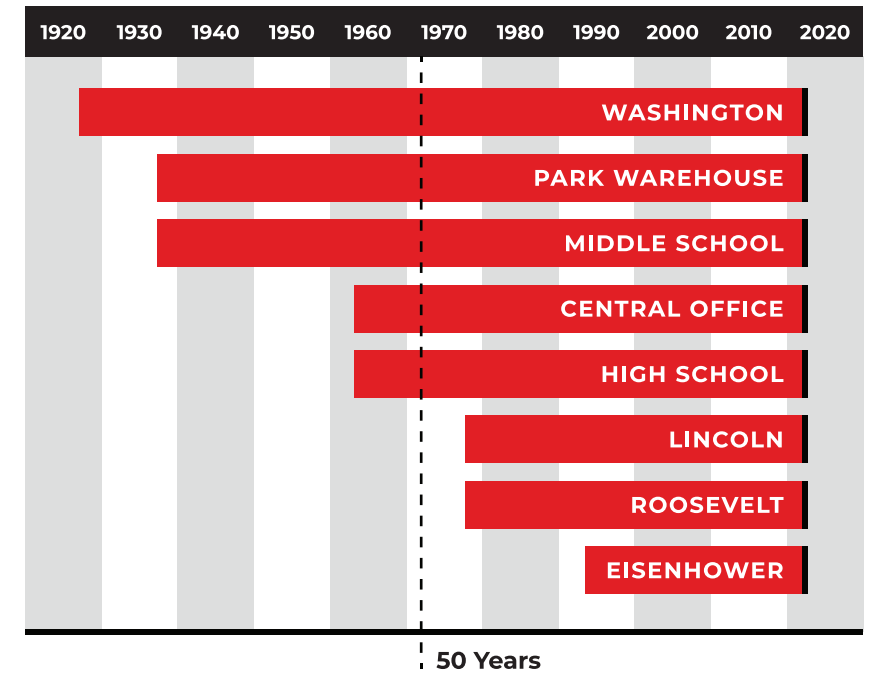
## CHALLENGE #2 AGING FACILITIES

The expected lifespan for a typical school building is 50 years. Once a facility reaches this age, its mechanical systems and structures need extensive renovations or to be replaced entirely.

More than half of our district buildings have exceeded that number, and all but one will reach this milestone in the next 10 years.

In addition, older buildings were not designed with sufficient safety and security measures.

### WE HAVE A LOT OF BUILDINGS...AND THEY'RE AGING



### USD 418 Facility Condition Report On a 5-Point scale, with 5 being the best

	High School	Middle School	Eisenhower	Lincoln	Roosevelt	Washington
Site	2	2	3	2	2	2
Building Exterior	2	2	2	3	3	4
Structure	2	3	3	2	2	2
Roofing	2	3	3	3	3	3
Interior/ADA	2	2	2	3	3	2
Tech Capability	2	2	2	2	2	2
Electrical	3	3	3	5	5	3
Mechanical	1	2	2	2	2	2
Plumbing	2	1	2	3	3	3
Safety & Security	2	2	2	2	2	4
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
<i>Ideal is 80-100%</i>	40%	44%	48%	54%	54%	54%

#### Specific issues in USD 418 buildings include:

- Outdated heating/cooling systems
- Leaky roofing and walls
- Handicap accessibility difficulties
- Ongoing structural issues, including failures
- Kitchen & cafeterias are outdated and inefficient
- Inadequate parking
- Locker rooms are in disrepair
- Needed improvements for safety/security

See detailed building report cards at [418FacilitiesPlanning.com](http://418FacilitiesPlanning.com)

### USD 418 EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT REPORT CARDS

High School	2.1	★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆
Middle School	1.7	★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆
Eisenhower	1.6	★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
Lincoln	1.8	★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆
Roosevelt	1.9	★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆
Washington	2.2	★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

**BENCHMARK:**  
At least 4 stars in each category



See detailed building report cards at [418FacilitiesPlanning.com](http://418FacilitiesPlanning.com)

## CHALLENGE #3 LOGISTICS

Many students are bussed from their main campus to another location for special classes, especially in the Middle and High Schools. This causes the student to miss time in two classes every day. We also have to account for drive time of teachers and coaches who have groups at multiple buildings, which takes away from their instructional time.

Sports and activities also get shuffled to different community buildings, due to lack of available performance space at our buildings. Our coaches and teachers, who coordinate transportation and scheduling, spend endless hours trying to find available spaces for students to play and perform. The burden then gets passed to families, who have to figure out school drop-offs and pick-ups for sports practices and games at various campuses.

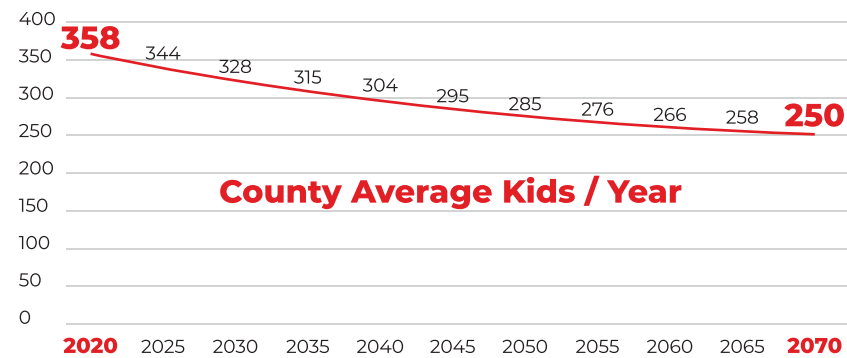
## CHALLENGE #4 UTILIZATION & COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

In the next 50 years, projections show our community's makeup will look very different. The McPherson County birth rate is declining by 1/3, which will impact the number of students we have per building.

Source: CEDBR



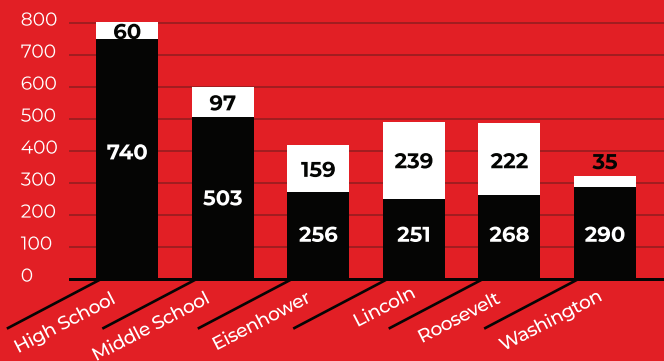
### Birth Rate Declining by 1/3 MCPHERSON COUNTY 2020-2070



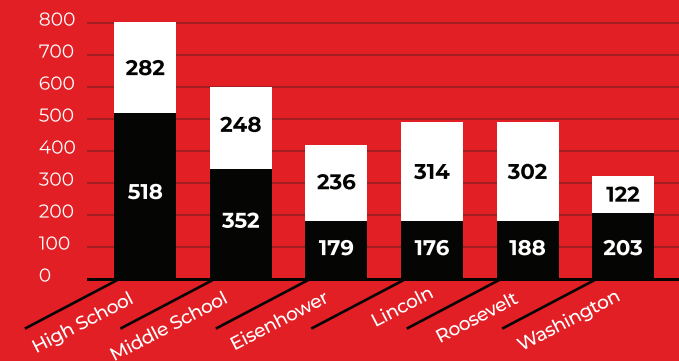
We also face utilization challenges. Right now, three elementary schools are under 60% capacity.

Using the current 2070 projections, no USD 418 building will be more than two-thirds full, which poses the question: **Are we going to be able to afford maintaining the same number of buildings?**

#### 2022 USD 418 Building Utilization CURRENT ENROLLMENT & CAPACITY



#### 2070 USD 418 Example Building Utilization PROJECTED ENROLLMENT & CAPACITY



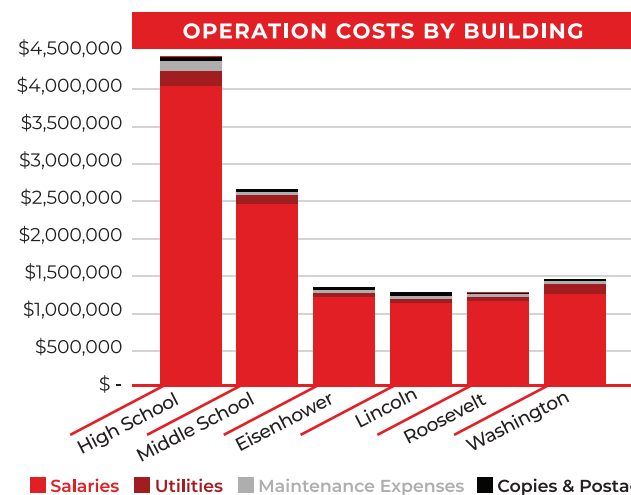
Ideal building utilization is 76-89%

As an example, here are operation costs for one month in one building. Operations costs alone total \$100,000. Minimizing the number of buildings we operated would allow us to reallocate funds.

Learn more at [418FacilitiesPlanning.com](http://418FacilitiesPlanning.com)



### Cost Factors to Consider



WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY	
Salaries	\$ 1,304,046
Heating	\$ 10,860
Electricity	\$ 33,803
Water	\$ 2,089
Trash	\$ 2,862
Custodial Supplies	\$ 207
Maint Supplies	\$ 24,874
Fire Inspection	\$ 30
Copy Machine Copies	\$ 11,343
Copy Machine Rental	\$ 4,044
Postage	\$ 482
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,394,641</b>

## CHALLENGE #5 RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

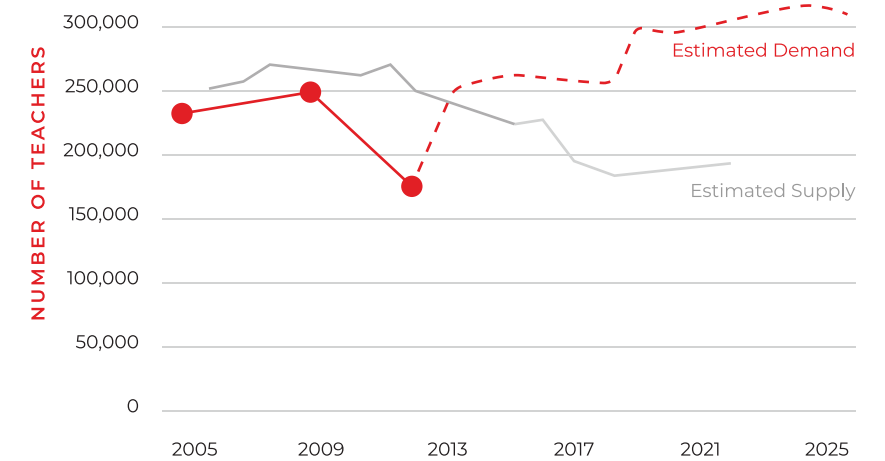


When potential residents are choosing a community to raise a family, quality of local schools is a crucial part of their decision. Achievements in academics and activities are not enough; they see facilities as a reflection of a community's investment in education.

With baby boomers retiring and teachers leaving the profession, the number of available teachers is declining while demand continues to climb. Staff positions are even more difficult to fill: Bus drivers, maintenance staff, food service staff, and paraeducators to name a few.

Figure 1.

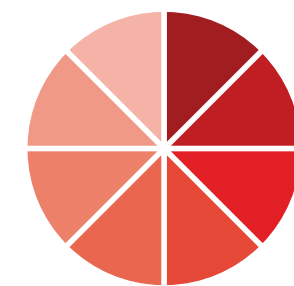
#### PROJECTED TEACHER SUPPLY AND DEMAND



### Configuration Impacts Salaries WHAT DO WE PRIORITIZE?

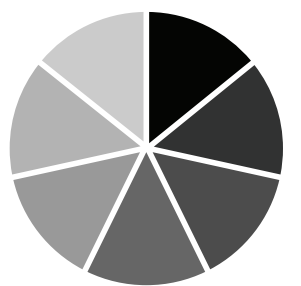
Having fewer buildings to maintain could assist with keeping the buildings fully staffed, as well as be a source of funds for raising pay.

#### 8 Sections of Grades Across 4 Buildings



18 per section  
Avg. teacher salary  
\$XX,XXX

#### 7 Sections of Grades Across 3 Buildings



20 per section  
Avg. teacher salary  
\$XX,XXX

## CHALLENGE #6 PRIVATE FUNDING

In previous facilities conversations, the community asked about the possibility of private funding for facilities—especially for athletics. As a result, the Board of Education conducted a fundraising feasibility study earlier this year with large local employers and individual benefactors. This study indicated that the total amount of available private funds is \$1 million.

A capital campaign is currently underway to fund enhancements to the new field at MHS, including lights and bleachers. This facility has already proven to be an asset, as it allows MHS and MMS to practice for many activities without relying on other community facilities. These include physical education classes, band practices, and a variety of athletic practices and events.

If you are interested in contributing to this project, please call Central Office at **620-241-9400**.

# PLANNING PROCESS & TIMELINE

In 2018, the USD 418 Board of Education began assessing district facilities and putting together a long-term plan to align these buildings with educational goals and opportunities. The result of this work was the June 2021 bond election, which did not pass.

Following that ballot question, we conducted a community survey to get more input. Since that time, the Board of Education has been reassessing all information and engaging the community to get further input.

Based on that input, we defined the guiding principles and project priorities.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Fiscally responsible
- Safety and security
- Meet the needs of all students
- Involve all stakeholders
- Long-term, sustainable solutions

## PROJECT PRIORITIES

- Community partnerships
- Elementary grade level configuration
- Comprehensive solution for all grade levels
- Sound infrastructure
- Flexible

## Facilities Planning Timing

SINCE AUGUST 2021



# WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

In October, the Board of Education hosted three community input sessions and two teacher/staff input sessions. The following themes emerged:

- Bringing grade levels 7-8 and 9-12 to one campus, with separate facilities, would cut down on logistics chaos for families and staff
- Reducing number of buildings owned gives an opportunity to be more efficient with taxpayer money



Using these key takeaways, the Board of Education synthesized the feedback into 2 options:

### OPTION 1

- 7-8 building and 9-12 facilities at current high school site
- Sell middle school and existing central office for development by outside parties
- Relocate central offices to available space in existing or newly built property
- Maintain the four elementary buildings for Pre-K-6; configuration to be determined
- Consolidate operations by selling Park Warehouse and purchase current transportation facility, which is being leased

### OPTION 2

- 7-8 building and 9-12 facilities at current high school site
- Middle school becomes 5-6 center and central office
- Pre-K – 4 across Roosevelt, Eisenhower and Lincoln
- Sell Washington and central office
- Consolidate operations by selling Park Warehouse and purchase current transportation facility, which is being leased



**MCPHERSON**

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
USD 418**

514 N Main St,  
McPherson, KS 67460

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer

## **WE NEED YOUR INPUT**

Review the challenges and the options proposed on page seven. Then, let us know your advice by filling out a short survey. The survey will take less than 10 minutes, and it includes the following questions:

- Which option do you think best solves the challenges? Why?
- Is there anything missing? What else should we consider?
- How much are you willing to invest on a monthly basis for a long-term facilities solution?

**COMPLETE ONLINE SURVEY BY**  
**NOV. 27**

If you prefer a paper version of this survey, please visit USD 418 Central Office  
Mon-Thurs, 8:00AM – 4:30PM and Fridays, 8:00AM – 4:00PM

