

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Thurston Elementary School Neighbor Update 2024

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AGENDA

Capital Program Background

- AAPS Capital Program and 2019 Bond Objectives
- Site-Related Commitments
- Phase 2 Capital Program Plan

Project Update

- Project Timeline
- 21st Century Schools
- Schematic Site Plans

Q/A



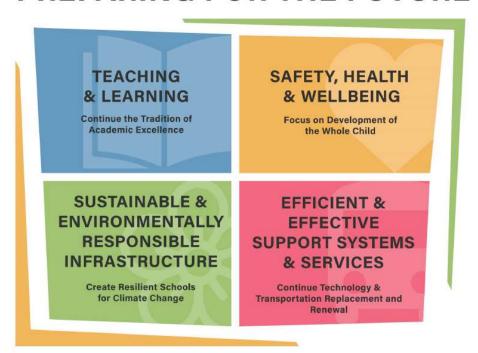
AAPS Capital Program – Objective

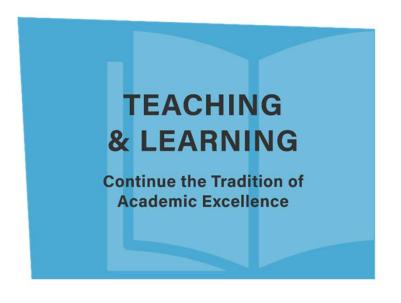


To transform the student
learning experience with the goal
of providing for the health, safety,
and well-being of all students in
high-quality, equitable, and
environmentally sustainable schools

2019 Bond - Areas of Focus

2019 BOND **PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE**





- Upgrade classrooms and labs
- Improve natural light, air quality, sound
- Enhance performing arts spaces
- Replace musical instruments
- Add social / emotional support areas for counselors, nurses, tutors and speech therapists
- Create STEAM / Makerspace labs
- Address projected growth in student enrollment and overcrowding while maintaining class size
- Collaborative, project-based spaces in all schools
- Build upon long-standing environmental education program with new curricula and instructional models

- Add secure entry vestibules
- Upgrade surveillance cameras and access systems
- Ensure safe drinking water and air quality
- Cook healthy local food in the cafeterias
- Install school gardens
- Enhance playgrounds and athletic facilities
- Upgrade parking lots

SAFETY, HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Focus on Development of the Whole Child



- Add new classroom devices / equipment to support curriculum goals
- Refresh devices and equipment to stay current over next 15-20 years
- Renovate media centers to support digital learning and collaboration
- Continue bus fleet replacement schedule reduce repair costs, stay up-to-date on efficiency improvements, and promote bus fleet safety
- Provide improved custodial, information technology, public address, and audio/visual support spaces

EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE SUPPORT SYSTEMS & SERVICES

Continue Technology & Transportation Replacement and Renewal



SUSTAINABLE & ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Create Resilient Schools for Climate Change

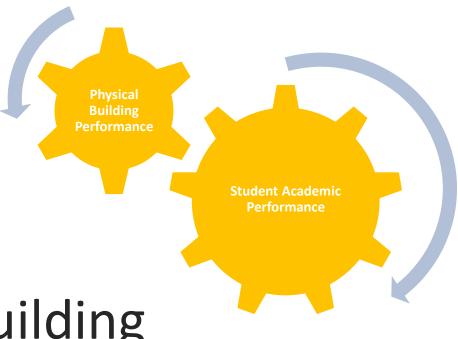
- Prepare schools to adapt to climate change
- Chart a course for carbon neutrality
- Utilize interior and exterior finishes that are longlasting and require minimal maintenance and replacement
- Install dimmable LED lighting
- Install renewable solar & geothermal energy sources
- Increase recycling and composting



Linking Academic Performance

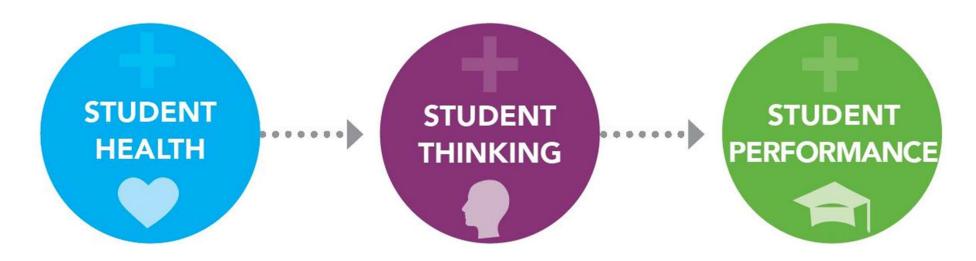
with





'Healthy Buildings for Health', Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

"Schools for Health: Foundations for Success"



www.schools.forhealth.org

'How School Buildings Influence Student Health, Thinking, and Performance'



Research Overview – How Students:



Source: "The Impact of School Buildings on Student Health and Performance: A Call for Research" http://www.usgbc.org/Docs/Archive/General/Docs18534.pdf

Phase 2 Capital Program – Site-Related Goals

To ensure safe and secure schools as centers of the community

To prepare our schools to adapt to climate change and act as centers of neighborhood resiliency and, when feasible, to maintain critical life-support conditions in the event of extended power loss, heating fuel or water

To improve school grounds to provide separation of pedestrian, bicycle, car, and bus traffic



Phase 2 Capital Program – Site-Related Goals

To provide opportunities for all students to enjoy physical activity in formal and informal settings

To continue improvement of playgrounds; including ageappropriate equipment, ADA / universal design equipment, and spaces for unstructured, creative play

To continue improvement of sports fields and to repair and modernize playgrounds. To replace or improve elementary 'black top' spaces



Phase 2 Capital Program – Site-Related Goals

To provide opportunities for students to engage in on-site gardening and food production

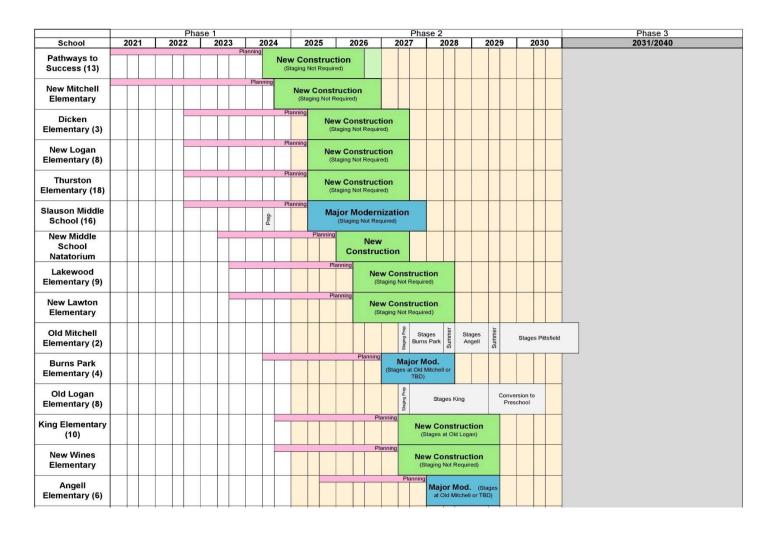
To support construction and maintenance of school gardens that include a dedicated water source and outdoor shaded classrooms

To create bio-diverse ecologies on school grounds that support local ecosystems and manage storm water. Promote bio-diversity and healthy sites

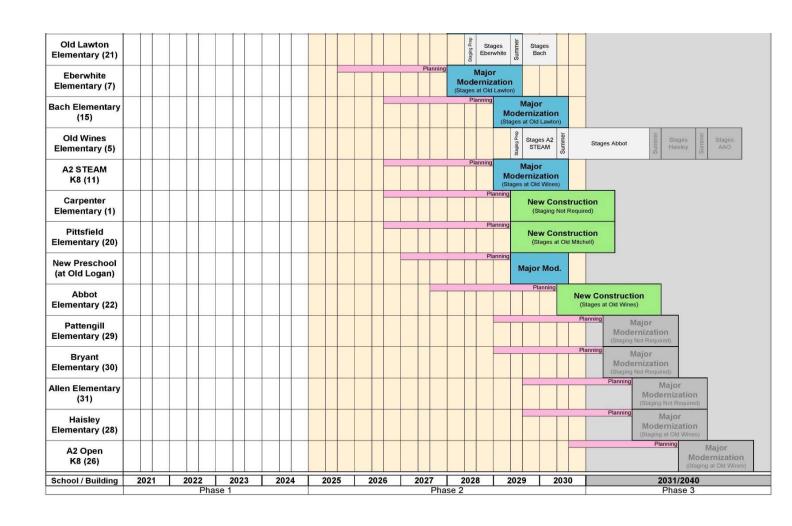




Phase 2 Capital Program Plan



Phase 2 Capital Program Plan, con't





Timeline



Engagements to develop the Project Program began with the School Community in March 2023. The process then moved through a phase where the Program was translated into rough building blocks and vetted for conformity.

Groundbreaking for Thurston is expected as early as Spring, 2025. The new school is expected to be occupied in Fall, 2027, after which Old Thurston will be deconstructed and demolished and any remaining site amenities will be constructed

Engagements



3/15/2023	Weekly Meetings Begin		
3/24/2023	Visioning Workshop		
4/12/2023	Staff Engagement	9/13/2023	Sustainability Workshop
4/27/2023	Visioning Workshop	9/15/2023	School Leadership Update
5/3/2023	Staff Engagement	9/19/2023	Teaching and Learning Support Services Round Robin
5/15/2023	Weekly Meetings End	9/27/2023	Staff Engagement
5/23/2023	Integrated Design Workshop	9/29/2023	Community Engagement (Parents, Students, Staff)
6/5/2023	Community Division Round Robin	10/6/2023	Staff Mapping Workshop
7/12/2023	Food Service and Transportation Departmental	10/11/2023	Staff Engagement
7/42/2022	Engagement	5/10/2024	Staff Mapping
//12/2023	PLTW Round Robin		•
7/21/2023	Food Service Round Robin	6/7/2024	Thurston Nature Center
7/21/2023	Safety and Security Round Robin	8/21/2024	Food Service
8/1/2023	Arts and Music Round Robin	9/3/2024	Thurston Nature Center
8/9/2023	Science Round Robin	9/26/2024	Thurston Neighbor Update



Thurston Elementary Neighbor Update | 2024



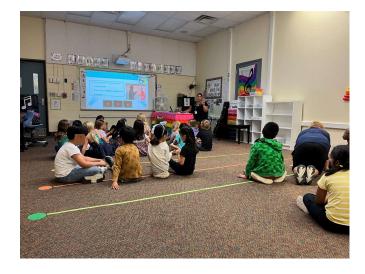
Why Thurston Elementary School Now?

- Extensive capital needs identified in the Facilities Condition Assessment (FCA)
- Elementary building age of 61 years
- Enrollment pressures focused at elementary in the Northeast Sector
- The biggest impact can be made by focusing on the youngest learners
- Improvements to the learning environment is a proven way to have the greatest impact on the youngest learners













Facilities Condition Assessment (FCA)

Thurston's Facilities Conditions Assessment (FCA) scored the facility's condition as '**poor'** in 2018.

An FCA is a **life cycle engineering analysis** of the condition of a facility in terms of age, design, construction methods, and material.

It identifies needed infrastructure investments and risks associated with continued deferral of maintenance and replacement investments.

It uses these categories:

Excellent

= New or very close to new; component or system typically has been installed within the past year, sound and performing its function. Eventual repair or replacement will be required when the component or system either reaches the end of its useful life or fails in service.

Good

Satisfactory as-is. Component or system is sound and performing its function, typically within the first third of its lifecycle. However, it may show minor signs of normal wear and tear. Repair or replacement will be required when the component or system either reaches the end of its useful life or fails in service.

Fair

Showing signs of wear and use but still satisfactory as-is, typically near the median of its estimated useful life. Component or system is performing adequately at this time but may exhibit some signs of wear, deferred maintenance, or evidence of previous repairs. Repair or replacement will be required due to the component or system's condition and/or its estimated remaining useful life.



Component or system is significantly aged, flawed, functioning intermittently or unreliably; displays obvious signs of deferred maintenance; shows evidence of previous repair or workmanship not in compliance with commonly accepted standards; has become obsolete; or exhibits an inherent deficiency. The present condition could contribute to or cause the deterioration of contiguous elements or systems. Either full component replacement is needed or repairs are required to restore to good condition, prevent premature failure, and/or prolong useful life.

What does the FCA Suggest?

To transform Thurston from 'poor' to 'good' condition, it would be necessary to entirely replace the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire alarm, and technology infrastructure, plus overhaul insulation and weather barriers in our exterior walls, replace all exterior doors, windows, cladding, and roofing, plus replace interior finishes as well as amenities such as doors, cabinetry, etc.

This significant investment would represent a major disruption to the operations of the school but **does not address our obligation to transform the student experience**, nor would it attain an 'excellent' condition.

What does an FCA <u>not</u> address?

Modernizing the Facility. This includes improvements such as:

- New Teaching and Learning Space Types
- Safety and Security Infrastructure
- Support Services Spaces
- Inclusivity
- Occupant Wellness and Health
- Indoor / Outdoor Connections
- Etc.

Or any of the following conditions:

- Utilization
- Building Size
- Emergency Responder Access
- Site Circulation Improvements
- Stormwater Management Improvements
- Future-proofing
- Etc.





21st Century Schools

New AAPS schools will be designed as humancentric 21st Century learning environments

These are agile learning environments which encourage exploration and collaboration, with ample support spaces

Schools continue to provide more space per student to improve how instruction is delivered and received



What are 21st-Century Schools?

They are state-of-the-art, student-centric, flexible, sustainable facilities, adding much needed support and break-out spaces.

Because of this, these buildings are larger than our existing schools are for the same enrollments.

Sites for these schools are expected to accommodate all daily parking and drop-off / pick-up traffic needs in addition to improved Outdoor Classrooms, play amenities, and Gardens.













One Classroom became five spaces for Instruction, Student Support, and Storage

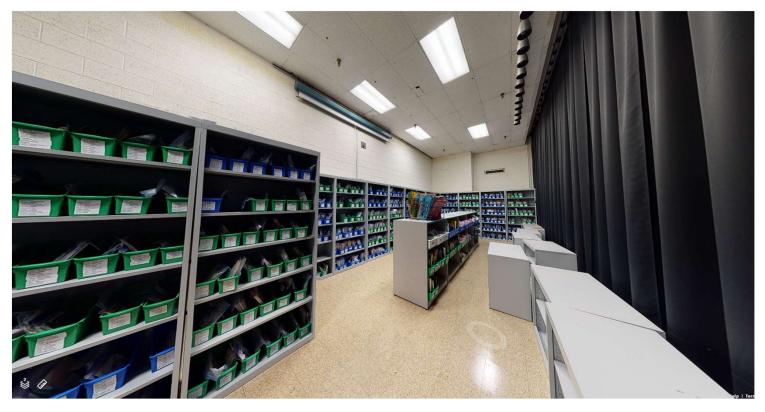


Library Resource and Book Room became spaces for Instruction and Student Support





Teacher's Lounge and Workroom became Student Support Spaces



Stage became Book Room



Stage became Music Classroom

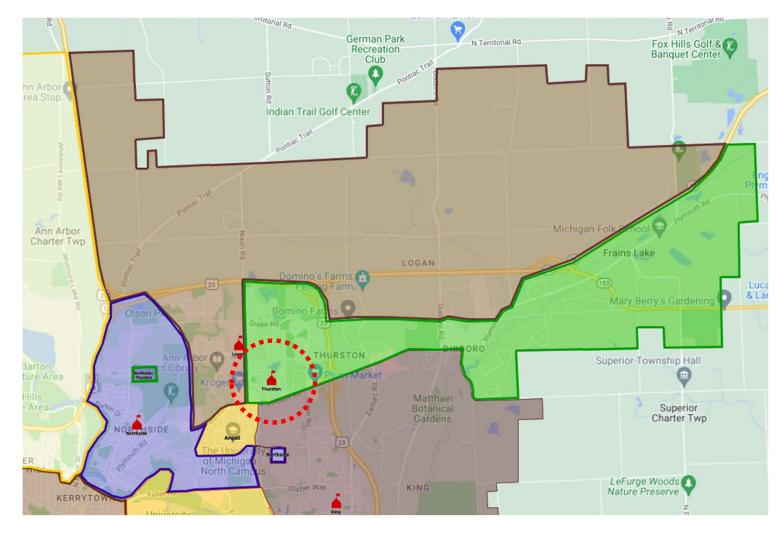




Cafeteria Scenes

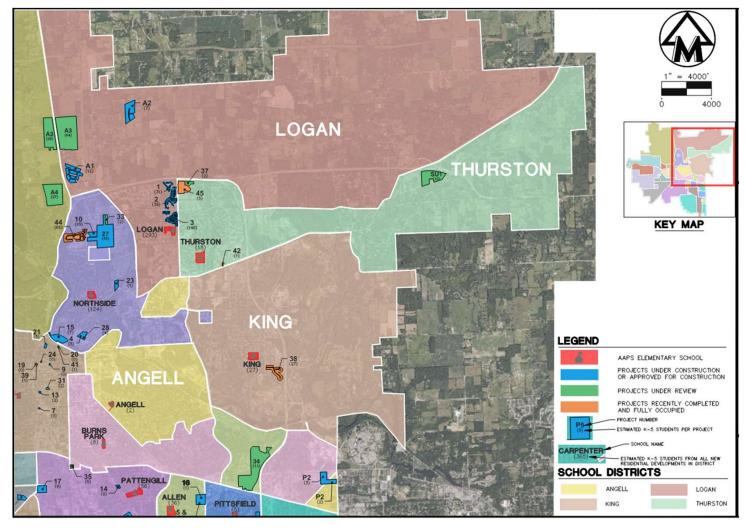


Thurston Attendance Boundary





Thurston Development Pressures



Excerpt from 2023 Midwestern Consulting Development Study





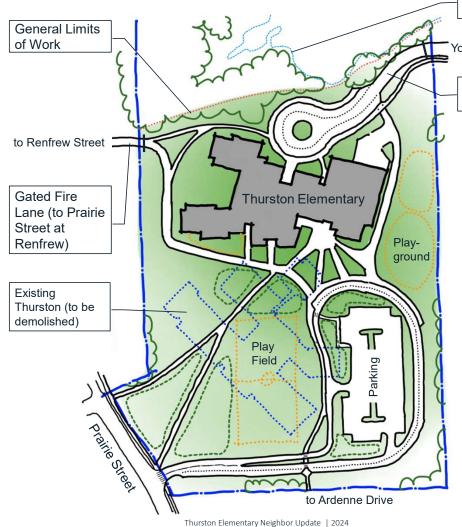
Thurston Elementary Aerial





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Thurston Site Plan, July 2024



Water's Edge (Varies Seasonally)

Yorktown Drive

Gated Bus and Service Entry, for 6 buses

Considerations:

- Maintain the health and safety of all students and staff during construction.
- Maintain existing school operations while constructing a new facility.
- · Meet all current regulatory requirements.
- School site functions, including Pick-Up / Drop / Off, Play Areas, Garden, Outdoor Classrooms, Project Terraces, Parking, Fire Lanes, Stormwater, and Utilities and Services must be optimized.

Thurston Site Plan, July 2024 (Tree Impacts)

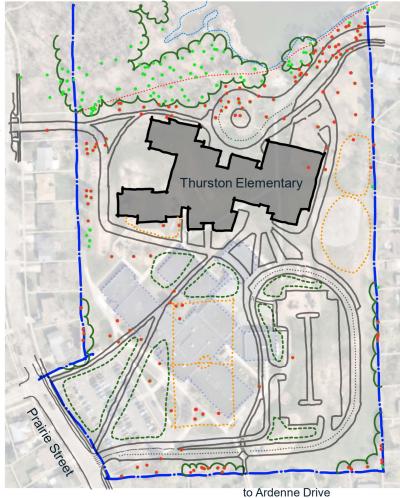


Yorktown Drive

- Smaller trees can be transplanted Winter / Spring of 2025 and between 76 and 81 other trees north of the new building will be felled / harvested.
- Many other trees on campus, south of the new building, will also be felled / harvested, including those which are less than 6" dbh (not shown to the left).
- Impacts 0.02 acre Wetland Buffer at new entrance from Yorktown Drive.

Thurston – Conceptual Site Plan, Alt. 1

to Renfrew Street



Yorktown Drive

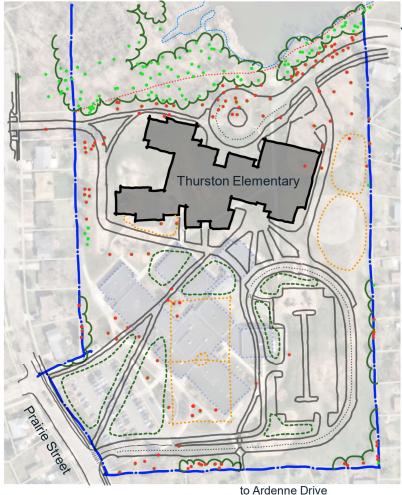
Considerations:

· Compresses the Bus Entrance Plaza.

- Between 9 and 12 trees north of the new building will remain unaffected, as compared to original conceptual plan.
- · All else remains the same.

Thurston – Conceptual Site Plan, Alt. 2

to Renfrew Street



Yorktown Drive

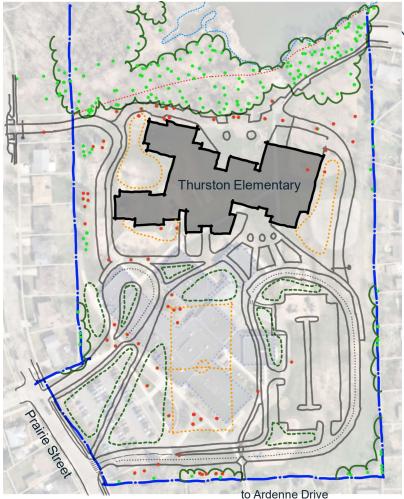
Considerations:

 Requires acquisition of neighboring residence on Yorktown Drive.

- Between 9 and 11 trees north of the new building will remain unaffected, as compared to original conceptual plan.
- Note: Alternates 1 and 2 could be combined, resulting in between 18 and 23 trees north of the new building remaining unaffected, as compared to original conceptual plan.
- · All else remains the same.

Thurston – Conceptual Site Plan, Alt. 3

to Renfrew Street



Yorktown Drive

Considerations:

- Moves Bus Entrance south of the new building, requiring temporary bus access for a year, and placing access to the school for bus riders at a greater distance than in the original conceptual plan.
- Moves Service Drive access to the Parent Drop-Off Loop, increasing vehicle traffic near Play Areas.
- Creates a Fire Lane to the north of the new building, which will double as a Community Space.

- Between 50 and 55 trees north of the building remain unaffected, as compared to July, 2024 conceptual plan.
- Reduces, and may eliminate, 0.02 acre Wetland Buffer impact



Thurston Site Plan, Today



Water's Edge (Varies Seasonally)

Yorktown Drive

Building:

- Present Enrollment: 525
- Max Enrollment in the Past Decade: 526
- Projected Growth: fewer than 20 Students
- Target Design Enrollment: 552, plus 2 pK
- Target Max Enrollment: 624, plus 2 pK
- Number of Stories: 2

Site:

- On-Site Queuing Length: Sized to avoid regular back-ups on adjoining streets.
- Parking Capacity: Staff plus Visitors
- Setback from Adjacent Residences: ~80' in one location, exceeding 100' elsewhere.

Timeline:

- Construction Start: Spring, 2025
- Occupancy Date: Fall, 2027
- Phase 2: Through Spring, 2028



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Thurston Site Plan, Exemplar Imagery





















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