



Why are we having Community Design Sessions?

The opportunity before us is to use the next 3 to 5 years to accelerate educational achievement, improve learning environments by remodeling buildings across the district, and expand quality choices for our parents and improve. We don't have the \$300 million to repair all the schools that we need today, so we have to take fair, smart and sensible steps, and we need everyone in the community to help us solve this puzzle so every student can succeed.

The puzzle pieces we are trying to put together right now will allow us to take advantage of having a brand new Southwest High School, access state funding to remodel and improve other schools and grow opportunities for our students in each part of the city.

To get some starter ideas for consideration, the School District administration and principals prepared a set of SIX areas in our District where we have significant needs for Facility Upgrades. We'd like to have more students and teachers in newer buildings and provide more opportunities for expanding Pre-K, establish more K-8 Schools so some students can attend one campus until high school, and expand Career/Tech exposure and experience.

The School District would like students, parents, teachers, community members, elected leaders, and business people to consider these draft options and provide your advice, recommendations, or other ideas that could improve opportunities for learning and activity spaces in the community.

You can also provide your personal feedback on the survey at www.lrsd.org/LRSDCommunityBlueprint.

Your ideas and opinions will help shape the final recommendations in the Blueprint. Thanks for taking time to share your thoughts!

Community Design Session Agenda

5:30 – 6:00 – **TOUR** of the School

Gather in the Cafeteria for an Overview

6:00 – 6:10 – Principal **WELCOME** and Parent cover **GROUND RULES**

6:10 – 6:25 – Superintendent **Overview**

6:25 – 6:35 – **PICK your DISCUSSION AREA** for small groups. Move to smaller rooms.

Move to Rooms for Small Group Discussions

6:35 – 7:35 – **GROUPS WORK TOGETHER** and report within their small, table groups

Return to Cafeteria to Share with the Whole Group and Close

7:35 – 7:40 – Groups return to the big room and **PUT GROUPS' INPUT and IDEAS UP**

7:40 – 7:55 – **GROUP REPORTERS** have three minutes to report

7:55 – 8:00 – Superintendent on **NEXT STEPS**

Community Blueprint Criteria for Evaluating Ideas

1. Does this improve the **learning environment** of many students?
2. Does this improve the **safety** of students?
3. Does this improve the **quality of life** in the area?
4. Does this **save resources** that can be used in positive ways?
5. Does this respond to the **needs and requests of parents**?
6. Does this improve the **economic vitality** of the City?
7. Is this **more likely to increase the diversity** in our schools?
8. Does this **decrease student travel time**?
9. Will this **attract students/parents** and make our schools **more competitive**?

Community Blueprint Ground Rules for Enhanced Collaboration

1. Talk **honestly** and **directly**.
2. Be **open** to and **respectful** of different opinions.
3. Be **succinct** so all voices are heard.
4. Be **constructive**.
5. **Assume good** intentions.
6. Have an **open heart** to learning from others.
7. **Commit** to **building a shared view**



Small Group Discussion Guide

Goal – Each group discusses the options for an Area and posts **Plus**, **Minus** and **Other Idea** comments from the group on the big sheets in the main room. This creates a quick compilation of people’s thoughts and feelings about the various Facility Upgrade Options.

1. **PLUS (+) MEANS:** We like this idea.
2. **MINUS (-) MEANS:** We have a concern about this idea
3. **IDEA MEANS:** We have thoughts related to this or we have another idea to consider.

GUIDE TO TABLE DISCUSSIONS (25 minutes)

1. Sit at a table with about 5 people who want to talk about the same Area.
2. **Take 5 minutes** to:
 - a. Introduce yourselves
 - b. Review at your table the information provided in this handout about your Area
 - c. Ask the LRSD subject experts in the room if you have a question
 - d. Assign someone to post your table’s findings in the big room and speak about them
3. **Take 5 minutes** for everyone to write down their PLUS (I like this idea because...), MINUS (I’m concerned about this idea because...), and OTHER IDEAS (I have a better idea which is...)
4. **Take 15-20 minutes** to discuss all the individual assessment and ideas about the draft Options feedback while the reporter compiles the findings into post-it notes for the big sheet in the main room.
5. Everyone moves to the main room. The reporter has **5 minutes** to post the summary of the group’s findings on the big sheet before we all hear some of the input from the groups in the big room.

LRSD ELEVATION LAB: If you come up an idea or concern that is not related to any area or to facilities, please put it on a post-it and add it in the main room on the *LRSD Elevation Lab* sheet



NEW Southwest High School Area (Opens Fall 2020)

1. The Southwest High School will have modern technology and science labs.
2. It will have great career tech learning environments.
3. It will have creative spaces for collaboration and project-based learning.
4. There will be a devoted space for special needs students.
5. An extensive performing arts complex and a concert venue for the whole community will be built.
6. New state-of-the-art sports facilities are part of the Southwest High School.



McClellan High School Area

Area One Overview:

1. **McClellan students will attend Southwest High School in 2020.**
2. We hope to have the new McClellan built that will house a K-8 with a capacity of 1400 students by 2022 (cost \$45 – 50 M).
3. **K-8 schools have several benefits.** (1) K-8s centralize the younger grades while providing separate buildings for elementary and middle school students, (2) K-8s decrease the number of transitions the student has to go through, (3) K-8s add stability and retention in public schools, (4) K-8s enable more wrap-around services and learning environments for student support, and (5) K-8s broaden the attendance zone for areas of town where we have dwindling populations.
4. Right now, we are approved to build a new McClellan for grades 6, 7 and 8, and move the Cloverdale Middle School students to that new facility using state funding.

Preliminary Ideas for the New McClellan:

1. Other than the current gym, the entire facility will be brand new.
2. Learning environments will be set up to separate elementary from middle school students.
3. Each classroom will have light and be designed to enhance multiple, flexible learning options.
4. Science and STEM labs and career center will be built.
5. Maker spaces and project-based learning spaces will be built.
6. A state-of-the-art playground will be built.
7. Improved traffic patterns will be designed for easy entrance and exit by parents.

Help Us Answer These Questions:

- Where would students and staff for the New McClellan come from?
- How do we utilize buildings in the southwest to elevate schools, families and the community?
- How do we encourage diversity within our schools, a real strength of the LRSD?
- How can we compete and win back students into the public school system?

The ideas below are starters. See what seems best or add YOURS:

- A. The New McClellan could be a K-8 school that will house **Cloverdale Middle School students and teachers. Some combination of K-5 students will need to come from the elementary schools in the area.**
1. We could move Meadowcliff and Baseline students and faculty to the new McClellan.
 2. We could move Watson students to the new McClellan.
 3. We could repurpose one or two of the schools and adjust boundaries.
- B. **Whichever elementary schools are moved into the New McClellan K-8, we can design options for repurposing Cloverdale Middle and the other elementary facilities:**
1. Cloverdale Middle could become soccer fields and a portion of the building becomes an environmental science facility.
 2. Cloverdale Middle could become a bio research center connected to the Medical Community.
 3. Baseline because of proximity to the highway could be a birth to Pre-K facility.
 4. Meadowcliff could become a Youth Day Treatment Center with wraparound services.
 5. Watson could be repurposed to include a dental and health clinic.
 6. Watson could become a Welcome Center with classes and workshops in partnership with the Mexican Consulate.

INFORMATION about the Schools in the McClellan High School AREA 1:

Cloverdale Middle School Factors

1. Cloverdale Middle School students and teachers can go to the New McClellan. The LRSD has been approved for state partnership funding for the middle school (grades 6, 7, 8), so part of the renovation costs will come from state funds.
2. Cloverdale was built in 1956.
3. It would cost more to renovate it than to rebuild it.

Baseline Elementary Factors

4. Baseline is a smaller elementary school with a capacity for 316 students.
5. It has been at or above capacity in terms of numbers served.
6. It ranks fairly high in terms of facility upgrade needs according to the facilities study.
7. Its last renovation was 2004.

Meadowcliff Elementary Factors

1. Meadowcliff's capacity is limited to 385 students.
2. It has a declining enrollment trend.
8. It ranks fairly high in terms of facility upgrade needs according to engineering study.

Watson Elementary Factors

- A. Ideal capacity is 498 students, and it has served above capacity in recent years using portables.
- B. Out of the 4 elementary schools in this region, it is has the highest need for facility upgrades.

Wakefield Elementary Factors

1. Wakefield is one of the newer elementary facilities.
2. Its last renovation was in 2004.
3. It is consistently over-capacity.



J.A. Fair High School Area

Area Two Overview:

1. **J.A. Fair students will go to the new Little Rock Southwest High School in the fall of 2020.**
2. **J.A. Fair is a campus in excellent shape.**
3. **It could be ready to receive students in the fall of 2020.**
4. The school's ideal capacity is at 1,051 students.
5. More families with children are moving into the neighborhood around Romine Elementary.
6. **K-8 schools have several benefits.** (1) K-8s centralize the younger grades while providing separate buildings for elementary and middle school students, (2) K-8s decrease the number of transitions the student has to go through, (3) K-8s add stability and retention in public schools, (4) K-8s enable more wrap-around services and learning environments for student support, and (5) K-8s broaden the attendance zone for areas of town where we have dwindling populations.

Preliminary Ideas for the New J. A. Fair:

1. The new J.A. Fair will have an environmental science theme concept. The school could become a model environmental science program for the District that other schools could visit.
2. It will have superior lab spaces and classrooms equipped with observation mirrors for new teachers.
3. Fair could also become the facility where district-wide and state-wide science fairs could be held.
4. Our hopes are that the new media center will include digital books, a separate state-of-the-art computer lab, and flexible, bright individual student and group learning and seating spaces.
5. The building is well-suited to divide elementary and middle school students.
6. The design could include safe arrival and dismissal for elementary and middle school students.
7. There could be flexible seating to meet the needs of various learning styles.
8. There will be attractive outdoor learning spaces.
9. J.A. Fair is a quality building with two gyms.

Help Us Answer These Questions:

- Where would students and staff for the new J.A. Fair come from?
- How can we utilize buildings to elevate students, families and the community?
- How can we encourage diversity in our schools, one of LRSD's strengths?
- How can we compete and win back students into the public school system?

The ideas below are starters. See what seems best or add YOURS:

1. **The J.A. Fair campus could be remodeled as a K-8. We could move all of the students and faculty at Henderson, Dodd and Romine and to the new J.A. Fair K-8.**
2. We could rebuild on the Henderson Middle School location to create a state-of-the-art sports complex. It could house 15 basketball courts, cheerleading competitions and soccer fields. This would be an estimated \$50M price tag. This would generate business for the city, and we would seek donors. The facilities would be accessible to all LRSD schools and to the public also.
3. We could sell the land at Henderson to fund other needs in the district.

4. We could make Henderson Middle School a district administration office to encompass all our administrative offices which are currently at five different locations.
5. The Dodd Elementary facilities could be renovated into a teacher resource center, but it would require remodeling for future walls.
6. Dodd Elementary could be repurposed as Teacher Resource Center for STEM, meetings, and Professional Development
7. Romine could be a Birth to Pre-K Center.
8. Additional property west of Romine Elementary could be sold for development.
9. Romine Elementary could be repurposed as a Crisis Center providing mental health services, food, soft-skills and life skills training.

INFORMATION about schools in the J.A. Fair AREA 2:

Henderson Middle School Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Henderson Middle has been losing population for multiple years.
2. The school's ideal capacity is 899 students.
3. The school's current enrollment is anticipated to be fewer than 500 students.
4. The facility is one of the three middle school facilities with the highest needs for upgrades and maintenance. The last time it was modified was in 1964.

Dodd Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Dodd is our smallest elementary school with a capacity of 294.
2. Dodd's enrollment trend is downward.
3. It is a high need for facility renovation.
4. It is an open classroom environment with portables.
5. It is next to the Castle on Stagecoach Road.

Romine Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Romine has a 544 student capacity.
2. Its enrollment is 444 students.
3. It has considerable facility challenges.
4. The district owns lots of acreage around the property.



Hall High School Area

Area 3 Overview:

A. Hall High School Capacity and Facility Factors

1. The Hall High School student population could potentially be reduced by 300 due to the new Southwest high school.
2. Hall High School has an Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) designation as a school of innovation that offers opportunities for career development and possible flexibility with state and district requirements.

3. Hall has significant 2nd language delivery offerings that will also be made available at the new Southwest High campus.
4. Hall has a capacity of 1600 students and a recent history of decline in population.
5. We are mandated to make a boundary adjustment in 2020 for Hall High School. Studies for that begin in the summer of 2019.

B. Forest Heights K-8 Capacity and Facility Factors

1. This is a building with a capacity for 836 students.
2. It has a growth enrollment trend.
3. It has had more recent renovations.

Help us answer these questions:

- How can we elevate Hall High both in reality and perception?
- How do we help parents understand feeder options for their children?
- How can we compete and win back students into the public school system?
- How can we encourage diversity in our schools, one of LRSD's strengths?

The ideas below are starters. See what seems best or add YOURS:

1. We can create a stronger tie and relationship between Hall High and Forest Heights that could include 8th graders having classes at Hall. This would expand the numbers served at both campuses. We could make a wing at Hall High for a Forest Heights Stem 8th grade academy. 8th graders could take 9th grade classes and could have access to wet and dry labs.
2. Hall High School could become the STEM high school for the district. We could enhance Hall's innovation status by inviting the medical community to help develop career strands within Hall High. Hall High School could turn into a medical and science school in partnership with UAMS, creating pathways to research and certifications related to nursing, medicine, research and medical technology.
3. We could develop a hi-tech high university studies focus at Hall.



Pinnacle View Area

Area 4 Overview:

1. Pinnacle View is the district's newest campus.
2. It has an ideal capacity of 1200 students.
3. It has enrollment growth.
4. This year's 6th grade class will have approximately 400 students.
5. It has an adjoined office complex that once housed the original 6th grade students with a capacity of 450 students at one time.
6. The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) has already received a request to access the use of this property for a charter school.

Help us answer these questions:

- Because of the distance to Pinnacle View, how do we handle and pay for transportation?

- How can we compete and win back students into the public school system?
- How can we utilize our buildings to elevate schools, families and the community?
- How can we encourage diversity in our schools, one of LRSD's strengths?
- Due to strong growth in West Little Rock, should we consider expanding Pre-K options there?

The ideas below are starters. See what seems best or add YOURS:

1. We could develop a "New Tech High School" similar to the Rogers New Technology High School with a blended online learning format that would begin with a 9th grade group. The available building was already configured for this for 6th grade, so it can happen quickly.
2. We could create a school similar to the Springdale School of Innovation that would allow students access to unique high school courses while maintaining their residency at their boundaried schools for some courses and extra-curricular activities.
3. We could develop a small high school with a focused delivery of project-based and blended online learning for students who do better in a smaller school environment.
4. A new school could focus on career options and feed students into apprenticeships, internships and externships.



Southwest Jr. High School/Former Hamilton Learning Academy and Adjacent Bale Elementary

Area 5 Overview:

A. Southwest Junior High/Former Hamilton Learning Academy Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Its capacity is 750 students, and it is considerably under-utilized.
2. The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) has already received a request to access the use of this property for a charter school.
3. It ranks fairly high in terms of facility upgrade needs according to the facilities study.

B. Bale Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Bale has a capacity of 476 students. Its current enrollment is below 400 students.
2. It ranks fairly high in terms of facility upgrade needs according to the facilities study.

Help us answer this question:

- How can we compete and win back students into the public school system?
- How can we utilize our buildings to elevate schools, families and the community?
- How can we encourage diversity in our schools, one of LRSD's strengths?

The ideas below are starters. See what seems best or add YOURS:

1. We could consider a **K-8 option** that would utilize both the Bale Elementary and Southwest Junior High School. **Bale would house Pre-K through 2 and Southwest would house 3-8.**
2. UALR could work closely with this school and use it as a **teaching lab for UALR students**, accelerating academic performance. It is centrally located. It is close to UALR.

3. The 3-8 grades at Hamilton could be **gender-based classes** similar to the San Antonio Young Men's and Young Women's Leadership Academies. It might also be dual language. Bale could be repurposed as a PreK-2 Co-ed.
4. Community members, parents and district officials could work collaboratively to create an innovative education delivery with new funding resources. Partners who have expressed interest include the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the Central Arkansas Library System.
5. There would be no attendance boundary.
6. The Bale site could include a library and the Hamilton building could house the K-8.



Downtown Elementary Schools Area (Central and Eastern)

Area 6 Overview:

1. At the elementary level in this area of the city, we are at 60% capacity (2,696 students with a 4,537 student capacity). The compounding effects of dwindling enrollment and aging buildings make it costly and challenging to operate all of our elementary learning facilities.
2. We need a lot more affordable, **high quality Pre-K options** in Little Rock. This is a great strength of the School District and several quality Pre-K facilities are in operation in the area.
3. The Charter e-Stem enrollment has increased significantly in this area as has construction of new buildings. Now there is an e-Stem Downtown Elementary, East Village Elementary, Downtown Jr. High, East Village Jr. High and e-Stem High School. In the same area, the new charter has opened at the remodeled Mitchell School.
4. The School District has existing STEM and Arts programs that could be enhanced and leveraged.

Help Us Answer These Questions:

- How can we best scale up the availability of affordable, high quality Pre-K in Little Rock?
- How can we compete and win back students into the public school system?
- How can we utilize our buildings to elevate schools, families and the community?
- How can we encourage diversity in our schools, one of LRSD's strengths?

The ideas below are starters. See what seems best or add YOURS:

1. Rockefeller Elementary could become a Birth to **Pre-K** Center.
 - a. Rockefeller's K-5 students could go to Washington Elementary.
 - b. We could combine Booker and Carver students (664 total students).
 - c. Pre-K at Carver could be sent to Rockefeller.
 - d. Move Pre-K at Booker to Rockefeller.
 - e. Move Washington Pre-K to Rockefeller. This would be 436 Pre-K total at Rockefeller.
2. We could consider creating a **STEM or STEAM** emphasis at Washington with improved **technology** and **without district boundaries**. Consider alternative funding sources and involve the community in that decision.
3. We could consider an innovative, high-performing K-8 in this area without boundaries.
4. Carver could have a true partnership with the Museum of Discovery and STEM. We could make it stronger and attract new enrollment.

INFORMATION about Area 6:

Booker Elementary School Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Booker is a fine arts performing magnet school with no attendance zone.
2. It has a capacity for 634 students. Its enrollment has been in slight decline for several years.
3. Current enrollment is 428 which includes 50 Pre-K students.
4. It is an older facility that will need continued support. However, it has one of the best ratings on the Fanning Howey Facility Study.

Carver Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Carver is a magnet school for STEM.
2. Its student capacity is 634.
3. 393 students are currently enrolled which includes 140 Pre-K students.
4. The K-5 population has had enrollment drops.

Gibbs Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Gibbs has a 369 student capacity with 292 current students and a stable enrollment trend.
2. There is one pre-K class of about 20 students.
3. It is an aging facility that will need continued support.

ML King Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. MLK has a student capacity of 620 with 410 students currently enrolled. Enrollment has been decreasing slightly over the years.
2. MLK's pre-K enrollment has been steady and around 100.
3. It ranks fairly high in terms of facility upgrade needs according to Fanning-Howey.

Rockefeller Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Rockefeller has a capacity of 544 students and current enrollment is 338 students. Over half of that enrollment is pre-K students.
2. Rockefeller is the only school with Birth to Pre-K5 students.
3. It is a facility that will need continued support as it ages.
4. It has an open classroom environment.

Stephens Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. Capacity of 725 students and current enrollment is 475 students. It dropped 50 students this year.
2. It is a newer facility and tied to a community center.

Washington Elementary Capacity and Facility Factors

1. The student capacity is 951 and current enrollment is 377 students including Pre-K.
2. Enrollment has been declining.
3. It is a facility that will need continued support as it ages.
4. It houses the district's elementary alternative learning environment (ALE).