



132 community members, teachers and assorted School District representatives participated in conversations at the **Design Session at Pinnacle View Middle School on September 17, 2018**. Working from a draft handout describing possible Facility Upgrade Options across the District in the next five years, small groups developed ideas and recommendations that were posted on sheets at the meeting. These are the raw notes transcribed from post-its and written comments.

You can download the Draft Facility Upgrade Options that describe an initial set of facility uses and possible future student-teacher re-assignments as buildings might be changed over the next several years at www.lrsd.org/LRSDCommunityBlueprint.

On the same webpage, you can also sign up to provide personal feedback on all the facility upgrade challenges and options.

Area One - McClellan High School Area:

No feedback.

Area Two Overview – J.A. Fair High School Area:

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.*

Starter 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 will include safe arrival and dismissal for elementary and middle school students.*
7. *There will 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.*

Community Input to the Proposed J.A. Fair Area Two:

1. Romine could be Birth to PreK-4 or Dodd could be Birth to PreK-4
2. Move Lawson to Fair instead of Romine.

Area 3 Overview – Hall High School Area:

1. *The Hall High School student population could potentially be reduced by 300 students who could shift 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.*

Starter Ideas for Hall High School Area Three:

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.*

Community Input on Hall High Area Three:

1. New -versus -old perception: "some schools are nicer than others" is not a racial issue, Pinnacle Valley is a title I school with nearly 48% students of color.
2. Build a stronger relationship between the hall and the neighborhood. Perception/Reality
3. Add more outdoor pursuits. Add language immersion program programming and designing business solutions. Diversify offerings rather than "advanced" courses. "College" prep: watch out for the connotation "college" instead use *career prep*.
4. If Hall becomes a "choice school," what happens to kids who don't know how to choose? What about those who formerly attended Hall: will they be eligible?
5. Make education RICH, not just another college prep. Holistic education makes students ready for college!
6. Provide equality of access - no applications. Expand the program instead of narrowing to college credits/AP/IB.
7. Every student should have equal access to great facilities, teachers, technology, and **love**.
8. Upgraded facility and new boundaries for zone
9. Hall needs to reach out to Forest Heights.
10. Principal retention - summer teacher program
11. Is there a perception that Hall becomes safer and more appealing because of students removed?
12. Hall needs to be a neighborhood zoned school.
13. Underutilization of facilities costs money – how can we improve that?
14. Show the value to the economic area. Zone area is ripe for community zone
15. Science and med emphasis and partnerships will help us compete!
16. Build a booster club, canvas the neighborhood. (Perception/Reality)

17. Six buses of Latinos live in Southwest (Fair/McClellan areas) and 27% of Halls' population.
18. A school of innovation (Joyce's legislation) proposal is positive
19. School without grades or PLTW (Project Lead the Way) curriculum is a possibility.

Hall Concerns

1. Where will the money come from to do necessary renovations for the tech and STEM programs?
2. Why is everyone so concerned about Hall? It's a good school with great kids!
3. How do eighth graders from Forest Heights move to Hall? \$
4. Schools don't invite neighborhood associations. Hall could be the coolest neighborhood school. "I don't want a school within a school" – 2 comments about Central/Hall
5. Concern about schools within a school and keeping students apart. Diversity
6. No school within-a-school: want one school
7. Will there be enough money for strong ESL at both Southwest and Hall High? Diversity
8. "Feeder options" are up in the air at present for middle school to high school.
9. After re-zoning, what will be the percentage of white students?
10. When reduced by 300, what will this do to the diversity of student population? Will this further segregate the new school into black and brown? Will Hall become the Central High 2.0? Who will redraw boundaries?
11. Increase travel time for black kids going to other schools? Safety: What's going to be the percentage of black students left at Hall?
12. Just re-zone Hall?
13. Do not move Forest Heights students to Hall
14. How does Hall's enrollment rise to previous levels to stay relevant and OPEN?
15. How will boundaries be enforced?
16. Hall needs a strong PR push with organized, professional tours etc.
17. Recruitment is key. Advertise the great things happening at Hall.
18. We need more community involvement through better PR
19. Invite the community into Hall so they know what's happening.
20. Invite Forest Heights families to participate in the Hall activities.
21. Parent advocates and alumni to reach out to feeder schools.
22. How will boundary changes impact all of this? Why not plan around both at the same time?
23. Forest Heights STEM is a natural feeder for Hall. Build community advocates between schools

Other Ideas and Questions for Hall High School

1. Will Hall become a magnet school of choice?
2. Will Hall "clean house" and reconstitute as Forest Heights did?
3. Will Forest Heights students need a whole wing all day or just for morning or afternoon?
4. How will the change from Hall as it is to STEM occur?
5. Everyone is asking for a neighborhood feeder pattern. District issue: lottery placement?
6. Exclusion caused by STEM application process.
7. My family is zoned to Hall from a zone that only sends 10-20 students total in all grades.
8. Will student registration office be fair and equitable in assignment?
9. Include neighborhood associations, churches and tutors.
10. Community outreach - football Friday and parade
11. West little rock needs a **high school**.
12. Hall High School should be reimagined with better leadership now
13. STEM high school? Lottery school?

14. Hall could focus on 10 through 12 grade taking students from Pinnacle View 6-9 grade
15. Need new plan for Hall High School that involves 10 - 12 grade with Pinnacle View MS feeding into Hall.
16. New leadership, new plan and renewed facility.

Area 4 Overview – Pinnacle View Middle School:

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.*
7. *Repurposing the vacant office space for a new high school is an option.*

Starter Ideas for Pinnacle View Area 4:

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 bounded 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.*

Community Input on Pinnacle View Area Four:

Pinnacle View Positives/Pluses:

1. Build community partnerships for a project-based learning.
2. Any physical high school helps increase retention!
3. LRSD keeps the use of the building (2 comments). Set up for school could start ASAP.
4. Students could still participate in sports in their home school.
5. New building used to provide real-life experience and training.
6. Use PV building for Pre-K?
7. Two years is a great plan for Pinnacle and alternative Robinson growth prediction is not realistic.
8. Option one is great for some kids, not as well for others. Good for self-motivated learners and introverts. Spectrum kids may benefit.
9. Project driven learning is a great idea but why only ninth grade?
10. There could be community partnerships for the student internships and externships.
11. The college preparatory with both asynchronous and synchronous type classes – hybrid classes is good. Good transition from middle school to high school.
12. Use Pinnacle office complex as sixth grade or ninth-grade Academy. No charter school!
13. Zoning considering Terry, Robert, Fulbright as feeder with focus on transportation west not east.
14. Multiple School of Innovation concepts with blended general studies.

15. Any physical high school building would keep kids in the district.
16. The School of Innovation model is good. Could it have a ZOOM format with real accountability? The college preparatory progress is good. Benefit: keeps the additional office building in this LRSD.
17. Option Three has the benefits of smaller class size.
18. The part about project-based learning with its ability to reflect different child's learning styles is a positive.

Pinnacle View Minuses:

1. There are no traditional school options in West Little Rock. That is what most people want.
2. Building next-door isn't safe for pre-K, but a West Little Rock pre-K option is needed. May help more parents decide to enter the public school system by having this in place.
3. We want a traditional school. Build a High School, a neighborhood school with community involvement.
4. Families may not understand the non-traditional option and not choose it because of their lack of knowledge.
5. Smaller size does not offer as many sports options.
6. Transportation is a minus. (*twice*)
7. Students may not have self-discipline to do online learning.
8. More minuses the suggested schools are only good for a small, select group of students. They don't apply to the general population. It leaves the kids too much "free time unattended.
9. Option two is overly complicated; school spirit and lack of community for the students is an issue. All the current options serve only 1/4 of the student body that is currently represented here.
10. Transportation and option one is a concern. Question about transportation barriers: not sure what it means – doesn't district already transport kids to school from the zone?
11. "New Tech High School" online courses and regular classes – AP credits are not accepted at colleges universally. Facilitates home-school.
12. Not hands-on learning.
13. Still a need for traditional high school, need for physical activity PE facilities.
14. No arts is a problem. Makes the school not an option for artistic kids.
15. Still have to go to a different high school after ninth grade which is not an attractive option.
19. Option 2 Innovation School - Although we want to keep the PV office building in the LRSD, the space is not big enough to capture all Pinnacle Middle School students.
16. We want a "traditional education" (several similar comments) that would that would transfer to another school in another state. "If you build it they will come" is a proven concept based on the success of Roberts and Pinnacle View Middle School. Why are people leaving? We want academics, sports, arts, well-rounded school. We want traditional four-year school with teachers and books, full days, clubs, sports, theater. We want our kids to be able to stay together and not have to drive or bus clear across town to Central or go private.
17. Option One (new tech high school) Minuses – Only 9th grade? Accountability: Half-day schedule: lottery won't solve problems: doesn't match student learning styles. What about zones and will this be accepted?
18. Options one through four lack "community." We all prefer a traditional high school.
19. We like Robinson/Pinnacle inter-district partnership alternative proposal for Community. Extra-curriculars and proximity.
20. The School of Innovation concept requires too much transportation.
21. How would unique course offerings be decided?

22. Option three: We don't currently have the capacity to do this. Would participation be determined like a lottery?
23. The New Tech school option isn't necessary: Robinson 2 miles down the street already offers this.
24. There is no community in these models. No extra-curriculars.
25. Possible pre-K or Fifth grade Academy for the office building? Currently fifth grade gets moved to Pinnacle View. This gets rid of trailers and starts building community in Fifth instead of Sixth grade. Opens up classes for pre-K at Robert, Terry, and Fulbright.

Other Ideas for Pinnacle View:

1. Favorite Idea - JA Fair can become a new high school for West Little Rock. 10 to 12 with ninth grade added to Pinnacle using the office space. Pinnacle and maybe Forest Heights could feed into it.
2. Would West Little Rock Pre-K feed Terry, Fulbright and Roberts?
3. Other option: develop on the un-used land a zoned high school not the lottery (after moratorium). Build a neighborhood high school.
4. Pinnacle: 6, 7 and eighth grade and include Pulaski County kids. Making Joe T Middle School ninth and 10th grades. Making Joe T High only 11th and 12th grades.
5. The "Robinson-Pinnacle View Inter-district Partnership Alternative Proposal" had supporters. "Robinson option looks very attractive and expedient. Constituents want a traditional high school option for kids. No Brainer – Let's do it" (*A handout provided to meeting included: "Robinson has capacity to hold more than 1800 students with previously planned expansion and Pinnacle View has capacity to hold more than 1500 students +35 acres of undeveloped land. Robinson could become West Little Rock is zoned high school by agreeing to take out going Pinnacle students. Pinnacle would become West Little Rock middle school by agreeing to take Robinson's zone middle school students. Option 1. 2019 Robinson middle moves to Pinnacle, Pinnacle ninth grade moves to Robinson with district funding staying in students resident district for one year (like it did during desegregation). Option 2. 2019/9 grade Academy at Pinnacle for LRSD district students and Robinson Middle remains in the current building. 2020: Pinnacle 9-10 grades move to Robinson and Robinson Middle students move to Pinnacle. Transportation could be provided by each district based on residence)*

Area 5 Overview - Old Hamilton-SW Jr. High and Bale Elementary Area:

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.

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.

Starter Ideas for Old Hamilton-SW Jr. High and Bale Elementary Area

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.*

Community Input on Hamilton-Bale Area Five:

1. Bale should be Pre K-3. SW building 4-8th grades
2. Both levels should be teacher lab classrooms with UALR
3. Do not agree with gender-based classrooms

Area 6 Overview –Downtown Elementary Schools Area (Central & Eastern LR)

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.*

Starter Ideas for Area Six:

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.*

Community Input to the Proposed Central & Eastern Neighborhoods

1. Carver Pre- K program is marketable when competing with charters
2. Romine should be birth to P4 and Dodd should be birth to P4.
3. Open space at Rockefeller offers flexibility for creating the structures for increased pre-K.
4. A K-8 is user-friendly for families.
5. We want to keep our pre-K students in existing buildings.
6. The programs at Booker and Carver should be maintained as viable options for parents.

7. Pre-K students should automatically be assigned to the current building for the next school year.
8. Combine Gibbs magnet program with King to serve all current students and those on waiting list.
9. Current Washington parents need new environment to restructure negative thinking.
10. Carver has positive interventions in place.
11. Move Washington to Carver.
12. Washington achieving needs to be rebranded “new thinking“
13. Washington better suited for capital IRC type of building car for facilities in good condition; enrollment increasing.
14. Carver is achieving; Washington is not achieving
15. Combine administration and IRC buildings and sell the buildings.
16. Rockefeller pre-K is a viable option.
17. Washington is a newer building and can handle some more students (451) with lower overhead costs. Booker is in need of major maintenance. Rockefeller may pull from continued enrollment at other elementary schools.
18. Programs without boundaries cause transportation costs.
19. The K through 8 is a bad option--more will go to a charter school.
20. Will it have separate wings? Security concerns because of age of kids: safety is number one concern for a K through 8.
21. Extensive reconfiguration of Rockefellers open space would be needed to accommodate pre-K maintain the integrity of each individual magnet schools theme.

Other Ideas for the Downtown Elementary Schools in Area Six:

1. Lengthen the school day from 8 to 5 to run to staffing schedules eight till 12 (core 1 to 5) (supports). Rockefeller is a central location for 100% age appropriate environment for younger children.
2. Advertise Carver in the Fouche Dam area as STEM option. Sustain and promote the pre-K program at Carver as a viable option that’s not offered specifically in the capital East Village area or at other charter schools.
3. Extend recess.
4. No attendance zones.
5. Exclusive pre-K classrooms for enrolled families that makes it easier for drop off and pick up.
6. Having K-8 community helps with challenged students.
7. And more mental health/SPED training for teachers and para-professionals

LRSD Idea Lab

This is the collection of ideas and concerns that were offered during the breakout sessions about Little Rock School District, in general or other schools.

Elevation Lab- Broader LRSD Issues

1. Attract highly certified teachers.
2. No gender-splitting
3. Continue special programs like EAST
4. Expand programs like Destination Imagination.
5. Attract educated immigrant families like Roberts and FHSA seem to.
6. Partner with firms that fit with themes like NCTR (environment, health, food).
7. Pay increase in beginning salaries is welcome. Teachers nearing retirement need to be ensured that their diligence coming to work will be rewarded through District paying for un-used sick days. Had the days been used, District would have paid for Subs. Why not? Pay for sick days and reward teachers



8. What are the weights for the different criteria to evaluate ideas to recommend for the Blueprint? The criteria for the evaluation of ideas don't say the idea should have "7 of 9" to be considered by the administration. Criteria decreasing student travel time should have higher weight than any of the other criteria to avoid discrimination on racial groups.
9. Just repair our facilities—fix mold and leaking ceilings. Don't sell any more schools. Add computers. We have ample space. Neighborhood schools make them better. Give District back to us. State hasn't made any improvements. Either use zoning or "use zoning." Stop selling/trading education with the Waltons, Stevens. West LR is fine—not broken—no needs: focus on Inner City schools for real. Give Booker back to City and utilize other schools that belong to District.