



2017 BUILDING FUTURES Q&A

Why is Community High School District 99 considering placing a bond measure on the March 2018 ballot?

District 99 seeks to address its highest priority facility needs. The proposed improvements to both North High and South High in Downers Grove will provide many benefits, including:

- Extending the useful life of the two aging high schools
- Improving safety and security
- Enhancing accessibility for students, staff and visitors with disabilities
- Creating modern instructional spaces that leverage technology, promote collaboration and enhance instruction
- Ensuring both high schools provide a quality learning environment
- Protecting and enhancing local property values

The proposed bond measure is focused on continuing excellence at your two high schools.

// Community High School District 99 seeks your thoughts and recommendations on a funding proposal to address our highest priority facility needs. With a 20-year bond about to be paid off, we have a unique opportunity to upgrade both North High and South High with a modest tax impact. //

— Dr. Hank Thiele, Superintendent of Schools
Community High School District 99

Community
HIGH SCHOOL District 99

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BUILDING
FUTURES



INSIDE...

- ▶ Overview of District 99's proposed bond measure
- ▶ Preliminary floor plans, elevations and other details
- ▶ Opportunities for residents to provide input on the proposed improvements and funding proposal

Community
HIGH SCHOOL District 99

**BUILDING
FUTURES**

Master Facility Plan updates available at
www.csd99.org/MFP

6301 Springside Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60516

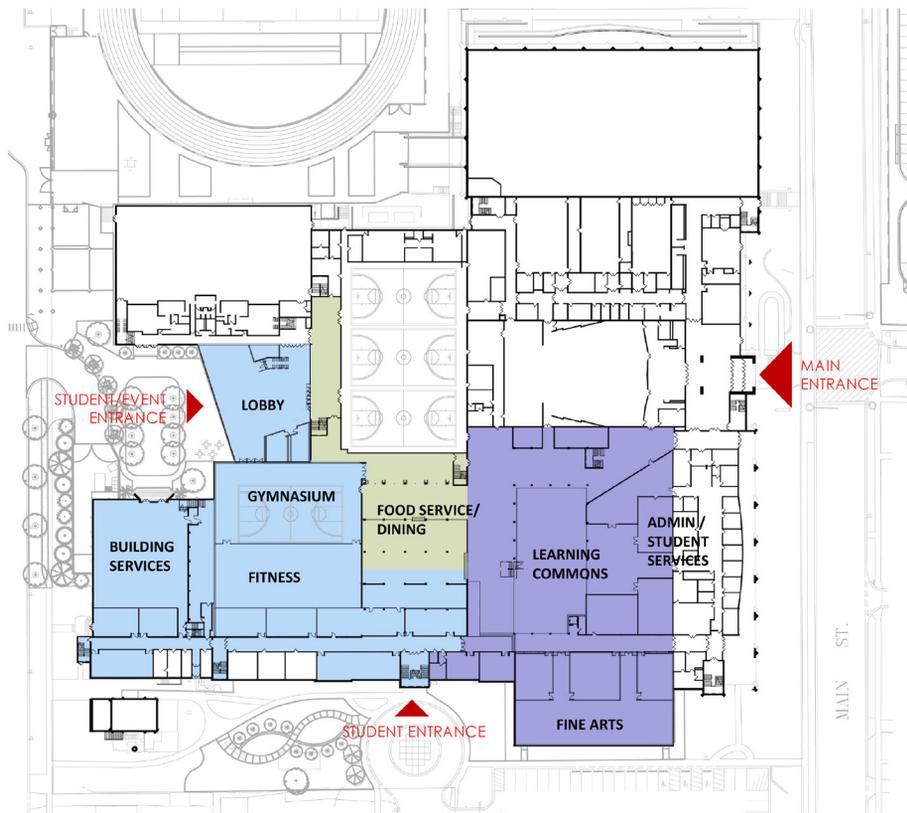


// After many years of planning, District 99 is excited to gather the community's feedback on a proposal to take your two local high schools to the next level. We are grateful to the teachers, parents, architects, engineers and community members who have been part of this important planning effort. //

— Dr. Nancy Kupka, President, Board of Education
Community High School District 99

**BUILDING
FUTURES**

North High School | Proposed Additions/Alterations

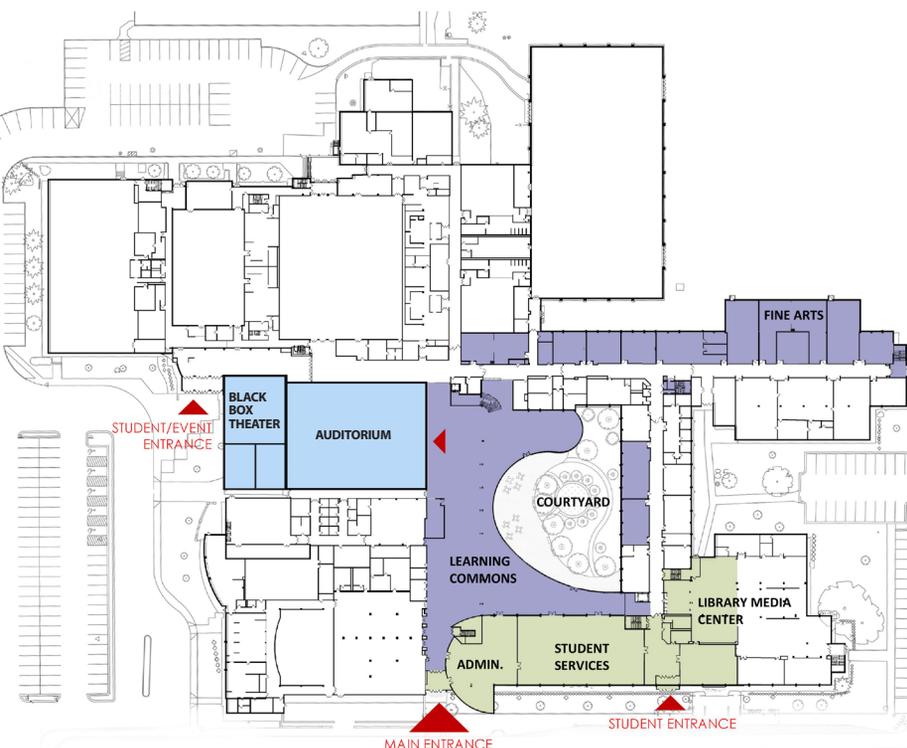


“ Providing students with easy access to counselors, student activities, technology assistance, deans and other support services all in one spot in the Learning Commons would be a game changer. Putting air conditioning in all classrooms, expanding our cafeteria, updating our outdated classrooms, adding two science labs, solving safety and security issues, and adding much-needed physical education space would also have a tremendous positive impact on thousands of students —now and for years to come. ”

— Janice Schwarze, Principal
North High



South High School | Proposed Additions/Alterations



“ Having updated classrooms and labs that are flexible, leverage instructional technology, and support new teaching and learning methods would take us a huge step forward. I’m also excited about the benefits of new collaborative spaces, having every classroom air conditioned (not just some), and addressing critical safety and security issues. The proposed improvements would undoubtedly have a positive impact on student success. ”

— Edward H. Schwartz, Principal
South High



BUILDING FUTURES



Why does the Board of Education believe this is the right time to address improvements to District 99's two high school facilities?

District 99 has a 20-year bond issue that is about to be paid off and interest rates are at near historic lows. The Board of Education believes this is the right time to pursue a voter-approved bond measure to address critical facility needs. With a modest tax increase, we can dramatically improve our school buildings. The longer we wait the more these essential improvements will cost given rising construction costs.

How would the proceeds of the proposed bond measure be used?

The key renovations and upgrades that the bond proceeds will fund at both North High and South High include:

- **Security enhancements**, including the installation of secured entry vestibules that will allow staff members to properly screen visitors before they are admitted to the buildings.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements**, both inside and outside the two buildings, to enhance accessibility for students, staff and visitors with disabilities.
- **Air conditioning** all instructional spaces. Approximately 35% of classrooms currently do not have air conditioning.
- **Updating classrooms and science, culinary and visual arts labs** to leverage new instructional technologies and evolving teaching methods, including STEM and collaborative, project-based learning.
- **Creating a Learning Commons** that will serve as the educational "Main Street" for each building. These flexible spaces will meet the ever-evolving academic requirements and social emotional needs of students. Key resources, including college and career counseling, social workers, psychologists, counselors, activities, technology support, deans, cafeteria, library and bookstore, will be centralized so they are easily accessible for students. The new spaces will be used for teaching and learning during the day and be available for community use during off hours.
- **Outdoor enhancements** to athletic fields, including bleacher replacements and the addition of locker rooms and training rooms.

The proposed bond measure will also fund improvements specific to each school to improve educational equity:

South High

- **Expand and improve the auditorium.** There are 2,700 students at this school, yet the auditorium only seats 800 students. There is even less seating when the stage is expanded to accommodate concerts and plays. As a result, performances are often held in the gym, which limits programming. When South High opened 53 years ago, it was intended to house grades 9 and 10. Years later, when it was converted to a traditional 9-12 school, the auditorium was never expanded.
- **Create a secure main entrance.** Relocating the main entrance will improve both traffic flow and the school's dated exterior.
- **Improve outdoor physical education space.** Adding a second synthetic field will allow students to use the outdoor space more frequently.

North High

- **Improve safety and security.** By moving the loading dock, students will no longer be placed in the same space as delivery trucks. There will also be a secured entrance vestibule.
- **Replace the original gym.** The aging, undersized gym will be converted to the loading dock. The new gym will be sized to meet the needs of District 99's physical education and athletics programs and be similar to the physical education space at South High.
- **Expand and improve the cafeteria.** This 59-year-old space is undersized for the current student population. It will be expanded and made more accessible.

How would the District minimize the impact of construction on students?

The improvements will be phased in to minimize the impact on students, staff and visitors. Much of the work on the interior of the buildings will be completed during the summer months, starting with the installation of air conditioning in the rooms that are not currently air conditioned. Air conditioning projects would be completed before the start of the 2018-19 school year.



\$65

An annual investment of \$65 (based on a \$300,000 home) will provide \$136.6 million in improvements to your two local high schools.





How has District 99 done its homework?

Over the past four years, district administrators, teachers, architects, engineers, construction professionals and community members have worked hard to identify and prioritize District 99's facility needs. A 40-member Citizen Task Force—comprised of business leaders, civic leaders and other community members—has also been assembled to weigh in on proposed improvements and funding options.

How would the bond proceeds be allocated between the two high schools?

District 99's goal is to invest an equal amount of the bond proceeds in each high school to address the highest priority needs at each school.

Why should residents who do not have school-age children care about this proposal?

The quality of our local schools drives the local real estate market. Letting our high school buildings deteriorate will impact local property values as young families seek other areas that offer both quality teachers and modern instructional spaces.

What is the estimated tax impact to complete all of the improvements?

With a 20-year bond coming off the ledger, District 99 will be able to address \$136.6 million in capital improvements with an estimated annual tax rate increase of \$65 for a home with a market value of \$300,000 as determined by the County Assessor.

How can residents learn more about the proposed facility improvements and weigh in on the funding proposal?

District 99 will be hosting community information meetings and tours. Please note that the presentations will be similar, but not identical. RSVP at www.csd99.org/MFP.

North High

Saturday, October 21, 2017
9:30-11:30 am

South High

Saturday, October 28, 2017
9:30-11:30 am

District 99 will also be conducting a public opinion survey. Every household in the District will be receiving a mail survey.

When will the Board of Education make a final decision?

The Board of Education will make a final decision regarding placing a bond measure on the March 2018 ballot this December, providing time for additional public input.

Who will get to vote on this funding proposal?

Every registered voter in District 99 will be eligible to vote on the bond measure, if the Board of Education decides to place the proposal on the ballot.



Preliminary Rendering of Proposed South High Entrance, Including a Secured Vestibule



Preliminary Rendering of Proposed North High Entrance, Including a Secured Vestibule



35% Approximately 35% of District 99's classrooms do not have air conditioning. This is one of the first improvements that will be addressed.



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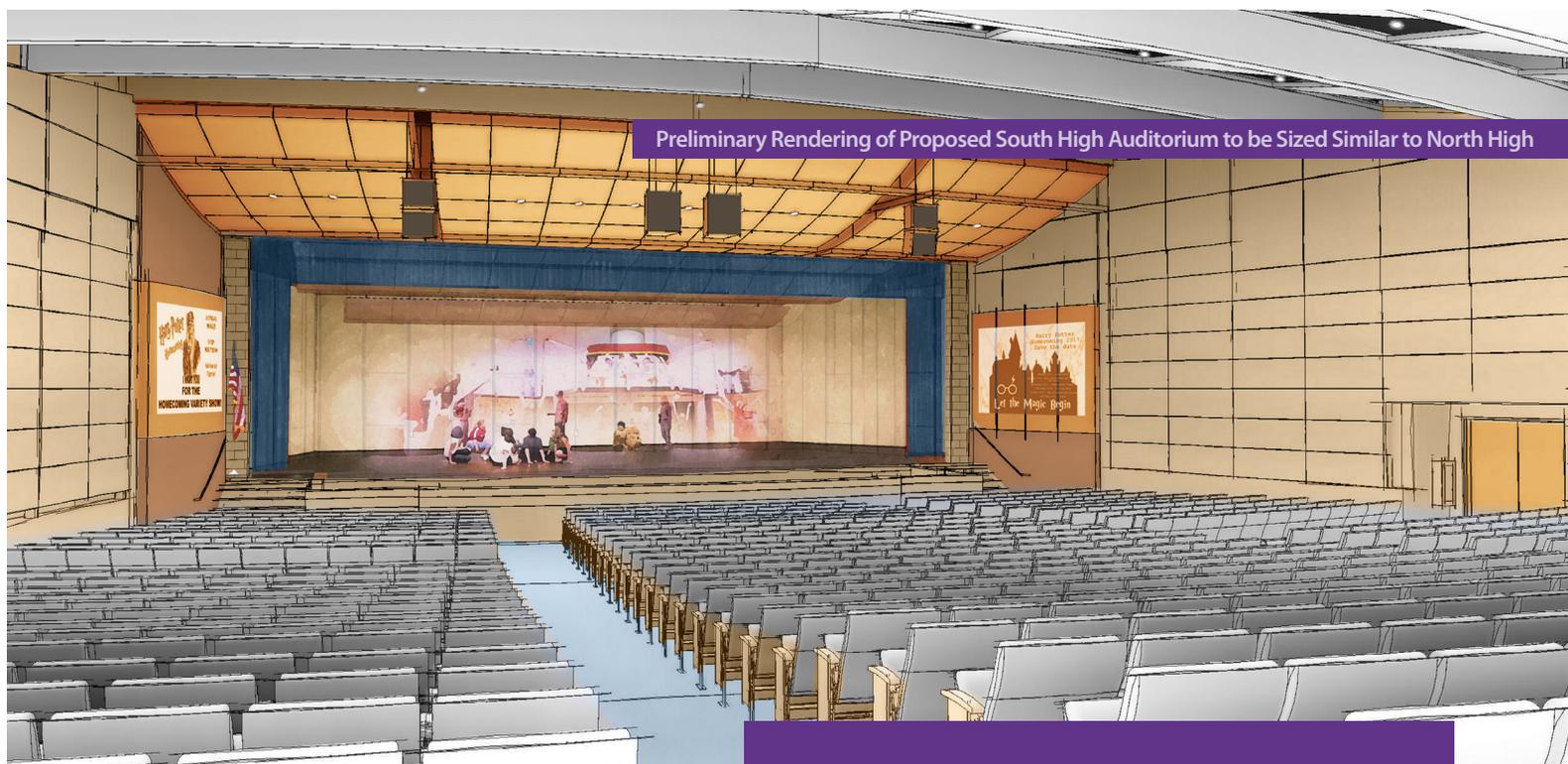
The last time District 99 voters approved a bond measure was in 1998, 19 years ago. This bond issue will soon be paid off.



Preliminary Rendering of Proposed Two-Tier North High Gymnasium



Preliminary Rendering of Proposed North High Cafeteria



Preliminary Rendering of Proposed South High Auditorium to be Sized Similar to North High



2,700

There are 2,700 students at South High, yet the auditorium only seats 800.