

Imagine 2014

*Preliminary FMP Options Report
Prepared for the School District of Philadelphia by URS
Corporation – March 2011*

DRAFT

School District of Philadelphia - Preliminary FMP Options Report
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School District of Philadelphia - Preliminary FMP Options Report
Executive Summary

In September 2010, the School District of Philadelphia, along with the guidance of the URS Corporation Team of Consultants embarked on a journey to right size the District. Right-sizing the District will entail an effort to reduce seats as a result of fewer children are utilizing the school system while also ensuring an equitable distribution of resources in each Philadelphia community and at every grade level; resulting in more school choice with access to program options and improved learning environs for all students.

This report provides a summarized view of options that we believe meet the objectives of the right-sizing process. During the course of planning we have used various inputs to provide a fair and equitable determination of each schools needs. The primary objective of this report is to inform the District of some viable options and to allow the District to provide some feedback on the "realities" of the schools in the District and their needs, such as community sentiment, special achievements, etc. An accompanying memorandum with narratives explaining the rationale for the preliminary options listed in the ES, MS, and HS spreadsheets is also included.

This preliminary options report will ultimately be used in the development of the final options presented to the SRC, as well as a guideline for the Final FMP Report that will outline the future Capital Plan for the District. A draft outline for the Long Range Facilities plan has been included for review .

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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Arlene C. Ackerman, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Leroy D. Nunery, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent

FROM: Danielle Floyd

DATE: March 18, 2011

SUBJECT: **Narrative of Recommendations**

Over the past three months, a small working team along with URS has reviewed District data on enrollment, capacity, utilization, student migration trends, and facility condition to develop a set of recommendations to be implemented under the Facilities Master Plan. The recommendations are organized into three phases. A brief narrative about each recommendation is provided in the tables below. The recommendations were formed to do the following:

- Standardize grade configuration and school sizes
- Optimize utilization through school closure and consolidation
- Improve elementary-middle-high school feeder alignment and balance
- Eliminate excess capacity by disposing of surplus property
- Achieve savings and efficiencies through consolidation of administrations
- Achieve savings and efficiencies through termination of lease agreements and relocating programs into District-owned facilities
- Propose priorities for capital improvements and major renovations

The accompanying spreadsheet summarizes the net impact if the recommendations are adopted.

A review with the Senior Leadership Team and Associate Superintendents is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 22nd from 10AM-1PM.**

Phase I/Year I (changes effective for SY11-12)

The following options are recommended for implementation in Phase I.

Option #	Meeting Area	Recommendation	Explanation
1	SW	Repurpose Catherine Annex for District administrative use Consolidate all grades into Catherine main building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine is a K-5 elementary school serving 580 students. Largest enrollment is in grades K, 1, and 2. • The school uses an Annex (also referred to as the Greenway building) to house Pre-K and grades 1-3. • The Annex is also used for District administrative offices and is a site for the District's Parent Resource Center. • Recommendation is to consolidate all grades into the main Catherine building. • If all students are housed in the main building, utilization would increase from 67% to 86%
2	SW	Close Harrington Annex Consolidate program into Harrington Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harrington is a K-6 elementary school serving 480 students. • Harrington main building can house 700 students. Consolidating all grades into the main building would improve utilization. • <i>Note: Need to visit prior to finalizing recommendation. Find out from facilities if separate cleaning staff is assigned to Annex. Potential operational personnel savings for implementing recommendation.</i> • Annex becomes surplus property.
3	W	Surplus disposal- Beeber-Wynnfield Annex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current unoccupied surplus property
4	W	Add grade 6 to Mann Elementary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mann is a K-5 elementary school serving 420 students. It became a Renaissance Charter in SY10-11 and is operated by Mastery. • Presently, students from Mann feed Beeber Middle School. • Mastery has requested the addition of grade 6 at Mann to create a direct feeder to its 7-12 program at Shoemaker. • Approving this option will reduce the number of feeder schools into Beeber from 4 to 3. Utilization and enrollment at Beeber will also

			<p>decline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: Will Mastery be required to admit all students? SRC will have to amend charter agreement
5	W	Lamberton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lamberton is a K-12 school serving 840 students. Lamberton has two sets of administrators for the school (school is on one campus) Savings can be achieved by consolidating to one administration for the K-12 program.
6	NW	Surplus disposal- Ada Lewis Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current unoccupied surplus property
7	NW	Close Ellwood Annex. Change grade configuration of Ellwood to K-5 elementary school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ellwood is a K-6 elementary school serving 427 students. Ellwood is an Empowerment School. The District leases Holy Angels School from the Archdiocese. Each year, the District has reduced the number of rooms leased. Current lease agreement expires June 2011. Annual cost for rent is \$60K. By closing the annex all students would be consolidated into the main Ellwood building; however accommodating 6th grade students would be difficult. Option is recommended for implementation Year 1. This would mean the current 5th and 6th grade classes would transition to Wagner for September 2011. A summer transition would be needed to be planned to accept 2 grades of students from Ellwood to Wagner Middle School. All students would enter Wagner at grade 6, rather than one year later than other feeder schools. New SY11-12 population at Wagner would be approx. 600 students
8	NC	Surplus disposal- (old) deBurgos, Walton, Gillespie, Muhr and Willard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current unoccupied surplus properties

9	NC	H.A. Brown- Grade expansion and neighborhood high school assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the capital program H.A. Brown added a building addition to convert the school to a K-8 elementary school. Current student population is 490 students. • H.A. Brown will add grade 8 for September 2011. • Kensington will be the high school assignment.
10	NC	Ethel Allen- Grade configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethel Allen is a K-6 elementary serving 388 students. Ethel Allen became a Promise Academy for SY10-11. • Current 6th grade population would remain for grade 7. School would convert to a K-8 elementary school and be a direct feeder to Vaux High School (SY10-11 Promise Academy) • If option is adopted, Rhodes and FitzSimons High School will lose a feeder school. Both high schools are operating below capacity. Incoming seventh grade class will be reduced for SY11-12. • Ethel Allen received a \$6M renovation under capital program.
11	NC	Administrative consolidation at Barton, Feltonville Intermediate, and Feltonville Arts and Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barton (K-2), Feltonville Intermediate(3-5), and Feltonville Arts and Sciences (6-8) are 3 separate schools with 3 separate administrations. • Savings can be achieved if school is converted to a K-8 elementary school with one Principal and support administration.
12	NC	Renovate Bridesburg building with a building of larger capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridesburg is a K-5 elementary school serving 440 students. The school is overcapacity and the building has a high FCI (87%). Geographically, the school is isolated relative to other schools. • Renovate the building to increase capacity to a 600-station elementary school. Grade configuration remains the same. (\$15M renovation in planning in current capital improvement program) • During construction, the District will lease St. Bernards from the Archdiocese and relocate students during construction for one year. • Students will continue to feed Harding Middle School.

13	NC	Change grade configuration of McClure to K-5 elementary school. Grade configuration change of Clemente to 6-8 middle school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McClure is a K-4 elementary school serving 480 students. Current utilization is 84% • McClure is the only school that feeds Clemente Middle School at grade 5. Clemente became a Promise Academy for SY10-11. • By adding grade 5, students would feed Clemente at grade 6 with other feeder schools (Feltonville A&S, Cayuga, Taylor). • Result would change grade configuration of Clemente from 5-8 to 6-8 • The neighborhood high school assignment is Edison. • ***Visit required to determine if school could add grade 5. [large count of students in grades 1 (112) and 3 (106)]
14	NE	Add grade 6 to Smedley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smedley is a K-5 elementary school serving 590 students. Smedley became a Renaissance Charter School operated by Mastery for SY10-11. • Presently, students from Smedley attend Harding for middle school. • Harding is 6-8 middle school serving 790 students. Harding is an Empowerment School. • By removing Smedley as a feeder school, enrollment and utilization at Harding will continue to drop. (other feeders to Harding: Sullivan, Stearne, Marshall, Lawton, Bridesburg). Current utilization at Harding is 58% • Smedley is overcrowded and cannot accommodate sixth grade with additional capacity. District and Mastery to partner on capital improvements and construction of an addition. • Students become direct feeder to Mastery at Lenfest for grade 7. • <i>Note: Will Mastery be required to admit all students? SRC will have to amend charter agreement</i> • <i>Note: find out number of students who opt out of attending Harding via charter or admittance to other District schools outside the boundary.</i>
15		Consolidate administrations of Hancock and LaBrum Create a K-8 elementary across two sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hancock is a K-5 elementary school serving 490 students. • LaBrum is a 6-8 middle school serving 163 students. • Hancock is the only school that feeds LaBrum; however both schools have two Principals and support administration. • Administrative savings can be achieved by consolidating to a single

			administration across the two buildings. Hancock and LaBrur to a K-8 elementary school.
16		Recapture the Community Center building on the Mayfair property and use this space to address over-utilization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayfair is a K-8 elementary school serving 990 students. • The school is overcrowded due to a large kindergarten and first population. This trend is expected to continue. • The building has a high FCI (91%) and needs to be renovated. • The School District entered into an agreement with the Mayor for construction of a new community center on the Mayfair campus. • The District should negotiate use of classroom space and space in the Perzel community center for use by the Mayfair.
17	NE	Charter Growth and Expansion to alleviate overcrowding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spruance (K-8 elementary) serving 1300 students • Carnell (K-8 elementary) serving 1600 students • Franklin (K-8 elementary) serving 1070 students • Rhawnhurst (K-5 elementary) serving 520 students • Disston (K-8 elementary) serving 816 students • Farrell (K-8 elementary) serving 942 students <p><i>Note: Charter operators have expressed difficulty with recruitment because they are denied access to contact families at the District's Charter Office should host an enrollment and recruitment event to inform families in this area of the charter options available.</i></p>
18	SC	Surplus disposal- Childs Elementary School and Alcorn Annex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current unoccupied surplus property
19	SC	Childs neighborhood high school assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childs elementary school expanded to become a K-8 elementary school. The first class of 8th grade students will graduate in June. They will need a neighborhood high school assignment. • Recommendation is South Philadelphia High School. (South Promise Academy for SY11-12)

DRAFT-FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW ONLY