



**The School District of Philadelphia
Office of Communications**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA PRESENTS FACILITIES
MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

Additional Community Feedback Sought Through Seventeen Community Meetings

PHILADELPHIA – Tonight, the School District of Philadelphia presented its Facilities Master Plan (FMP) to the School Reform Commission (SRC). The Plan includes thirty-one recommendations to be considered by the SRC for a vote no later than Spring of 2012. The recommendations, if approved, will be implemented over the next two academic years.

The plan and its recommendations look to align the District's facilities, educational programs, and grade configurations in away that benefit the students the most. The ultimate goal is to create a system of quality schools that promotes high student achievement in the most equitable and cost-effective manner.

The release of the recommendations marks a new phase of the District process to develop a long-range Facilities Master Plan, which began in November 2010 and has included extensive outreach with a total of twenty-three (23) public engagement meetings attended by over 1,400 participants. As part of this new phase, the District will seek community and stakeholder input on the Facilities Master Plan before the SRC votes on the recommendations by Spring of 2012. The District will hold seventeen (17) community meetings during which attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the proposed recommendations and provide direct feedback.

The full presentation and list of recommendations can be found at www.philasd.org/fmp.

The Facilities Master Plan creates a framework to allow the District to achieve the following:

- Standardize grade configuration to improve K-12 academic pathways, provide equity in programmatic offerings, and create predictable and manageable transitions for students.
- Reduce excess capacity through building closures/consolidations, termination of leases, and closure of annexes.
- Develop a new Capital Improvement Program that addresses deferred maintenance and excess capacity.
- Develop a plan for surplus real estate and an opportunity for community engagement.

- Generate revenue from the sale of surplus properties to be applied to debt service or capital fund.

The process to reach an optimal District-wide utilization goal of 85% will take time. The District’s excess capacity problem did not occur overnight. It was due to over ten years of inaction. The proposals introduced are intended to be a starting point of action. It will be imperative moving forward, that the District continually review and update the data collected (at least every two years) to determine future rightsizing actions in order to achieve its utilization goal.

The schedule for the community meetings are as follows:

Date	Location	Address	Planning Area	Time
Sat. 19-Nov	Roxborough HS	6498 Ridge Ave	Northwest	10 am- Noon
Wed. 7-Dec	West Philadelphia HS	4901 Chestnut Ave	West	6:00-8:00 pm
Thu. 8-Dec	Martin Luther King HS	6100 Stenton Ave	Northwest	6:00-8:00 pm
Sat. 10-Dec	South Philadelphia HS	2101 S. Broad St	South Central	10 am- Noon
Tue. 13-Dec	Julia de Burgos Elementary School	401 W. Lehigh Ave.	North Central	6:00-8:00 pm
Thu. 15-Dec	Strawberry Mansion HS	3133 Ridge Ave	North Central	6:00-8:00 pm
Sat. 17-Dec	Lincoln HS	3201 Ryan Ave	Northeast	10 am- Noon
Tue. 10-Jan	Northeast HS	1601 Cottman Ave	Northeast	6:00-8:00 pm
Wed. 11-Jan	High School of the Future	4021 Parkside Ave	West	6:00-8:00 pm
Tue. 17-Jan	Bartram HS	2401 S. 67th St	Southwest	6:00-8:00 pm
Thu. 19-Jan	South Philadelphia HS	2101 S. Broad St	South Central	6:00-8:00 pm
Tue. 24-Jan	Kensington CAPA	1901 N. Front St	North Central	6:00-8:00 pm
Thu. 26-Jan	Dobbins HS	2150 W. Lehigh Ave	North Central	6:00-8:00 pm
Tue. 31-Jan	Turner Middle School	6722 Lansdowne Ave.	Southwest	6:00-8:00 pm
Thu. 2-Feb	South Philadelphia HS	2101 S. Broad St	South Central	6:00-8:00 pm

Tue. 7-Feb	Frankford HS	5000 Oxford Ave	North Central	6:00-8:00 pm
Thu. 16-Feb	Ben Franklin HS	550 N. Broad St	North Central	6:00-8:00 pm

For more information, please visit the District's Facilities Master Plan web site at www.philasd.org/fmp.

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