

POCAHONTAS SCHOOL DISTRICT
SIX (6) YEAR FACILITIES PLANNING SUMMARY

1. In March of 2016 the district applied for state Partnership funding to construct a new K-4 elementary school. The application was based upon the negative Facilities Condition Index (FCI) of Alma Spikes Elementary School and the district's Ten (10) Year Enrollment projections completed by FutureThink, Inc. on December 21, 2015. (See associated document)
2. In March of 2018 the district applied for state Partnership funding to reconstruct its high school and add additional spacing to meet suitability (spacing) needs. The application was based upon the negative Facilities Condition Index (FCI) of Pocahontas High School, enrollment growth within the district over the previous 18 months and the district's Ten (10) Year Enrollment projections completed by FutureThink, Inc. on October 2, 2017. (See associated document)
3. In April of 2018, the district was approved for state funding assistance in the amount of \$9.6 million dollars to build the new elementary school per its 2016 Partnership application.
4. The district will submit a "plan rescope" to the state on August 15, 2018 if the millage proposal is approved as its enrollments have already outgrown the 2015 projections and the application for the K-4 elementary. The "rescope" will be for a K-3 elementary with the addition of four (4) preschool classrooms which would replace Alma Spikes Elementary and meet the spacing needs for FutureThink's high enrollment projections for the next ten (10) years per its October 2017 report.
5. Projected cost of the elementary including; construction, design, furnishings, technology costs and playground equipment is \$20.6 million. The anticipated state Partnership share, after "rescope", is approximately \$8.9 million to \$9 million dollars. The district will commit \$3.5 million dollars from its Building Fund towards the project. **Construction must begin by October 28, 2019 or any state funding assistance is subject to being recaptured by the state.**

6. The district will propose a 3.44 mill increase in a special election on Tuesday, August 14, 2018. The millage increase is the amount required to generate the remaining funds needed to construct the new elementary school.
 7. If the millage proposal is approved, site work on the elementary school is scheduled to begin in October of 2018 and construction in March of 2019. The facility would be complete and ready for the 2020/2021 school year.
 8. Alma Spikes could no longer be utilized to serve Pre K through 12th grade students without penalty to the district as the state has agreed that it no longer meets the suitability standards for academic purposes by committing funding for a new elementary school. The district has requested a waiver from the state regarding this matter in the event that its high school is reconstructed and the space is needed to serve students during the reconstruction.
 9. In the coming months the district will learn if its 2018 proposal to reconstruct the high school, with additional spacing added to meet the ten (10) year spacing needs, is approved by the state. If approved, the district will learn in May of 2020 if any state Partnership funding will be awarded towards the project. Specific planning for that project would begin at that time. This would include funding and design as well as ideas whereby the district could connect its historical past to its future regarding facilities.
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Key Planning Factors

- Based upon $\frac{3}{4}$ average enrollments, the district has grown 142 students from 2017 to 2018.
- Every campus is experiencing spacing deficiencies.
- FutureThink's "high" projections in 2015 anticipated an enrollment of approximately 2035 we are trending above that figure. The district ended the 2017-2018 school year with 2,046 students and saw an enrollment high of 2,052 in April of 2018.

- The “most likely” and “high” projections from FutureThink’s 2017 study project the district to grow an additional 200 to 350 students over the next five(5) years and 375 to 600 over the next ten (10) years. Both projections create spacing needs at all four campuses in the district.
- Both Alma Spikes Elementary and Pocahontas High School have negative Facilities Condition Indexes (FCI). Districts are required to develop a long range plan as to how such facilities will be addressed. This may or may not include replacement.