



## Listening Session

Inform, Engage, and Plan





# AGENDA

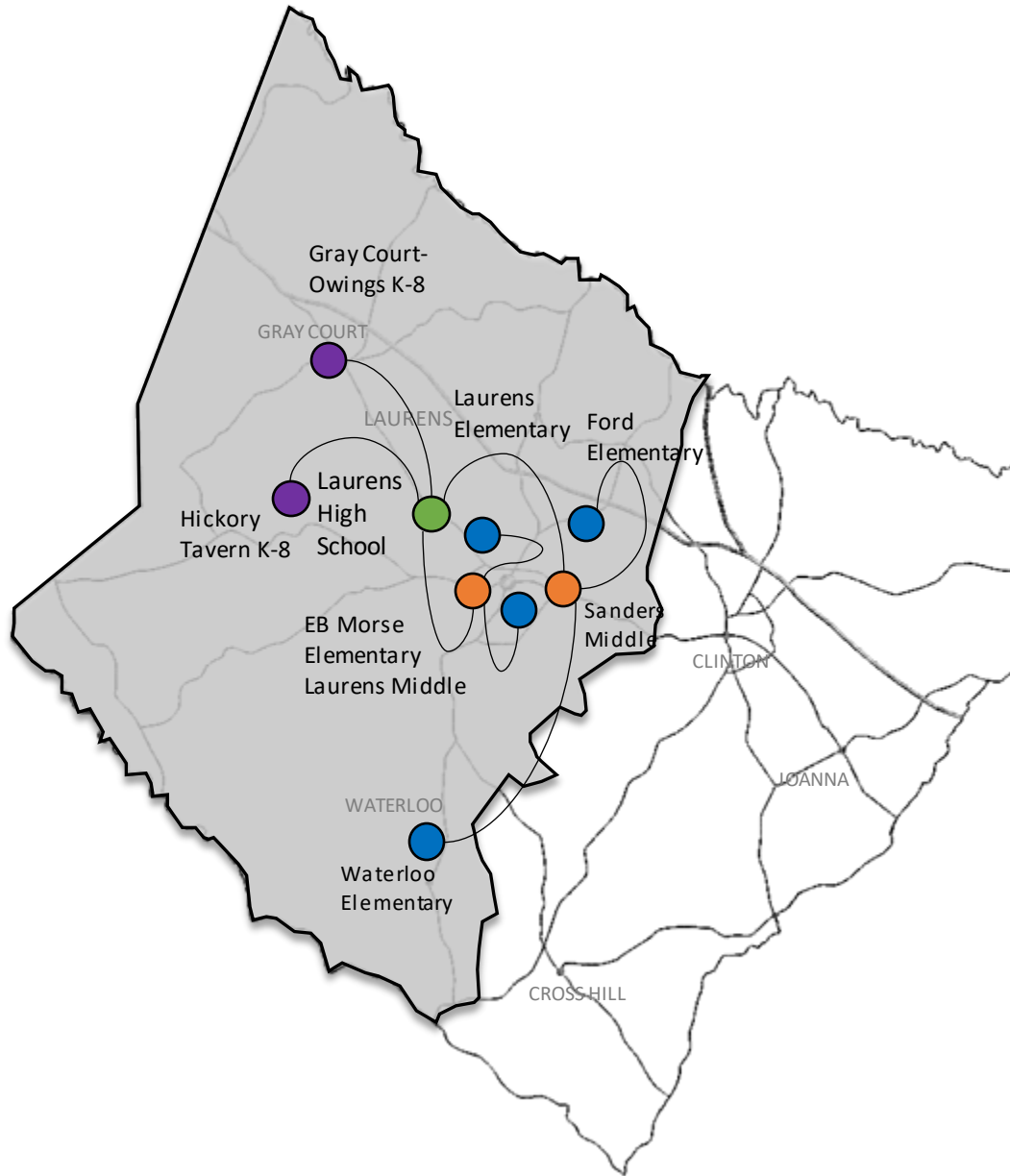
- I. Introduction, Purpose and Team
- II. Facility Needs Assessment
  - Physical Condition of Schools*
  - Growth and Change in Enrollment*
  - Use of Schools*
- III. Open Discussion and Q&A
- IV. Today's Educational Facilities
  - School Needs Today
  - Guiding Principals
- V. Open Discussion and Q&A
- VI. Options
- VII. Next Steps and Communication





How do we keep our  
schools up-to-date?





E.B. Morse Elementary



Waterloo Elementary



Sanders Middle School



Ford Elementary



Hickory Tavern K-8



Laurens Middle School



Laurens Elementary



Gray Court-Owings K-8



Laurens High School

## SCORE CHART

5	4	3	2	1
5 of 5 (100%)	4 of 5 (80%)	3 of 5 (60%)	2 of 5 (40%)	1 of 5 (20%)
<b>New or like-new condition.</b> No issues to report, no expected failures. Reevaluate in 3 years.	<b>No reported issues or concerns;</b> No expected failures. Consider replacement and / or improvement in 7-10 years, reevaluate condition in 3 years.	<b>Not new, with some issues to report.</b> Average wear for its age. Replace or improve within 3-6 years	<b>Worn from use and nearing the end of its life cycle.</b> Replace or improve within 2-3 years as funds are available.	<b>Extremely worn, damaged, or inoperable.</b> Replace or improve in less than 2 years.

## Deficiency Reports

- Geolocated Instance Issues per school
- Photographic and In-field Notes
- Web-based and Searchable Platform
- *Facility and Maintenance Depart.*

## Assessment Recommendations

- Approx. 268 individual assessment recommendations per school
- Itemized, Rated, and Cost Valued
- *Facility Depart. and District Leadership*

## Executive Summary

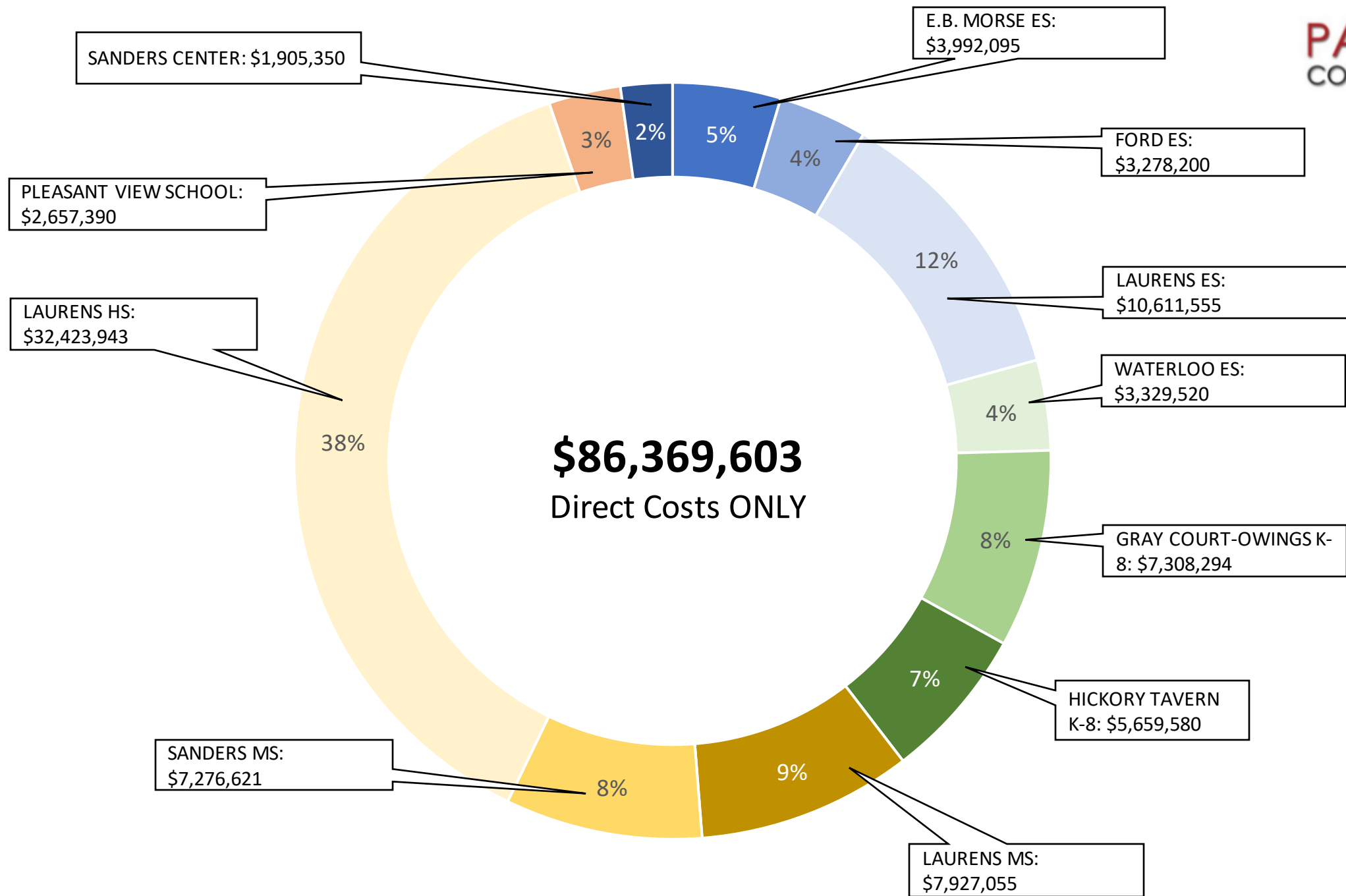
- Categorized Focus Areas
- *District Leadership, Board of Education, Internal and External Stakeholders*

Laurens District 55 Schools

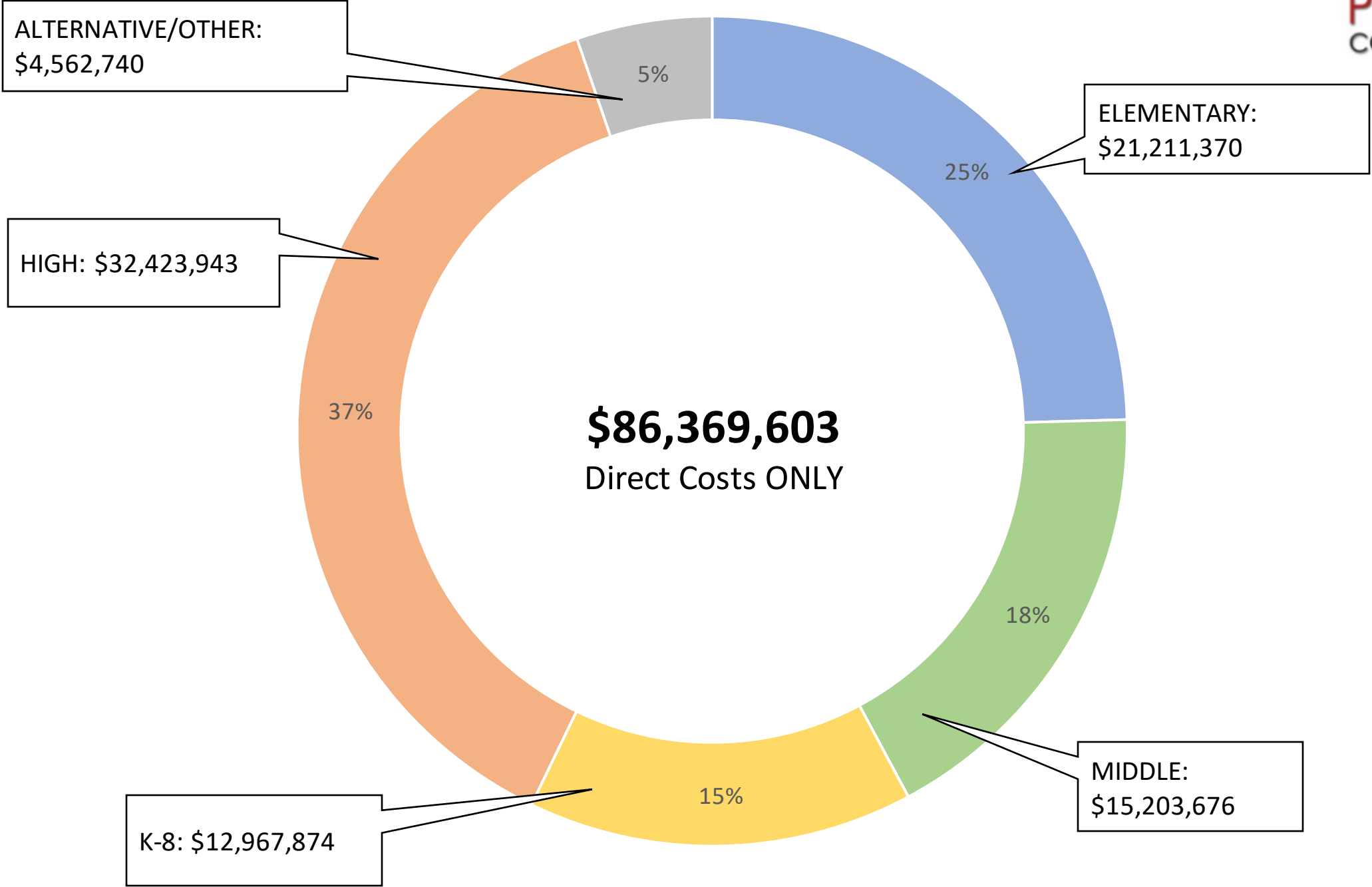
School	Yr. Built	Yr. Renovated	Overall Score	Site	BE	Int.	MEP	HSS
Laurens High	1972	2006	3	3	2	3	2	2
Laurens Middle	1954	1954	3	3	3	2	3	3
Sanders Middle	1953	1983	2	2	2	3	2	2
Gray Court-Owings Middle/Elementary	1928	2006	3	3	2	2	2	3
Hickory Tavern Middle/Elementary	1954	2007	3	3	3	3	3	3

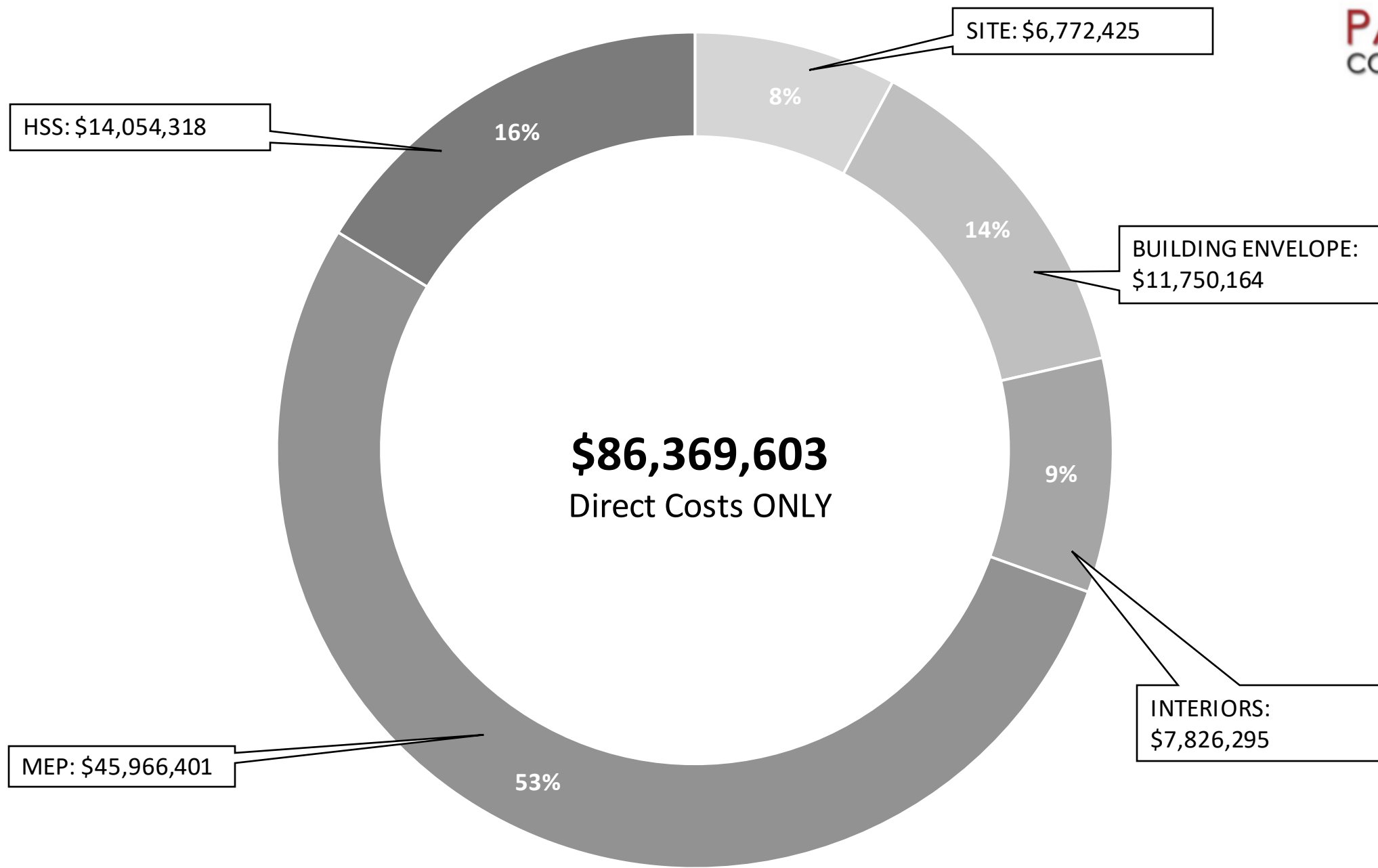
Laurens District 55 Schools

School	Yr. Built	Yr. Renovated	Overall Score	Site	BE	Int.	MEP	HSS
E.B. Morse Elementary	1967	2001	3	3	3	3	3	2
Ford Elementary	1936	2001	3	3	2	3	3	2
Laurens Elementary	1969	2000	3	3	2	3	2	3
Waterloo Elementary	2001	2001	3	3	3	3	3	3
Laurens Prep. (Pleasant View)	--	--	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sanders Center	1953	1953	3	3	2	3	2	3









**MAINTENANCE PLANNING and PARAMETERS:**

<b>Direct Construction Costs.....</b>	<b>\$ 86,369,603</b>
<b>Indirect Construction Costs.....</b>	<b>\$ 25,910,880</b>
<b>Contingency.....</b>	<b>\$ 12,955,440</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS.....</b>	<b>\$ 125,235,923</b>

\*Does not include escalation. A master schedule is needed.

**Indirect Construction Costs**

Includes required due diligence studies, surveys, general conditions, professional fees, legal costs, permitting and inspection costs, FFE, technology infrastructure, and insurance among other similar costs. Indirect Construction Costs can represent 23-37% of the overall project budget depending on the project's typology, complexity, and size.

**Cost Escalation**

Variable percentage of Direct Costs for the project's duration, therefore, it is also directly related to the CIP Master Schedule. The costs are projected to escalate 5% per year after June 2023.

**Project Delivery**

Assuming 3 sub-bidders per major division (high competitiveness)

**Contingency**

Because of the complexity of this project type, maintain a construction and design contingency of a minimum of 15%





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Are we growing? If  
so, where and by  
how much?



**67,803**

2021 Laurens County  
Population

**1.9%**

2010-2021 Growth  
Rate, Laurens County

**12%**

2010-2021 Growth  
Rate, South Carolina

**7.3%**

2010-2021 Growth  
Rate, US

**1.5%**

2010-2021 Change in 25-  
44 year-olds Population  
in Laurens County

**Total population in 2010**



**Total population in 2021**

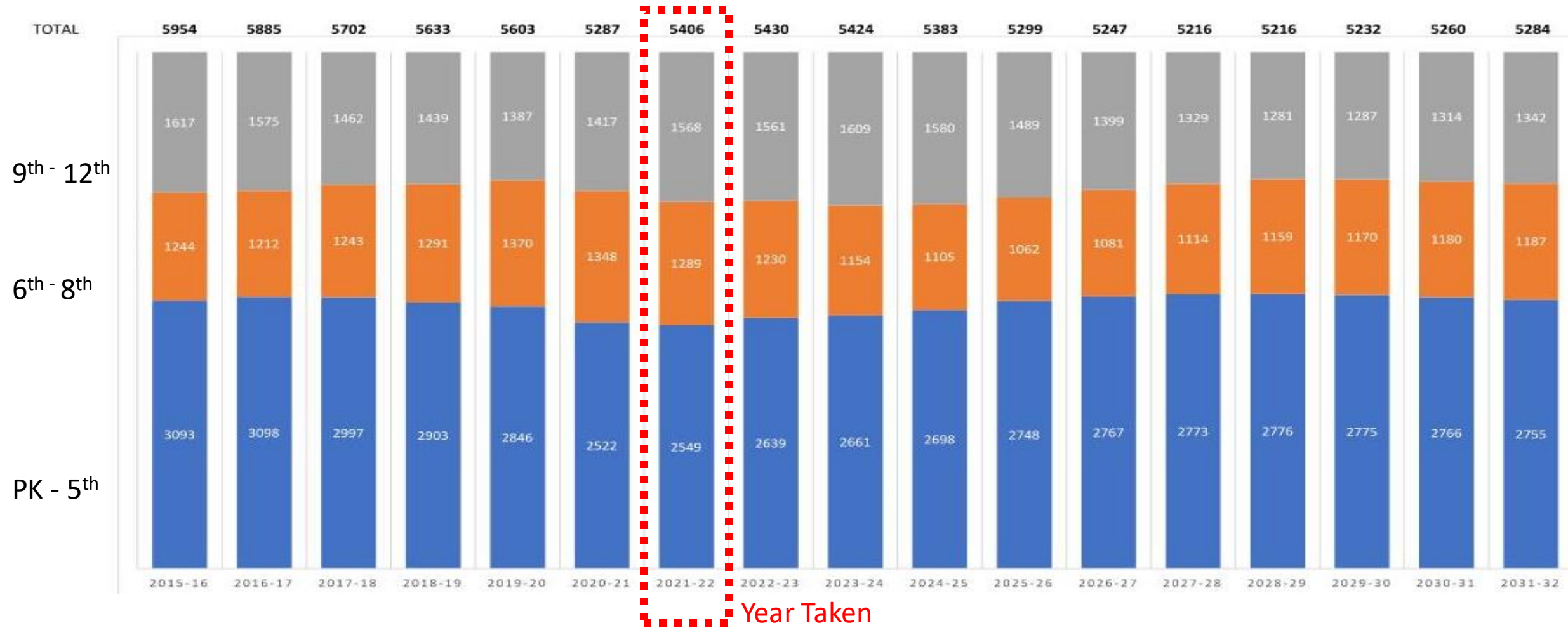


# Enrollment Forecast by Grade Level

5,406  
Enrollment 2021

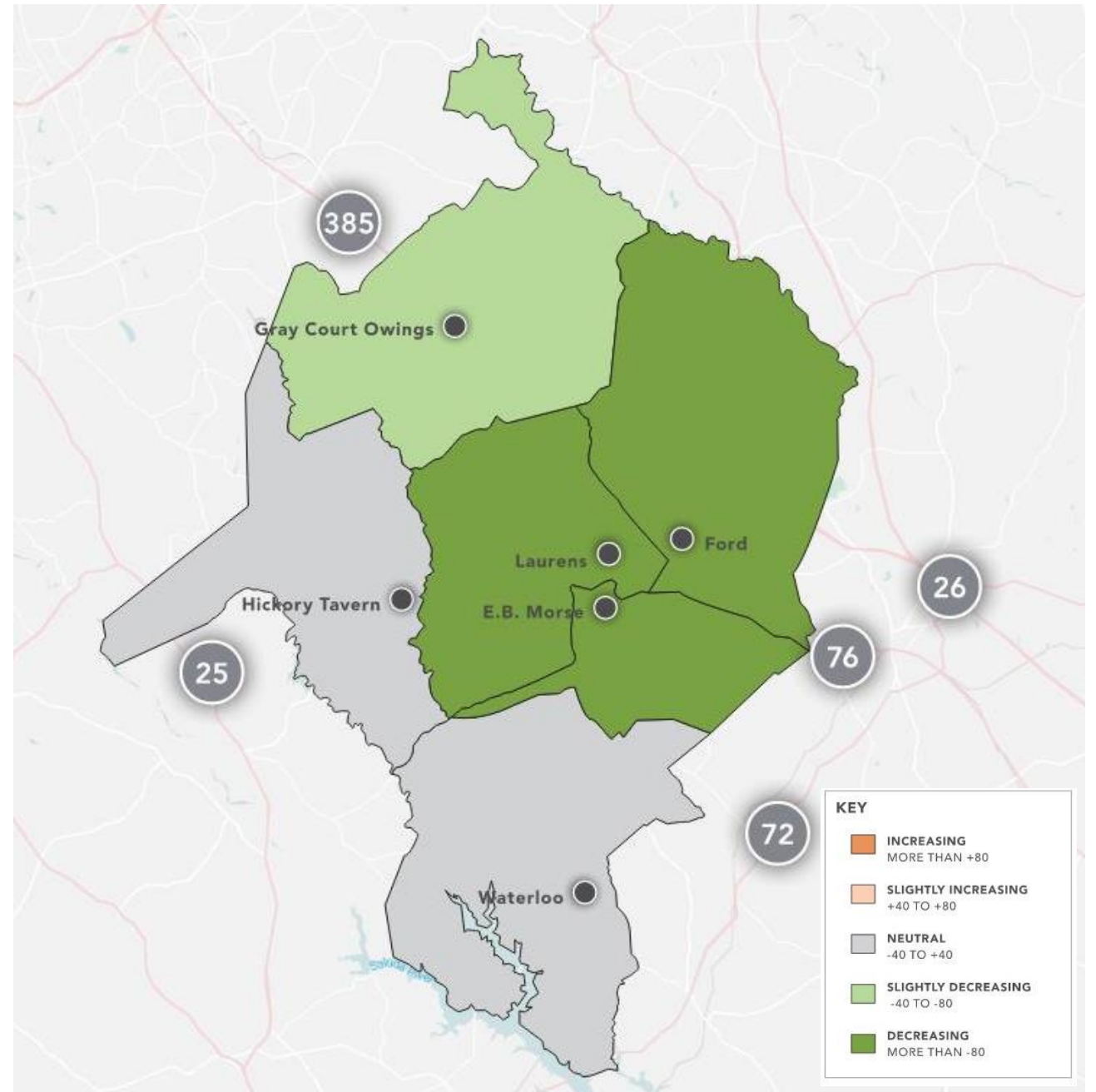
5,247  
Enrollment 2026

5,284  
Enrollment 2031





SCHOOL	FY2021-22, 135-day Enrollment	10-year Baseline Forecast	
E.B. Morse Elementary	437	472	▲
Ford Elementary	432	467	▲
Laurens Elementary	522	564	▲
Waterloo Elementary	263	284	▲
Gray Court-Owings K-8	765	786	▲
Hickory Tavern K-8	650	668	▲
Laurens Middle	436	401	▼
Sanders Middle	344	317	▼
Laurens High	1,568	1,342	▼
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,417</b>	<b>5,301</b>	



SCHOOL	FY2021-22, 135-day Enrollment	10-year Baseline Forecast	Baseline + Speculative Forecast (Moderate)
E.B. Morse Elementary	437	472 ▲	542 ▲
Ford Elementary	432	467 ▲	484 ▲
Laurens Elementary	522	564 ▲	645 ▲
Waterloo Elementary	263	284 ▲	284 ▲
Gray Court-Owings K-8	765	786 ▲	849 ▲
Hickory Tavern K-8	650	668 ▲	668 ▲
Laurens Middle	436	401 ▼	460 ▲
Sanders Middle	344	317 ▼	359 ▲
Laurens High	1,568	1,342 ▼	1,508 ▼
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,417</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,799</b>

## Take Aways

- Growth will be highly dependent on speculative development, therefore dependent on sustained and positive regional and local economic trends
- The growth rate remains LOW overall for the district, even when factoring in known new developments.
- Aggressive vs. Moderate vs. Conservative Speculative Models
- Changes that would affect speculative forecast:

*Incoming or Outgoing Large Employers  
 Infrastructure Changes (utility + road)  
 Affordability of Housing  
 Above Average Changes in Loan Rates,  
 Unemployment Rates, Taxes, Policy Making*



Can our schools  
handle changes in  
enrollment?



School/Attendance Zone	Capacity		Baseline + Speculative Forecast		
	Full Capacity (w/o Scheduling Factor)	Target Capacity	Forecasted Enrollment (FY2031-2032)	% of Target Capacity	Enrollment vs. Target Capacity (Number of Students)
E.B. Morse Elementary School	785	641	542	85%	-99
Ford Elementary School	553	446	484	109%	38
Laurens Elementary School	816	666	645	97%	-21
Waterloo Elementary School	543	440	284	65%	-156
Gray Court-Owings K-8	1,136	909	849	93%	-60
Hickory Tavern K-8	1,110	885	668	75%	-217
Laurens Middle School	805	638	460	72%	-178
Sanders Middle School	628	497	359	72%	-138
Laurens High School	2,099	1,498	1,508	101%	10
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>		<b>6,620</b>	<b>5,799</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>-821</b>

## Comparative Analysis: Baseline + Speculative vs. Capacity

- Speculative Growth is LOW, but it is expected to moderate the decline in the baseline forecast
- For some elementary schools, converting areas back into academic spaces will allow more flexibility in enrollment growth.
- Planning Considerations:
  - Grade Realignment with existing schools*
  - Adjust Attendance Lines where Practical*
  - Convert Properties to Different Function*
  - Temporary or Permanent School Additions*
  - Teaching Methodology Adjustments*
  - New School Construction*
- Monitor Enrollment and Utilization



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# Open Discussion





Why do we want to  
improve our schools?





## **Safety / Security**

***Modernizing systems and user comfort***



## **Academics**

***Creating new or better spaces for collaboration and learning***



## **Athletics / Arts**

***Enhance public experience and improve student's physical and cultural education experience***

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Features that provide student, teacher, and staff **comfort and safety** should be a priority.
2. Any improvement should consider on-going operational costs and aim to **decrease yearly operating expenses** where possible.
3. Our campuses should provide the **needed amount of space required** for our educational programs offered and the student body at each facility.
4. **Renovate, replace, or upgrade existing campuses** where needed because of age or functional obsolescence. Coordinate on-going maintenance projects with long-term planning.
5. Convert existing space to serve **current or needed functions** where practical in our existing schools. Construct building additions where needed to **alleviate enrollment growth**.
6. Expand **Montessori** and **Early Childhood Programs**, and **Career & Technical Education** in the district.



# Secure outdoor spaces for learning and gathering Improves overall well-being





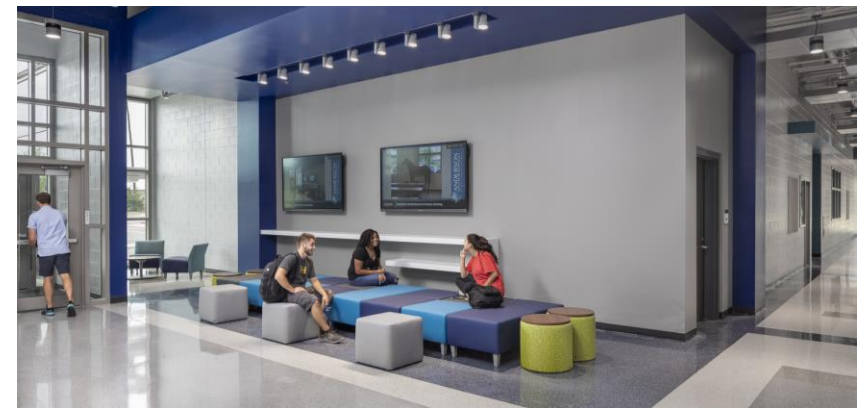
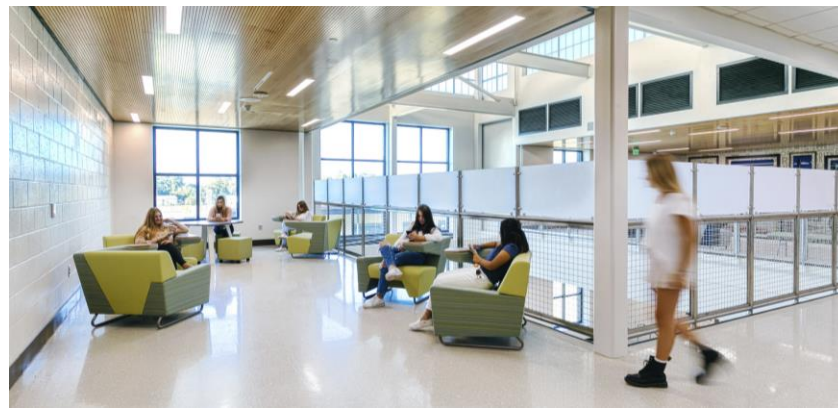
**Open spaces with clear sightlines**  
Deter bullying and fighting





## Quiet, safe spaces

Mitigate stress and fatigue





# Flexible, state-of-the-art educational opportunities

## Improves moral, social, and educational quality





# DAYLIGHTING

Standardized test math +  
reading scores

↑ 20%

\*Alliance to Save Energy





## SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Student  
absences

↓ 60%

## MOBILE FURNITURE

Short term memory +  
learning





# STEM

STEM educated workers  
earn more than non-STEM  
educated workers

↑ **25%**

# PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

**50%**

of children entering grade  
school will work in careers  
that aren't invented yet.







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What are the ways  
we can improve  
schools?

# OPTIONS ?

**SCENARIO 1 (DEFAULT) – District-wide Additions, Renovations, and Conversions**

**SCENARIO 2 – Consolidate Elementary Schools**

**SCENARIO 3 - Consolidate Middle Schools (Multiple Options)**

SCENARIO 3, OPTION A. New Construction on existing property.

SCENARIO 3, OPTION B. Convert an Existing Campus to a middle school campus.

**SCENARIO 4 – New High School (Multiple Options)**

SCENARIO 4, OPTION A. Phased New High School Construction on existing property.

SCENARIO 4, OPTION B. New High School Construction on adjacent property.

SCENARIO 4, OPTION C. New High School Construction and Athletic Complex on new property.

**SCENARIO 5 – Redraw Attendance Line, Grade Realignment and Existing Campus Conversions**





What will our  
community support?



# IDEAS

What topics should our facility improvement plans focus on for the next 10 years?

Are there any student courses, programs, or activities that are not available that should be?

What 'one big challenge' does the district face in improving schools?

What haven't we thought of?

# NEXT STEPS

## Community Listen and Learn Sessions

- ✓ January 30, 2023 (Laurens High School @ 6:00 PM)
- ✓ February 10, 2023 (District Office at 9:00 AM)
- ✓ February 13, 2023 (Hickory Tavern @ 6:00 PM)
- February 21, 2023 (Gray Court-Owings @ 6:00 PM)

## Tentative

### Board Workshops

- March 27, 2023 (District Office @ 4:30 PM)
- April 24, 2023 (District Office @ 4:40 PM)
- May 22, 2023 (District Office @ 4:30 PM)
- June 19, 2023 (District Office @ 4:30 PM)

### Capital Improvement Plan Focus Groups

- April 2023 (Multiple Meeting Dates, Updates to be Provided)

### Final Capital Improvements Plan Sessions

- August 21, 2023 (District Office @ 6:00 PM)

# CONTACT

## Community Survey

Visit: <https://survey.k12insight.com/r/L55SQCS>

## Find out more:

Visit: <https://www.laurens55.org>







## Listening Session

