

## Educational Facilities Master Plan

### FY2023 Update Board Summary

- General-no changes to body of document. The ONLY substantive change is an update to our already established, prioritized “**Facility Needs Summary**”.
- Redistricting, full day Pre-K noted.
- Local enrollment projection shows decline. State projection shows increase. Low birthrates and the impact of COVID to last September enrollments are largely the cause. Growth will continue in North Dorchester.
- District facility needs generally fall into 2 categories; Systemic Renovations to address deferred maintenance or systems at end of useful life (Replace boilers, chillers, ventilation equipment, roofs, doors, windows, floorcoverings, etc) and Major Facility Renovation/Additions or Replacements. Major projects are where educational adequacy issues are addressed.
- Systemic Renovation Priorities-SDK8 HVAC, VES HVAC, CES Roof System and Rooftop Equipment, WES Roof, MLMS Roof System and Rooftop Equipment
- Significant Security Systems Improvements in place and ongoing.
- Major Facility Renovation/Additions or Replacements-Open Space Elementary Schools (HES, MES, SHES, WES, VES) remain the largest educational adequacy issue for the District. They have been well maintained but due to age generally have accelerating degrading conditions. This is expected to be reflected in the ongoing statewide facility assessment and maintenance inspections.
- Rhetorically-What is the future of Elementary Education in Open Space Schools in North Dorchester and Cambridge? Can Dorchester County afford to address these issues 1:1 or are there other alternatives?
- Per the latest county Comprehensive Plan, the Route 16 Corridor in North Dorchester is the largest designated growth area for the county and is designated a Rural Residential Growth Area.
- WES and SDK8 are the only schools that remain overcrowded for the full 10 year enrollment projection.
- Recommendation: Pursue the needed systemic renovations as quickly and efficiently as possible using local, state and ESSR resources. Build local consensus on the future and priority of what the next major building program will be and advocate for resources locally and at the state level. Continue to install Weapons Detection Systems at all sites.