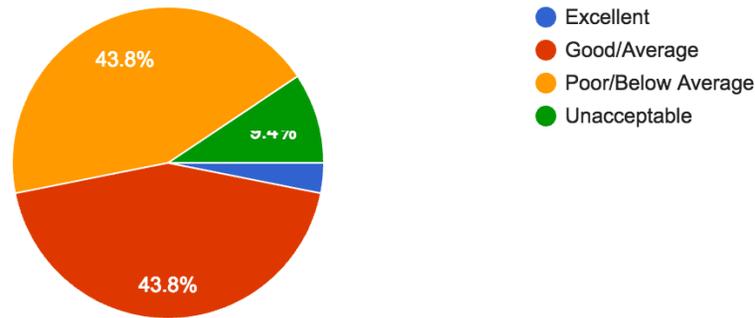


# September 27, 2016 Community Engagement Feedback

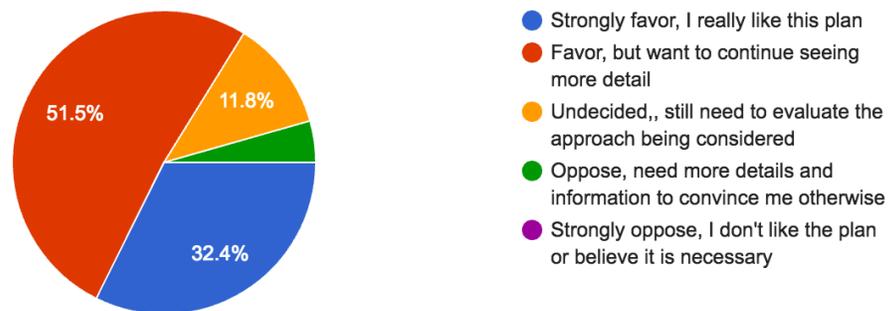
From your perspective, how would you rate district 34 facilities in general (overall)?

(64 responses)

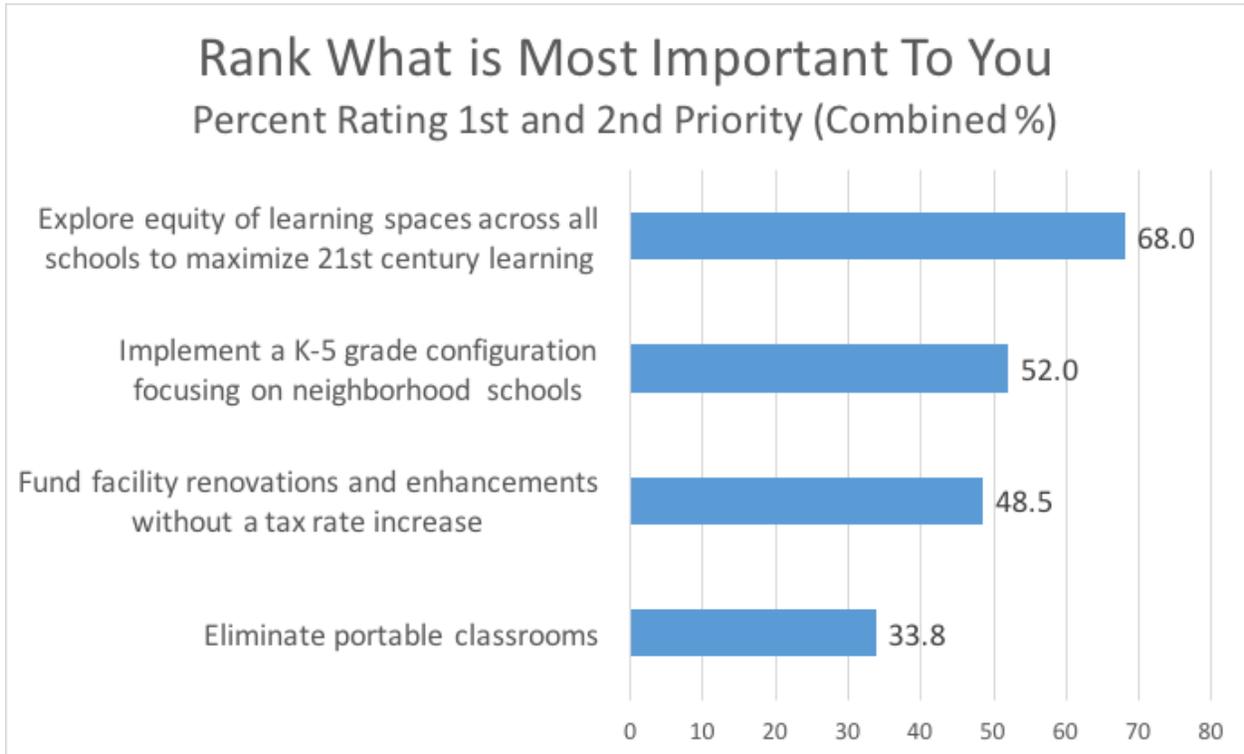


The District is considering a referendum in April 2017 that will ask voters to approve a Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) that WILL NOT increase the annual amount of property taxes currently paid by a homeowner for District 34's principal and interest payments on bonds. At this preliminary stage, if the election were held today, what would be your position?

(68 responses)



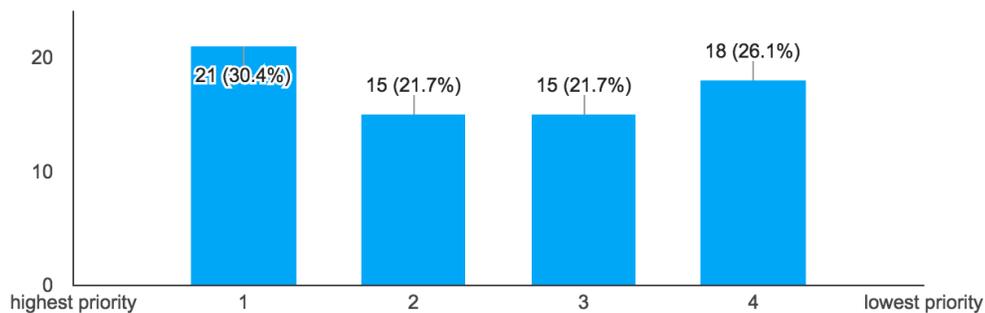
# Survey Questions



Please rank 1-4 the following in order of importance to you with 1 (highest priority) and 4 (lowest priority):

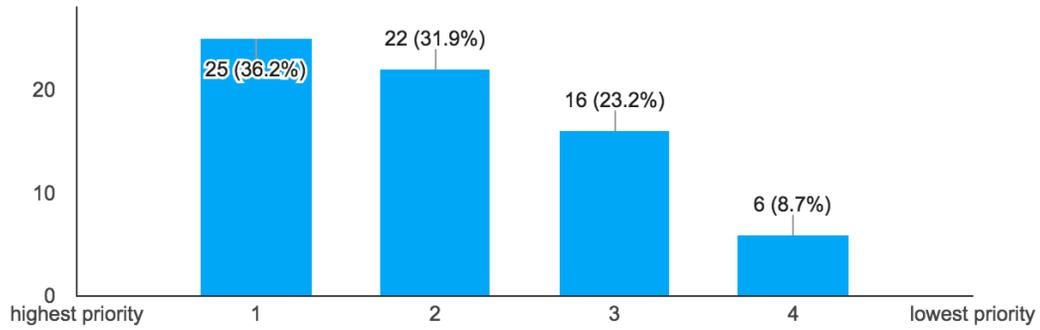
## Implement a K-5 grade configuration focusing on neighborhood schools

(69 responses)

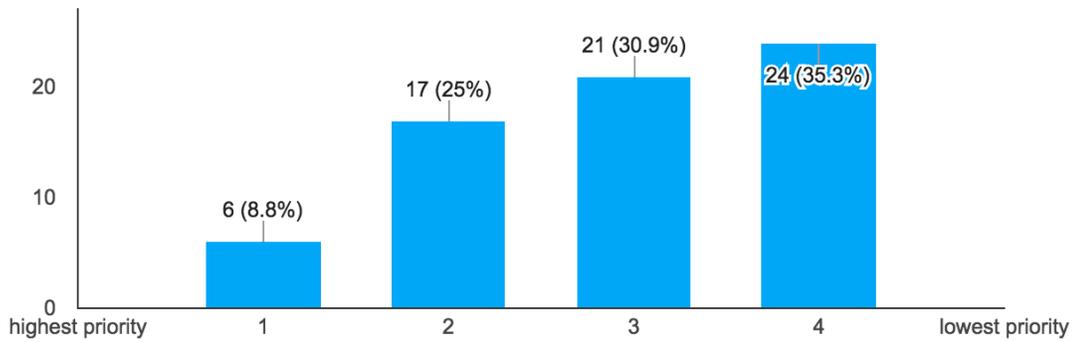


## Explore equity of learning spaces across all schools to maximize 21st century learning

(69 responses)

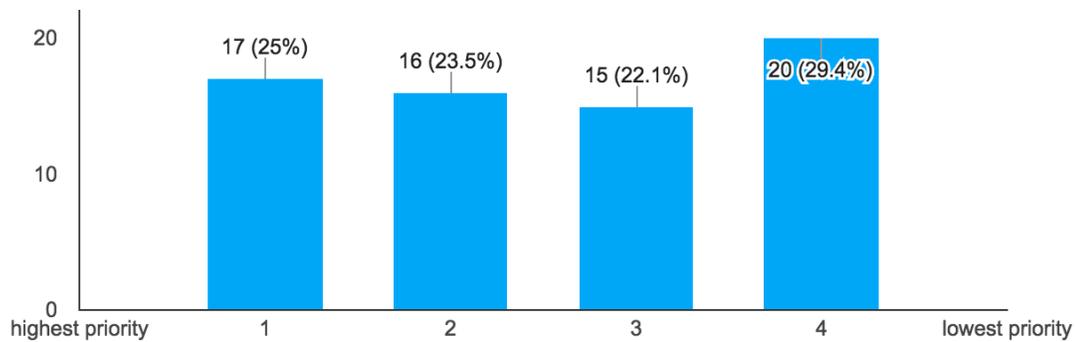


## Eliminate portable classrooms (68 responses)



## Fund facility renovations and enhancements without a tax rate increase

(68 responses)



Provide specific feedback, questions or concerns regarding the three breakout session topics.

## facility Improvements (53 responses)

When adding large spaces (gym), one of the areas needs a stage. It makes such a difference during performances (all the schools in Lake Villa have them). It will allow for more fine art performances! Air conditioning and a non-leaking roof at Oakland is needed.

Worried that Oakland improvements won't be enough to make it a desirable 21st century school.

Make sure there is adequate parking at Oakland.

Who is responsible for vetting the construction personnel? Ensuring safety of students during work times (sex offenders, concerns regarding background checks being done).

Is there enough parking at Oakland during the school day? Will there be more parking spots for visitors and volunteers? Proposed gym does not seem large enough for double classes up to 5th graders. It would be best to be the same size of the gym at Hillcrest.

Equality of schools across district \*facilities \*a/c \*technology use

Air conditioning in all schools - great!

Will Oakland playground be fenced? It is pushed closer to Grass Lake Road and younger students will be added.

\*Gender neutral single stall restrooms are essential. \*Pre-K bathrooms in rooms? \*A/C for AES? \*Media space for Pre-K?

Why improving 60 year old school and not building new?

Has the District considered adding a separate wing to Petty and/or Oakland rather than revamping so much of the schools?

Oakland new concept seems like it is lacking parking. Please consider and I hope the play area does not allow for through traffic which the new layout suggests.

Secure playground area at AES? Will there be bathrooms in the classrooms for Pre-K? A/C for Pre-K?

Petty needs more parent parking and improved traffic flow when competing with AUGS events.

Oakland playground too close to road.

What happens if the construction company needs more money? Limited amount of funds available.

Concerns about no A/C at AES for Pre-K.

Parking for Petty? We will need it along with AUGS.

I hope that Petty could get the playground moved into the field and made to same side... AES needs air conditioning. When does construction end? What about AUGS?

Oakland would gain more square footage for classrooms with joining in/up against existing North end.

Building a longer wall to create an atrium area costs more \$, as it also increases heating/cooling costs. I look at the footprint of Hillcrest and see much wasted \$ in construction cost, as well as ongoing heat/cool costs.

Has there ever been any consideration on providing another access road into W.C. Petty/AUGS (off 173), relocating bus/maintenance facility and storage?

AC is a must! Excited about getting rid of portables.

A/C for Oakland, would adding sidewalks that can access adjacent subdivision be added to allow walkers to school (on Grass Lake Rd) or is that a village issue?

At Oakland & Petty, will older part of structure be updated? ie new AC, fixtures, and parking?

I would like to see improvements at AUGS (cafeteria & theater).

Air conditioning at Oakland needs to be the first improvement! Can sidewalks be considered? Walking students would be a good added benefit.

Does the plan include air conditioning at Oakland?

Did enrollment project or take into account population projection in route 173 improvement project estimates? What is the plan to accommodate higher than expected enrollment? How ill Special Education space needs be addressed?

Parking lot at Oakland needs improvement expansion.

Would we need students to walk to AES who are in Pre-K? We may lose enrollment (if this is the case) of very needy families who need school support. Address building condition and learning environment (W.C. Petty & Oakland) AES as Early Learning - Thoughts: Unlike area preschools, we allow students to attend the EC/PK programs who are not toilet trained. This leads to specific challenges when bathrooms are not in the classrooms. How will you address the ratio/safety & grant compliance issues that will be caused when bathrooms are not accessible within the room? One solution? - classroom becomes a bathroom shared by rooms 6 and 8 with doors that open/access the bathroom in the rooms. Is the white area between rooms 4 & 5 a bathroom? If rooms open up to it that would solve the issue for those rooms as well. If outside entities are housed in AES how will we address those security issues, shared equipment/learning spaces, etc? Would we instead house or explore tuition based, district staffed PK rooms? If the lower level and 2nd floor are vacant at AES, can we close ASC, have that staff at AES and divert that money to renovate AES for our EC learners? (bathrooms, playground, etc) What is proposed square footage for new rooms? (this is a grant compliance issue) Young children need room. What is the consideration for transition we will put on all early learners leaving AES?

Potential of AES as early learning center: We can design schedules devoted to our learners and operate the building accordingly. We can use vacant rooms as sensory rooms, stem rooms, motor spaces. We can potentially walk to the public library, post office, and public buildings for community engagement. Students being screened can visit class rooms to give more data before determining placement/eligibility. Parking - Oakland for sure, Hillcrest has been a problem at times - others - unknown.

Will parking become a concern at Oakland and Petty?

AES - Safety for students - fencing bathrooms, asbestos, age of water pipes, highway in front of school, aging heating system. How are these items going to be addressed? Details please!

Does the District own land that could be a future school site?

I am concerned that the proposed improvements do not allow for much increase in enrollment. If enrollment increases, will new school need to be built?

AES - ideas/?'s about preschool: Air conditioning installation Fencing around playground for AES

Average (district) students in room is 24 on one of the slides - is each school's average similar? Why only plan for 1,765?

A/C Classroom size reductions If AES is so old has St. Peters been approached for usage/lease?

Alternative to AES improvement.

Great plans for Oakland & Petty.

I'd like to hear about "cooling" (fans, portable AES) and options at AES.

Good plan! A+

I hope there's enough room to grow built in. "Class size will not increase" but can extra rooms be added at each school so they'll decrease?

Timing of construction schedule when it starts? End date? Timeline? What about pickup and drop off with the school addition? What about parking?

Concerned about Pre-K at AES. Many/most students have IEP's, special needs and sensory issues. They need a good physical environment including a/c. If I had a special needs Pre-K student, I would not send them to AES as plans stand.

Why won't these improvements REDUCE class sizes? This seems to be an important oversight of this plan in terms of childhood learning. Have you considered putting bus traffic on the other side of playground at Oakland instead of between the building and playground?

Will plans be finished at one school at a time or simultaneously? Please add band room to models - thanks!

If referendum is passed, how soon can construction start and how long will it take? Need band room in Hillcrest.

Disappointed in the same teacher to student ratio. Thought it would improve.

Would like to see more details on Oakland plans for upgrades.

Would love to tour the facilities.

Any opportunities to accelerate the project/process to maximize impact and benefit to students prior to 2 year completion?

If there was a school that had a late opening due to construction, what would happen? What if it does? Does construction company get fined? How long for construction? A/C in buildings?

## Funding/Referendum(35 responses)

If referendum does not pass, will air conditioning be available at least in buildings without it now?

Want to make sure funds are used specifically for this project and not for contracts/salaries.

Tax base if/or when more homes are built in Antioch? What happens if there's a cost over run? Due to price increase is cost locked in?

\*Projected cost and who pays for referendum? \*If not passed page 7 graph purple bars would be zero?

Interested on how we will communicate with community.

What is being done to promote this to all TAX PAYERS? Promote no increase in taxes, improved schools raises property value and current interest rates are at an all time low.

Lets start discussing the plan for another middle school. I pay \$14K/year in taxes and my kids learn in a trailer. :(

If the referendum is not passed, would our home property taxes be reduced?

What can the bonds be used for? What can't they be used for? When will funds be available to the District if this passes?

Continue to get information out to the community, especially reach out to Lake Villa and Lindenhurst.

Skeptical what's the catch? Regular non-bond increases will happen.

What if the population decreases? What happens to the % each household pays in taxes?

If it passes, is there a timeline for construction? If not completed on time do we get compensated back because its not completed?

Taxpayers are being crushed with federal & state taxes and skyrocketing health care costs. Taxpayers need a break. At what point do we get to see a breakdown of the budget?

No increase in taxes.

What ways will you convey info to stakeholders w/o kids in schools to help pass referendum?

Could this funding provide pay increases for employees? We are one of the lowest paid districts that I know of! Teachers and support staff!

Can the \$ be used for anything other than facility improvements? Admin pay raises? Contract negotiations? Pay for support staff?

Didn't attend this one.

How do we get selfish voters to "buy in" to the idea of passing a referendum to improve schools that their children won't be attending (my child will go to Hillcrest , so why should I pay for others)?

Referendum wording is hard to understand (even for the educated). I suggest strong campaigning.

DSEB - ??? Video made no sense to me b/c I know little about all of this. Makes me hesitant to vote yes - I feel like there is some "catch".

Funds from state if state falls behind - impact? How much do we rely on Springfield?

I think as long as people (voters) understand that taxes won't increase, it has a good chance. I hope!

What ideas/options do we have to inform public about the referendum? Households with no Dist34 kids.

Good deal! A+

If no referendum passes, will taxes go down?

Have there been any capital projects funded by the District since the referendum in 1999? If so, how were they funded?

I nominate Tiffany Cappel to head the referendum community committee.

What is the communication plan for homeowners without children in District?

Wish the language could be improved to make it easier for those who do not have kids in the District who will be voting.

Would like referendum language in simple terms.

Streamline presentation - key talking points to community.

Appreciate video package but still very wordy on how to best explain to the community.

June funds would be ready? Refinanced twice? Why?

## K-5 Grade Configuration(35 responses)

Worried about growth with new development on North Ave. Newman homes and another new development just heard about.

Agree with decision to move to K-5 fewer transitions will be good for kids. More connectedness with schools. Concerned that re-boundary draft results in attending Oakland vs. Hillcrest when Hillcrest is closer to our house.

Until this occurs... what can be done about the long bus rides for our youngest learners at Hillcrest? 40 minutes is unacceptable.

Love idea but too late for my kids if waiting until 2019.

Did not attend.

What is attributing to decreased enrollment in past 5 years? Plan is projecting a 38 student increase by 2025. Why are we not planning for enrollment to match the end date of the referendum in 2034? What are the plans to address a situation in which we have underestimated enrollment?

Studies I have researched suggest a 3-5 grade "intermediate" school is the best for students. Interesting other states and districts are moving to this model. Have we considered? These are the critical years!

Would it be cheaper to just build a K-5 or a K-8 new school on the property that Antioch owns on the east side (near North Ave)?

So what's going to happen w/AUGS?

Arrange Hillcrest villages to align with receiver schools, id: Oakland students should already share classes.

Should have been done a long time ago.

Projection for new home development? More students? When do we discuss AUGS? Why are we not including it now?

I love this concept! Still concerned because boundaries are not set... what is the 20 year projection for student population?

Did D34 previously have a K-5 structure? If so, why did D34 go away from it, and now wanting taxpayers to pay for it to go back?

Love neighborhood schools.

Will re-boundary affect high schools - Lakes vs. ACHS?

High school boundaries - will they change?

Great idea!

Will teachers be able to provide input in these changes?

Will special needs programs be addressed differently with or without the referendum? What is the prevailing strategy for special needs program for re-boundary?

More consideration needs to be given to the Pre-k students. At Hillcrest they are tucked away well at the school and have interaction with older students. With placing them at AES my hope would be that their halls would be made to be safe and isolated. (without security doors for people/staff to be entering their learning area)

Never should have left K-5 configuration or neighborhood schools. I never understood this idea! (I grew up in District 59 - Elk Grove Village)

How would the buildings be equitable if Oakland has an outdoor learning area? Need more staff bathrooms on west side. Why are 4 5th grade classes shown at Petty and only 3 of the other grades? Will the students entering K or 1 in the next two years be grouped in classes based on their future neighborhood school? Whether this passes or not those students will be attending a neighborhood school Funds from village space lease to upgrade certain classrooms to accommodate sensory issues? How are opportunities for students effected? How are teachers effected? Support services for students better/worse?

I think this is a great plan! We moved to Dist 34 when my daughter was in 1st grade, so my daughter had 3 school in 3 years. It is not a great way to learn.

When closer to time details on how boundary lines are created.

Good plan! A+

If no referendum passes, how will Oakland be big enough to support K-5?

How will busing w/K-5 structure save money? How much? Are there students you can reference related to kindergartners riding a bus with 5th graders and the prevalence of violence and bullying? What will buildings look like if referendum doesn't pass to accommodate K-5?

Will AC be added to AES?

I'm curious about busing K-5 together. Studies on bullying? We seem to have issues with just PK-1.

Curious about review of K-5 grade bus - concerns w/bullying of young kids w/wide age span. Also - transition to AUGS for those kids in smaller neighborhood schools - less kids to alot. Any thoughts?

Was forecasting done with the consideration of what may increase based on new/updated facilities?

**Please share any other comments, questions, concerns or other information you want to know related to the District's master facility planning efforts.** (35 responses)

Classrooms are at 26-27 kids in my son's classroom (that is too large). Based on the other upcoming building projects, classroom size will be too large or we are back to where we were when we built Hillcrest.

This is a very well thought out plan... continue to ring voters into "old" spaces and portables.

Thinking about Oakland - if construction begins before A/C - all the windows will be open and the noise level will be disruptive.

I am pleased with the decision to move to K-5, but I worry that Oakland's facility is in poor shape compared to Hillcrest. I hope building improvements will equalize facilities, as learning environment is critical to student learning.

Very impressed with how well run and organized this planning has been. Great job!!!

Will there be additional offices for support staff that travel between schools (ie special ed services)?

Until K-5 configuration occurs can we cluster villages at Hillcrest according to future schools (Oakland, AES, Petty) to help with transitions and social and emotional growth?

This session was much more informative than the first session in May.

I would greatly like to see the District hire/invest in additional teachers to bring the teacher to student ratio closer to 1:20.

Very concerned about pro-active planning for AUGS. In addition, my family has a 20 minute drive to AUGS - the boundary is absurd, especially for families that have multiple children in different schools.

Will there be extra staff at AES to assist with bathrooms? Will there be fencing at AES?

Please use layman terms on the financing. People need (me included) a little better explanation without the legal/financial terms.

We are in Blublans and have 3 kids about to enter District - concerns of boundaries changing mid-year.

Why are we taking "resources" (reading teachers, resource teachers, librarians, etc.) out of their positions and into classrooms over the past few years? Are we trying to save \$ for buildings? Small class sizes and support staff are much more important than the building.

Is AES worth renovating? Should we use the property to knock it down and put money to rebuild? What is the cost for a new school like Hillcrest?

FACILITY: What will happen as consequence for Gilbane if school cannot open/start on time? I encourage BOE to come up with a contingency for starting school late if needed. Any plans to improve AUGS before the next 20 years (when this referendum would expire)?

We would hope that all of the schools would be air conditioned.

AC - top of my list and getting rid of portables.

See K-5 Grade Configuration

Knowledge is powerful; getting information out to stakeholders is important.

A concern is the lack of services now. Where does technology and new materials fall? Are we teaching 21st century learners?

When will boundaries be determined? Will there be improvements in curriculum and technology? (1:1 iPads)

What about our Districts curriculum and technology? How does that fit into the 21st Century classroom?

My property taxes went up 10% this year and they are going up 7% next year. We are concerned - but please keep pushing the pros and cons to passing the referendum.

Green village was designed to house early childhood/PK learners. The space was developed with our unique requirements in mind. AES renovations should follow this model of thoughtful, appropriate improvements.

AES: What is the \$500,000 being used for? Bathrooms for each classroom or to share between classrooms? (1 & 2 share, 3 & 4 share, make 6/7/8 2 rooms?) What is the projected square footage of the EC classrooms? Equitable to the existing at Hillcrest? Staffing (nurse, admin, secretaries, music teacher, etc)? Playground safety (fences, appropriate equipment - existing equipment from Hillcrest moved there?) Can we consider tuition based District Pre-K? Can ASC staff be housed at AES to decrease the District cost at that location? Are the grant requirement being considered in the planning process? Our program received a gold rating in the existing location, but without appropriate adjustments, this will not be likely (supervision of students when when need to go to the bathroom out of the classroom?) Health/safety concerns? Mold, asbestos, tearing down walls... Will any students be required to walk vs bus for Pre-K/EC? We greatly utilize the nature at Hillcrest (nature walkds, pond, outdoor classroom) can we still access the facility/resources? Can a Pre-K representative be included in the Master Facility Planning committee? Volunteering Stacie Dempski :)

Keep up the great work!

Regardless of the referendum, all schools need proper air conditioning to maximize learning conditions.

How do you accommodate IEP/student with sensory issues in a building without A/C? How does the transition from Pre-K to K get impacted as far as student support services get impacted?

I was glad to see a bigger turnout than in May.

Has the bid been accepted and the funds allotted? Who will eat overrun and missed deadline costs? what will be done with the property at Tiffany Rd. and North Ave.?

Boundary information?

All a/c facilities / K-5 less transition's would be amazing!

The concern is that many of the interested parties now are students that may or may not benefit by the time the projects are done hence the AUGS emphasis.

How much was the last referendum for? How long will it take to pay off? How much square footage was gained with the last referendum? How much would my taxes go down if it does not pass? What other funding can be done if it does not pass? why not on November ballot? What are the costs of financing?