



### LPS BOARD APPROVES LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO PLACE A \$298M BOND ON LOCAL NOVEMBER BALLOT

EVERY SCHOOL TO BENEFIT, WILL BEGIN REPLACING AGING SCHOOLS WITH NEW CONSTRUCTION

#### CARRYING ON THIS COMMUNITY'S LEGACY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Littleton Public Schools is at a crucial point in its history: the legacy left by past generations has been well cared for, but with current funding levels it is aging beyond the district's ability to maintain the level of excellence LPS students and community members expect and deserve. The Long Range Planning Committee recognizes the district will need to replace a school every three years to maintain an average age of 62 years moving forward. Also, instructional delivery methods are changing, becoming more hands-on, flexible, self-driven and diverse. Modern, inclusive instruction requires spaces that are designed to meet students' diverse learning needs.

#### HOW WILL THE BOND FUNDS BE USED?

- ◇ Build a new school for the Newton Middle School community on the current Newton campus including a new Junior Stadium for district and community use
- ◇ Build a new elementary school in southeast corner of the district on the current Ames Facility campus
- ◇ Build a new elementary school to serve the Highland and Franklin communities on the current Franklin campus
- ◇ Renovate a recently purchased property (formerly Schomp Automotive, across from Littleton High School) to create a new Career and Technical Education and Innovation Center for the district
- ◇ Replace old, outdated student desks and classroom furniture in every school with new furnishings that will facilitate modern instruction while accommodating students with a variety of needs
- ◇ Maintain district facilities, including charter schools, according to need

#### HOW MUCH WILL IT COST LOCAL TAXPAYERS?

Passage of a \$298 million bond in LPS would cost homeowners \$29-\$49 annually for every \$100,000 of residential actual value. For example, a home with residential actual value of \$400,000 would see a property tax increase of \$116-\$196 annually.

#### HOW WILL LPS ENSURE THAT THE BOND MONEY IS BEING SPENT ACCORDING TO THE PLAN?

As in previous local elections, the LPS Board of Education will appoint an oversight committee of residents to oversee the expenditure of bond funds throughout the process. This committee will report back to the Board of Education periodically, and the report will also be included in the district's independent audit report and published on the district website.

#### WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

Visit the LPS website, [littletonpublicschools.net/district/november-ballot-local-bond-state-funding-initiative](http://littletonpublicschools.net/district/november-ballot-local-bond-state-funding-initiative), for more details about the proposed bond projects, the timeline, ballot language, Q&A, Amendment 73 and more.

## WHY WERE THESE SCHOOLS CHOSEN TO BE REPLACED FIRST?

The Long Range Planning Committee stressed that its recommendation was a logical first step to maintain the quality education the LPS community expects and deserves for its children. Because new schools can be built on the Newton and Franklin campuses while school is in session, this is a logical place to start. Additionally, opening an elementary school on the Ames campus provides natural solutions to some transportation challenges while providing “right sized” schools for the Ames and Highland/Franklin neighborhoods. After Highland students and staff move into their new school, the current Highland Elementary School will be available as a transition location when other schools are rebuilt in the years to come. The Long Range Planning Committee stressed that all LPS schools must be replaced with new schools eventually because they are reaching their end of life. In fact, LPS must replace a school every three years to keep the average age of its facilities at 62 years.

## HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE SCHOOL WHILE ANOTHER SCHOOL IS BEING BUILT ON THE SAME CAMPUS?

This is the way many school replacements are done across the nation. Prior to any mobilization and construction activities, a comprehensive safety plan must be created that addresses all safety issues. This would be developed through a collaborative effort by the contractor with the district’s operations, maintenance and construction staff; the program manager; and the school’s appointed staff.



*Sample architectural drawing of Newton rebuild while school is in session*



*Sample architectural drawing of Newton and Junior Stadium once completed*



*Sample architectural drawing of new school for Highland and Franklin communities while school is in session*



*Sample architectural drawing of new school for Highland and Franklin communities once completed*

## DO WE NEED ANOTHER STADIUM?

Yes. The number of sports and activities for boys and girls, both school sponsored and in the community, has outgrown the district’s capacity and puts LPS at risk of being in violation of Title IX laws. The LPS Stadium is currently shared by all three high schools and is used by Littleton High School for PE class and band, as well as numerous youth sports leagues in the community. The constant, year-round wear and tear of the track and field at the LPS Stadium makes it nearly impossible to maintain for student safety. A new junior stadium on the Newton campus would provide an additional lighted field and track with spectator seating for both school and community sports teams to use.