

APS Forward 2040

**One District.
One Goal.
Every Child.**



OUR SYSTEM IS EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE

**Atlanta's students will have
the schools and resources
they need to succeed.**

- Maximize facility usage for the student and community good
- Leverage data to drive strategic financial investments
- Implement sustainability initiatives



Why are School Districts Having This Conversation?

The recommendation to repurpose schools is based on a thorough evaluation of:

Underutilization of Facilities

Operating under capacity schools leads to inefficient use of resources and limits APS's ability to invest in academic and support services

Small School Size

Small student enrollment restricts the school's ability to offer comprehensive academic programs, extra-curricular activities, and specialized services. Limits access to enrichment opportunities and peer collaboration.

Budget Shortfalls

As the District continues to face ongoing budget challenges, maintaining multiple under-enrolled schools increases operational costs and diverts funds from instructional programs, facility improvements, and student support services.

Inequity in Programs

Students attending low-enrollment and underutilized facilities have fewer opportunities for advanced coursework, arts, athletics, and support services.





APS Forward 2040

Summary of Our Engagement

We participated in countless community conversations across neighborhoods, schools, and civic groups.



Delivered

9

Task Force
Updates



Hosted more than

50

Public Meetings



Responded to more than

600

Let's Talk Messages



Received Over

7,600

Survey
Responses

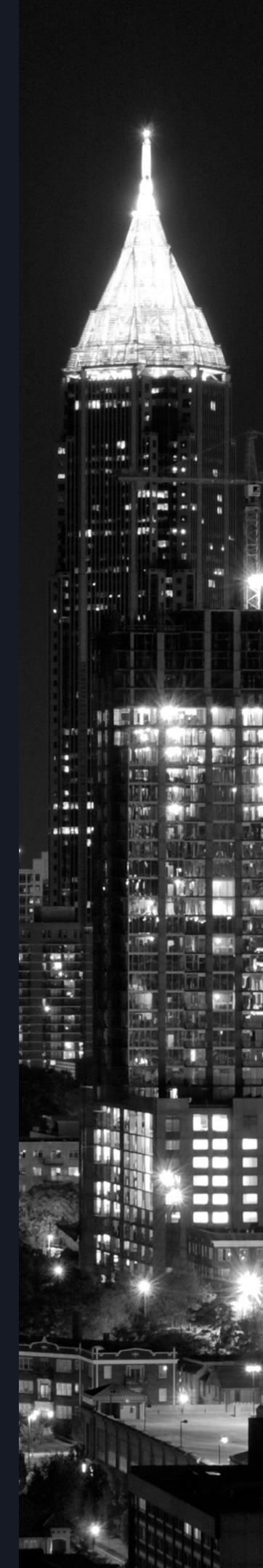


Welcomed Nearly

30,000

Unique Website Visitors

(with more than double that number in page views)





Better position the district for long-term sustainability and stability in the face of unknown economic pressures

These Decisions:

Create opportunity for potential revenue generation from 50+ buildings

Why does this matter?

That's buildings we can potentially sell for one-time revenue to restore rainy day funds or lease to offset annual costs

Reduce annual operation spend

Why does this matter?

That's millions more funding that APS can invest in programming, return to taxpayers, pay to teachers, etc.

Make staff to student ratios more comparable to other districts.

Why does this matter?

That means we have an easier time staying competitive in salary with those other districts and better positions us to remain the top in the metro area

Reduction in deferred maintenance costs

Why does that matter?

That's money that can be redirected to new facilities, renovations, student technology, etc.





Forward 2040 → Stronger State Reimbursement Potential

How Capital Outlay Works

- APS fronts costs (SPLOST)
- State reimburses approved projects
- APS has \$62M+ in unused entitlement

Forward 2040 Impact

- Facility closures = fewer empty classrooms
→ Reopens eligibility for Additions/New Construction
- (ES, MS, HS evaluated separately)

Eligibility Outlook

- ✓ **Potentially Eligible (Elem.)**
 - New ES at AD Williams
 - Rebuild Sarah Smith Primary
- X **Not Likely (Middle / High)**
 - King MS additions
 - Midtown HS additions
 - Jackson HS additions

Two Types of Reimbursement Categories

1. Renovations/Modifications: 20-year cycles; 10–20 yr systems; modernization = larger payout
2. Additions/New Construction: Based on earned instructional units; must not have excess classrooms **This is the new potential for state reimbursement.**





How does APS Forward 2040 Offer the Best for Our Students and Community?

New Revenue

- Maximize State QBE funds
- Sale and lease of buildings



Greater Efficiency

- Reduced maintenance and overhead
- Efficient program models



More Options

- Innovative programming
- Tax relief
- Deficit offsets



Looking Ahead



We will continue to engage with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure transparency, compassion, and collaboration.

Providing clear and timely communication about relocation plans and school assignments

Offering transportation solutions to ensure continued access to education

Preserving community identity through legacy initiatives and alumni engagement

Supporting staff with reassignment opportunities and professional development

This recommendation is part of a broader strategy to strengthen the district's educational infrastructure, improve equity, and ensure long-term sustainability.





APS Forward 2040: Building the Future Next Steps and Visioning

- **Task-force sub-committees**
 - **Arts**
 - **Repurpose**
 - **CTAE/Workforce Development including Medical**
- **Launch Repurposing Website**
- **Topic Specific Partner Repurposing Meetings**
- **SPLOST planning and vote**
- **Continued APS Forward 2040 Visioning Meetings With Community**

Tentative Next Steps AFTER Comprehensive Plan Approval

Road to the Redistricting/Rezoning for Impacted Schools

- The process begins up to three semesters prior to any proposed change going into effect; aligns with *Board Policy AD: School Attendance Zones*; and includes community engagement opportunities prior to the Board vote.
 - Tentative Timeline:
 - *January-February 2026*: Develop and finalize the administrative regulation related to *Board Policy AD*, that includes, but not limited to, the community engagement process and trigger points to initiate discussion about future changes to attendance zones and possible school closures;
 - Schools experiencing redistricting/rezoning in SY 27-28: Process begins in Spring 2026 and runs through Fall 2026; Board vote in Fall 2026;
 - Schools experiencing redistricting/rezoning in SY 28-29: Process begins in Spring 2027 and runs through Fall 2027. Board vote in Fall 2027.
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Road to the E-SPLOST 2027

- *January–March 2026*: Recommendation development (APS staff/leadership)
- *March-April 2026*: Present E-SPLOST plan to Board at retreat (or Board meetings)
- *April-May 2026*: Community engagement for draft E-SPLOST 2027 list
- *June 2026*: Board of Education approval of E-SPLOST 2027 referendum and call for vote
- *July – October 2026*: Website of E-SPLOST 2027 information
- *November 3, 2026*: E-SPLOST 2027 Final Decision
- *July 1, 2027*: If E-SPLOST 2027 passes, collections start



THANK YOU

**For more information and the latest updates,
visit the Comprehensive Long Range Facility
Plan @ atlantapublicschools.us/APS2040**