Overview

Franklin Regional School District has embarked on a journey to create a comprehensive elementary campus, which will meet the educational needs of our students and provide much-needed upgrades to our facilities. The project started with a Feasibility Study and Demographic Study during the 2016-2017 school year. The studies took into account the changing demographics of the area, the current age and conditions in the current school buildings, and the educational plan, vision, and direction of the district over the next decade and beyond.

The District also engaged the community, parents, faculty, staff, students, and others in Town Hall meetings, roundtable discussions, planning meetings, and tours of comparable schools to determine the best path for FR and the communities it serves. Using all of this information, the District created a three-phase master facility plan to guide improvements across the District.

The District’s Finance Committee recommended to the Board of School Directors that FR develop a comprehensive elementary campus to include renovations to Sloan Elementary School to create a K-2 primary education building and the new construction of an Intermediate Elementary School that will educate children in grades 3-5. The plan also takes into consideration possible future improvements to the secondary campus.

In the fall of 2018, groundbreaking will occur for the beginning phase of renovation to the existing Sloan Elementary School with the bid process for the new Intermediate Elementary school to be sometime in October 2018. Estimated completion is August 2020.

Educational Benefits

Both the primary and intermediate schools will be designed to support STREAM education - Science, Technology, Research, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. STREAM Classrooms, Innovation Centers, and environmental areas will better enable teachers in all content areas to provide our students with engaging hands-on and minds-on activities. These specially designed spaces will appropriately replicate how students will collaborate, work, and learn in their future.

Both elementary facilities will also feature dedicated spaces designed to support the creative, performing, and visual arts. In addition, each building will provide a larger performance venue that will accommodate public performances. Through strategic and creative design, the spaces will also support multi-class academic learning experiences, academic competitions, community gatherings, and other school and community-related events.

Meeting the Needs of ALL Students

In addition to various special education services (learning support, life skills support, autistic support, etc.), modern schools are now also charged with providing other critical services such as school counseling, English Language Learner programs, gifted education, mental health services, occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy, and Title I services. The newly renovated and constructed elementary buildings will provide spaces optimally designed to support the educational needs of ALL students. These locations will house equipment or resources that meet the specific learning needs of our students who face learning challenges or barriers to success.

In addition to creating specialized space for the delivery of these critical services, the design of the buildings also offers new logistical benefit to our students and staff. These specialized educational support classrooms and instructional extension areas will be located in close proximity to each respective grade level. Thereby, this strategic design will increase instructional time and efficiency by reducing the need for students to travel to remote locations in the school building for the purpose of receiving services.

For the latest information, visit www.franklinregional.k12.pa.us
ELEMENTARY CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

~ FACT SHEET ~
(JANUARY 23, 2018)

Safety and Security

Planned safety improvements include:

- New public entrances designed to improve school security, while still providing appropriate public access
- Modern security technologies that enhance student and staff safety
- During an emergency, students can be evacuated from one school and housed in the other building
- Location within 200 feet of Murrysville Police Department
- The designation of Sardis and Crowfoot Roads as School Zones
- Significant off-street queuing for cars
- Separate bus and car drop off loops
- Access roads around the campus for emergency vehicles
- Natural barriers to provide privacy and protection from traffic and passersby for children on the playgrounds and outdoor learning spaces
- Ample parking adjacent to schools
- Improved landscaping buffers along streets and near neighboring properties

Project Cost and Taxation Impact

- The results of the Facility Feasibility Study produced estimates for renovating the existing Sloan School into a K-2 Primary School and constructing a new 3-5 school.
- The K-2 estimated renovation costs is $20.7 to $21 million dollars. The estimated cost for the construction of a new 3-5 school building is approximately $33 to $37 million.
- The total combined estimated cost range for campus development ranges between $53.7 and $58 million.
- A conservative estimate for increase in millage due to the development of the Elementary Campus would equate to 4.52 to 5 mills phased in over 5 years for both buildings and the campus development.
- One mill equates to $34 for the median homeowner in Franklin Regional School District.
- The median homeowner would see a total increase of between $154 and $170 over the five years due to the two projects and campus development.
- These figures do NOT include any potential savings, efficiencies, or alternative revenue sources that could reduce millage impact.

Where can I get more information?

The District Website contains accurate information about the Comprehensive Feasibility Study and the Elementary Campus Project:

- The complete Comprehensive Facility Study
- Videos from the Town Hall Meetings
- FR In-Focus episodes and other video productions

For the latest information, visit www.franklinregional.k12.pa.us
Click on the Construction button located under Quick Links in the left column