



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF EDISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Edison Local School District has been exploring options to address facility needs, with a focus on creating learning environments that serve our students now and into the future.

As this work continues, the next steps are being guided by community feedback, the potential for strategic land acquisition, exploration of a possible one-campus solution, and partnership opportunities with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC).

Current State of District Facilities

School facilities play an important role in supporting student learning. As buildings age and educational needs evolve, it becomes important to evaluate how well current spaces support instruction, safety, and daily operations.

Edison Local Schools currently operates in buildings that span more than a century:

- ✓ **Elementary School**
103 years old; built in 1922; last updated in 1956
- ✓ **Middle School**
135 years old; built in 1890; last updated in 1952
- ✓ **High School**
54 years old; built in 1971; last updated in 1991

As these buildings age, the district continues to address ongoing maintenance needs. While our maintenance team has done an excellent job caring for our facilities, several challenges remain:

- Aging infrastructure, including HVAC, roofing, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Limited space to support modern instructional practices and hands-on learning
- Need for enhanced safety and security features
- Inflexible classroom layouts that can limit collaboration and student engagement
- Increasing maintenance costs over time

Providing safe, functional, and adaptable learning environments is essential to ensuring students are prepared for success in school, the workplace, and life.

State Assessment of District Facilities

In 2011, the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC)—now the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC)—identified both Edison's elementary and middle school buildings as eligible for its Exceptional Needs Program, which provided state funding to address urgent facility conditions.

As part of this process, the state completed assessments of 46 school buildings across Ohio. Based on those evaluations:

- Edison Elementary was identified as the 5th most in-need facility
- Edison Middle School was identified as the 8th most in-need facility

The Exceptional Needs Program continued to offer state funding to Edison Local Schools in 2012, 2013, and 2014; however, access to these funds required voter-approved local funding. During this time, the district prioritized placing an operating levy on the ballot to maintain day-to-day educational services.

Since that time:

- 7 of the 10 buildings identified through this process have been renovated or replaced
- Edison's elementary and middle school buildings are among the three remaining from that group that have not yet been addressed

The Exceptional Needs Program is no longer in existence.



State Partnership Opportunities Today

While past programs like the Ohio School Facilities Commission's Exceptional Needs Program are no longer available, the state of Ohio continues to offer partnership opportunities to support school facility improvements.

The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) is the state agency that partners with school districts to support the construction and renovation of school facilities across Ohio. Through this partnership, the state helps offset a portion of project costs based on a district's designated share.

Today, Edison Local Schools is eligible to participate in the Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP), which works in conjunction with the state's Classroom Facilities Assistance

Program (CFAP)—Ohio's primary school facilities funding program. ELPP allows districts to move forward with facility improvements before their turn in the state funding process.

Under this model:

- The district uses local funding to complete portions of its facilities plan now
- Edison is eligible for approximately 27% reimbursement of approved project costs
- The state provides its share of funding at a later date when the district becomes eligible within the CFAP program

OFCC funding requires local participation—without securing local funding, the state does not

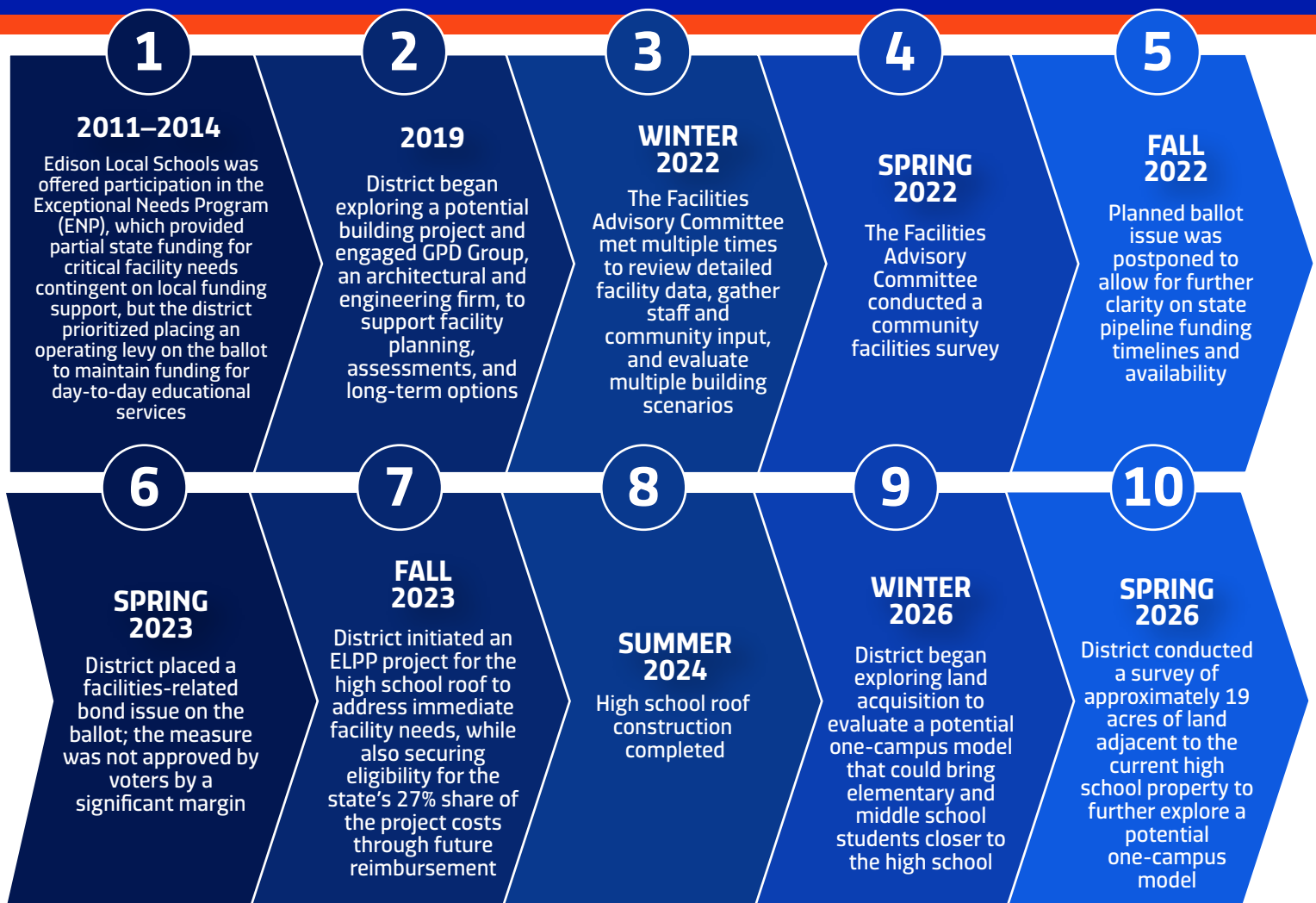
contribute toward these projects. Through ELPP, the district can move forward now while positioning Edison to receive future state funding.

This partnership approach allows Edison Local Schools to address facility needs sooner, plan for long-term improvements, and maximize the value of local investment through future state reimbursement. With construction costs continuing to rise, moving forward sooner also helps the district lock in current pricing and reduce long-term costs.



**Facilities
Construction
Commission**

Facilities Timeline



Community Feedback

A 2022 survey conducted by the Facilities Advisory Committee captured 1,089 responses and closely reflected registered-voter demographics, ensuring reliable representation of community input.

Key findings from the survey highlight several consistent priorities across our community:

- Clear need for long-term solutions: 84.8% of respondents believe it is time to move forward with long-term building solutions rather than continuing short-term fixes.
- Facilities are not keeping pace with student needs: Only 35.4% of respondents agree that current school buildings provide adequate teaching and learning environments.
- Student learning environments are the top priority: Providing high-quality learning spaces ranked as the most important factor, with project cost identified as the second highest priority. Preserving historical aspects and maintaining a building in each village ranked among the lowest priorities.
- Elementary and middle school buildings are the greatest concern: A majority of respondents indicated these buildings require significant repairs or replacement, while the high school is generally viewed as being in better condition.

To view the full survey results, scan the QR code.



The Spring 2023 ballot outcome provided clear community feedback on the facilities plan presented at that time, which included a proposed new elementary school in Berlin Heights. The district has listened and is using that input, along with survey feedback, to help revise and shape the next proposed master facilities plan.



Land Acquisition Supports Long-Term Facility Planning

Edison Local Schools has finalized the acquisition of 19.21 acres of land adjacent to the east side of the current high school campus, marking an important milestone in the district's long-term facility planning process.

The additional property expands the district's options as it continues evaluating future facility needs, including the potential for a one-campus model that could bring elementary and middle school students closer to the existing high school.

While there is sufficient space to build on the existing high school property, doing so could require relocating athletic facilities. Early considerations suggest that the cost of relocating those facilities may exceed the cost of purchasing additional land. Evaluating adjacent property allows the district to consider a "clean slate" approach, which could support a more efficient layout and improved traffic flow.



The land purchase does not determine the final design or future use of the property. District officials will continue evaluating facility options as part of the overall planning process before any final decisions are made.

Exploring the Benefits of a One-Campus Approach

Edison Local Schools is also evaluating the potential benefits of a one-campus model. This solution may offer several advantages:

- **Cost Efficiency** – Early considerations indicate this could be the most cost-effective option to build and operate over time, helping maximize the community's investment in its schools.
- **Operational Efficiency** – Consolidating facilities can streamline staffing, transportation, utilities, and maintenance, allowing resources to be used more effectively.
- **Energy Efficiency** – Any new facility would be significantly more energy-efficient than current buildings, with a one-campus model offering additional efficiencies in operations and transportation.
- **Improved Safety and Security** – A unified campus can enhance coordination, supervision, and safety protocols across all grade levels.
- **Modern Learning Environments** – New construction would provide updated, flexible spaces designed to support teaching and learning.
- **Expanded Educational Opportunities** – Shared resources such as specialized classrooms, technology, and staff can provide students with broader learning experiences.
- **Family Convenience** – Having all children in one location can simplify daily routines for families.
- **Smoother Student Transitions** – Students benefit from a more consistent educational environment as they progress through grade levels.
- **Stronger Sense of Community** – Bringing students and staff together on one campus can foster stronger relationships and a shared sense of pride.
- **District-Focused Approach** – A one-campus solution reflects a school district-focused approach rather than a village-based approach, acknowledging that most of the community resides outside village limits.
- **Community Alignment:**
 - 2022 Survey data indicate that a one-campus approach aligns with the majority of priorities identified by community members, meeting 6 of the top 9 criteria.
 - The May 2023 bond issue, which included maintaining a building in Berlin Heights, did not receive voter approval, reinforcing the need to consider options that better align with community priorities.

The district is considering multiple options, and no final decisions have been made. The site under consideration could potentially support a future PreK–6 or PreK–8 building; however, this is still in the exploratory stage.

Similarly, no decisions have been finalized regarding the future of existing buildings or grade configurations. One option under consideration is constructing a new elementary building and housing grades 7 and 8 within the existing high school through targeted renovations. All options are being carefully reviewed to ensure strong educational impact, efficient use of resources, and long-term value for the community—while creating learning environments that support student success for years to come.

Past Community Support for School Facilities

In November 1989, Edison voters approved a \$990,000 bond issue for building improvements—the only community funding of district facilities projects in recent district history.

What's Next

As planning continues, next steps for Edison Local Schools are guided by community feedback, facility needs, and partnership opportunities with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC).

Edison Local Schools will continue evaluating options and costs while working with planning partners and OFCC. Updates will be shared as the process moves forward.



**TOGETHER, WE ARE SHAPING THE FUTURE FOR
EDISON STUDENTS AND OUR COMMUNITY.**