DeKalb County Schools E-SPLOST 2017 - 2022
Druid Hills High School
Recommendation for Oct. 4 Community Input Meeting & On-Line Survey

A. SUPPORT the District’s “Secondary School Facility Planning and Feasibility Study” recommendation to address overcrowding in the District’s secondary schools by:
   • Re-clustering existing Cross Keys and Chamblee Clusters
     o Build new 2,500 seat Cross Keys High School in cost-neutral location in Brookhaven
       ▪ Do not build large new school at Briarcliff site (N. Druid Hills Rd / Adams Stadium) that negatively adds to an already highly congested/pedestrian-unfriendly area
       ▪ Build closer to majority of the Cross Keys population in cost neutral Brookhaven site
       ▪ Sell underleveraged / unused land owned by District to make funds go further
     o Convert existing Cross Keys HS to 1,500 seat Cross Keys Middle School
     o Build 600 seat addition to Chamblee HS
       ▪ Chamblee Middle School and Sequoyah MS would both feed into Chamblee HS
     o Build additions to 3 High Schools (Lakeside, Dunwoody, Clarkston) and 2 Middle Schools (Peachtree, Freedom)
   • This recommendation keeps a 1-to-1 middle school to high school feeder pattern (no split feeder system); keeps the majority of attendance zones in place to minimize redistricting; creates the extra seats needed by 2020 and eliminates portable classrooms; and minimizes the overall negative impact on DeKalb students and families.

B. SUPPORT much needed facility improvements at DHHS, as identified in the District’s Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) report where DHHS scored a 72 out of 100 (grade of C) and Facility Educational Adequacy Assessment (FEAA) where DHHS scored a 71 out of 100 (grade of C).

Our DHHS students and faculty deserve “A” grade facilities that can be achieved with E-SPLOST funding:

1. SAFETY & SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

   ▪ Controlled Entrances: There are a number of entry points into the school buildings on a significantly open site with heavy, public foot-traffic passing through to the adjacent Emory University. ADA access is very limited or difficult. One must go outside to move between the old and newer facilities. There is no security vestibule at the main entrance (old building). ADA access around the grounds between the old building and cafeteria, the basement/sub-basement areas is very difficult. Many doors must remain unsecured to allow student passage between old and new buildings.

   ▪ Improved Exterior Lighting, Fencing and Security Cameras: replace and upgrade current inadequate exterior lighting, replace broken fencing and update & expand security camera system to include outside of art room in back of school. There are many floors, stairwells, and entry points that create blind spots.

   Safety & Security issues could be improved with programmed key card system, updated security technology, and additional security personnel to walk campus.

2. ACCESSIBILITY & ADA CODE COMPLIANCE

   ▪ Many areas of the school are not ADA compliant posing issues for students and parents with disabilities. Specific areas lacking ADA access include the athletic fields, art rooms, some entrances
from outside, passage between floors of 1927 Main Building when northwest elevator regularly
malfunctions.

- **Elevator**: Elevator in northwest side of 1927 Main Building is unreliable and should be repaired or
  replaced. Stepdown in art room means wheelchairs can’t access elevator during fire drills.

- **Main Entrance**: One primary entrance to 1927 Main Building is accessed from the outside by curved
  stairs and is not ADA compliant. Entry is uncovered and creates cramped, unsafe conditions during
  rain.

- **Outdoor Fields & Track**: Only accessible by concrete steps. Not ADA compliant.

3. **FACILITY CONDITION IMPROVEMENTS**

- **Water Intrusion**: The sprinkler system has leaked for an extended period in the hallway near Room
  303. The sprinkler head should be replaced. There are leaks in 400C and 500C Halls. There is water
  seepage in the gym basement walls in multiple locations. The cause for water intrusion should be
  confirmed and fixed; gym basement wall and ceilings should be repaired. Wall going down to ROTC
  Room is damaged with potential mold growth. Water leaks through exterior walls and parapets into
  Rooms 307 and Chorus 105. Exterior walls and interior damage need repair, requiring a truck with a
  boom lift. Windows in Classroom 401 leak when it rains.

- **Plumbing Systems and Fixtures**: already scheduled for replacement under current Splost IV project
  410-422.

- **Update Electrical System**: DHHS is in desperate need of updated electrical branch and wiring system
  and data access in nearly all of its critical learning spaces. There are routine power outages in 1927
  Main Building.

- **HVAC Repair and Replacement**: DHHS students, teachers and faculty face temperature extremes
  due to outdated HVAC. DHHS heating boilers are beyond useful service life, contain material
  identified to be hazardous, and should be replaced.

- **Inadequate Student Service Areas and Non-Instructional Spaces**: There are numerous student
  services which are not provided in a reasonable manner due to the constraints of an older facility:

  - **Cafeteria**: There is no storage space for tables and chairs, no acoustical noise-reduction
    features, and no hot water in adjacent bathrooms. ADA access to the cafeteria from the old
    building requires students to go outside and down a sloped and bumpy sidewalk. **Food Service
    & Prep**: There is no HVAC in kitchen area, and no delivery/loading dock. Deliveries must park in
    front of school and come through the cafeteria.

  - **Student health facilities are lacking**: There is no clinic.

  - **Student Restrooms**: some do not have privacy partitions for urinals, and ventilation is
    inadequate. Sink in students’ bathroom (200C Hall) needs to be fixed and/or replaced.

  - **Teacher Restrooms**: restore unused space underneath the gym to its previous use as bathroom
    for all the coaches and staff. The room does not serve a purpose and staff have to use the same
    restroom as students. Teachers Lounge, including bathroom, in Math Hall needs hot water.

  - **One single conference room** in the administrative offices is overbooked and not adequate in
    terms of the needs of how a modern 1,400 seat high school functions.
4. PARKING, SIDEWALKS, VEHICULAR & PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC

- **Parking**: There is very limited parking on the property for faculty, staff, visitors and deliveries. Students park in the neighborhood. The parking lot is deteriorating, inadequate and should be replaced. It is not large enough and it floods when it rains due to poor erosion control. Markings and signage in need of improvement.

- **Pedestrian Paving and Covered Walkways**: Pedestrian paving is damaged, not ADA compliant, and should be scheduled for replacement. Covered walkways are aged and worn and should be repaired/replaced. Steps going down to the field from the Math Hall are broken.

- **Vehicular Traffic**: Bus and parent drop-off is in front of school through the parking area, with no vehicle separation.

- **Pedestrian Traffic**: Student walkups and car riders must cross bus line to enter school.

5. SITE TENNIS COURT, TRACK & LANDSCAPING

- **Tennis Courts**: The tennis courts are cracked and have completely failed. They should be replaced.

- **Track**: Track is damaged with cracks. It should be scheduled for replacement.

- **Landscaping**: Landscaping is overgrown in many areas, missing in others, and should be replaced. There is a sink hole in the field. Site has issues with erosion caused by poor landscaping. An erosion containment wall is needed in lower parking lot.