

RPS Facilities

Overview of Needs, Available Funding, and New Modernization Plan

Presented by: Shavonda Fernandez, Chair, Richmond City School Board

Venue: Richmond City Democratic Committee

Date: August 6, 2026

Our Schools Are Old

The average age of RPS schools is...

62 years

And about a quarter of our schools are more than
100 years old!

Our Maintenance Needs Are Huge

In 2024, RPS contracted with an external vendor to conduct a detailed, professional assessment of all our schools. This independent analysis identified maintenance needs for the next 20 years totalling...

\$680 million

And this doesn't include the cost of building new schools!

Example: Elizabeth Redd Elementary School



Boiler in Poor condition.

Gas, HVAC
Elizabeth D. Redd Elementary School Main
Building Boiler Room

Uniformat Code: D3020
Recommendation: **Replace in 2026**

Priority Score: **86.7**

Plan Type:
Performance/Integrity

Cost Estimate: \$50,800

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Exterior Walls in Poor condition.

Brick
Elizabeth D. Redd Elementary School Main
Building Exterior

Uniformat Code: B2010
Recommendation: **Repair/Repoint in 2024**

Priority Score: **89.9**

Plan Type:
Performance/Integrity

Cost Estimate: \$445,500

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Example: Boushall Middle School



Generator in Poor condition.

Diesel
Main Building Thomas C. Boushall Middle
School Site

Uniformat Code: D5010
Recommendation: **Replace in 2025**

Priority Score: **88.8**

Plan Type:
Performance/Integrity

Cost Estimate: \$40,000

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Antiquated, rust deteriorated, very loud, leaks, and does not supply much energy. - AssetCALC ID: 7500323



Roofing in Poor condition.

Built-Up
Main Building Thomas C. Boushall Middle
School Roof

Uniformat Code: B3010
Recommendation: **Replace in 2025**

Priority Score: **88.8**

Plan Type:
Performance/Integrity

Cost Estimate: \$1,036,000

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Roof leaks reported throughout. - AssetCALC ID: 7526734

Example: Armstrong High School



Roofing in Poor condition.

Built-Up
Main Building Armstrong High School Roof

Uniformat Code: B3010
Recommendation: **Replace in 2025**

Priority Score: **88.8**

Plan Type:
Performance/Integrity

Cost Estimate: \$1,451,600

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Roofing is very aged with lots of patches, standing water and reported leaks. - AssetCALC ID: 7469321



Athletic Surfaces & Courts in Failed condition.

Track Surface, Rubber
Site Armstrong High School Site

Uniformat Code: G2050
Recommendation: **Replace in 2024**

Priority Score: **91.9**

Plan Type: Safety

Cost Estimate: \$160,000

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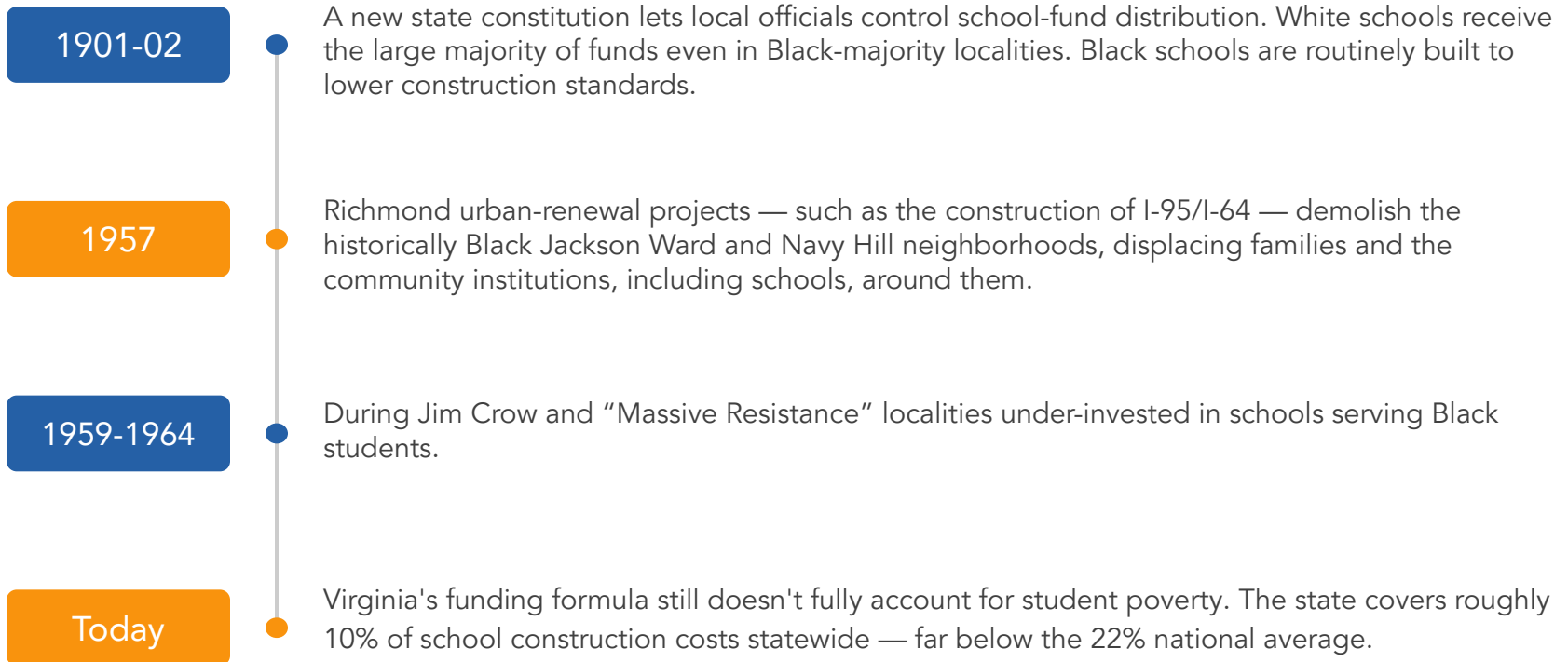
Running track is eroded on outside edge and inside edge to the point of becoming a trip hazard - AssetCALC ID: 7401264

Our Maintenance Funding Barely Scratches the Surface

Despite staggering annual maintenance needs, RPS traditionally receives a tiny fraction of what we need for routine repairs and building maintenance...

\$2.5 million/year

How Did We Get Here? A History of Inequity



Sources: The Commonwealth Institute, “Segregation, Resource Equity, and K-12 Education in Virginia: A 20-Year Timeline” (2023) | The Commonwealth Institute, “Addressing the Lasting Impacts of Racist Choices on Virginia's Education System” (2023) | Encyclopedia Virginia, “Massive Resistance”; Moton Museum, “Prince Edward County School Closings”

1% Sales Tax: A Generational Opportunity for RPS Students

If the 1% sales tax is approved, it is estimated that RPS could see vastly greater revenue for school modernization and construction over the next 20 years. All told, it would likely come to...

\$850 million

Important Notes About the 1% Sales Tax

The 1% sales tax would **NOT** apply to...

Groceries

Medicine

Personal Hygiene Products

How Has RPS Used the Meals Tax Funding?

River City Middle School



How Has RPS Used the Meals Tax Funding?

Henry Marsh Elementary School



How Has RPS Used the Meals Tax Funding?

Cardinal Elementary School



How Has RPS Used the Meals Tax Funding?

Richmond High School for the Arts

Opening on August 20, 2026



What's Next?

New Technical Center

Phase I Completion by August, 2028 (Need funding for Phase II!)



What's Next?

New Woodville Elementary School

Need Funding!



If the 1% Passes, How Will RPS Prioritize the New Funding?

New 20-Year Facilities Modernization Plan

**Stakeholder
Engagement**

September/October
2026

**School Board
Review**

November/ December
2026

Adoption

January
2027

Among the factors that will be considered:

- Current state of facility and expected maintenance needs
- Enrollment trends, including impact of new development
- Building capacity
- Concentration of student need
- Efficiency through historic tax credits, public-private partnerships, and potential school consolidation

Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to me or any members of the School Board or RPS Administration. We want to ensure you have all the information you need.

Thank you!