



# Modern Schools for a Growing City

## NPS School Building Program

With aging facilities and a growing student population, the Board of Education has been engaged in an extensive process to determine how best to support the city's families in the years to come. In January, the Board approved recommendation for a comprehensive School Facilities Master Plan that is designed to address over enrollment while enhancing academic options. The Plan also includes investing in repairs and maintenance projects across every school in the district.

Phase I of the plan would add 900 much-needed student seats. It includes a school in South Norwalk where the need is greatest, reducing long bus rides for many students. It would offer robust academic programs in new and renovated buildings, with attractive academic themes and magnet programs to draw students from throughout the city and meet racial balance guidelines.

Most importantly, the plan leverages the need to build additional schools and renovate others to elevate our education system, as envisioned in the 2016-2019 Strategic Operating Plan.

### Highlights of Phase I Plans (3-5 years to complete)

- **Move Columbus Magnet School into a newly constructed PreK to Grade 8 campus, at the site of the former Nathaniel Ely School in South Norwalk.**
  - Neighborhood preference in ¼ mile walk zone or for families in income-restricted housing
  - Current Odyssey Preschool remains in place
  - Partnership with Grassroots Tennis
- **Renovate-as-new the current Columbus Magnet School building at 46 Concord Street**
  - Offer the renowned K-5 International Baccalaureate Early Years Programme
  - Neighborhood preference in ¼ mile walk zone, some “unassigned” students and some students who would be assigned to Jefferson under current districting
  - Serves as feeder to Roton MS and Brien McMahan IB programs
- **Expand Ponus Ridge into a full PreK to Grade 8 intra-district magnet campus**
  - Lower and Upper Schools
  - Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program theme
  - Lower School preference to current Jefferson district students; Upper School to preference to Lower School students, Kendall, Jefferson & Fox Run students

### Phase II Plans

With Phase I work underway, planning for Phase II will begin, which includes renovating Jefferson Elementary “as new,” returning it to a neighborhood school, and removing portable classrooms that are nearing the end of their useful life. Renovations at Roton Middle School and Norwalk High will also be priorities.