



Where the future is present.

NORTH HARTFORD SCHOOLS UPDATE

REDESIGNING FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE, EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Background and a Challenging Reality

Hartford Public Schools confronts a stark reality that has been years in the making including:

- Eight years of flat and reduced educational investment;
- Increasing costs and increased programming especially for students with special needs;
- Implications from Sheff v. O'Neill: increased tuition costs, competition for students and under-enrollment in high-performing schools;
- Many schools operating under capacity; and many in aged facilities that require significant investment;
- Under-enrolled schools are challenged in providing the resources and range of programs that students deserve;
- Current State of Connecticut and City of Hartford fiscal crises limits investment.

The Opportunity

- ✔ HPS, the City of Hartford, and the State of Connecticut are collaborating on an opportunity to renovate as new the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Building.
- ✔ This possibility represents a major investment in the north end of Hartford and a commitment to our students and families.
- ✔ With this potential funding, it is projected that by 2020-21, the north end will have two new school campuses: Weaver High School and a new school facility on the MLK site.
- ✔ If project is approved, this makes possible a long-held objective to provide clear elementary and secondary pathways for our students.
- ✔ The proposed North Hartford schools plan would be one step in the district-wide school redesign process.

Important Note: This update reflects a proposed plan that requires Board of Education, State of Connecticut, and City of Hartford approvals and commitment of funds.

HPS is committed to on-going dialogue with stakeholders as we redesign our school district for excellence, equity and sustainability.

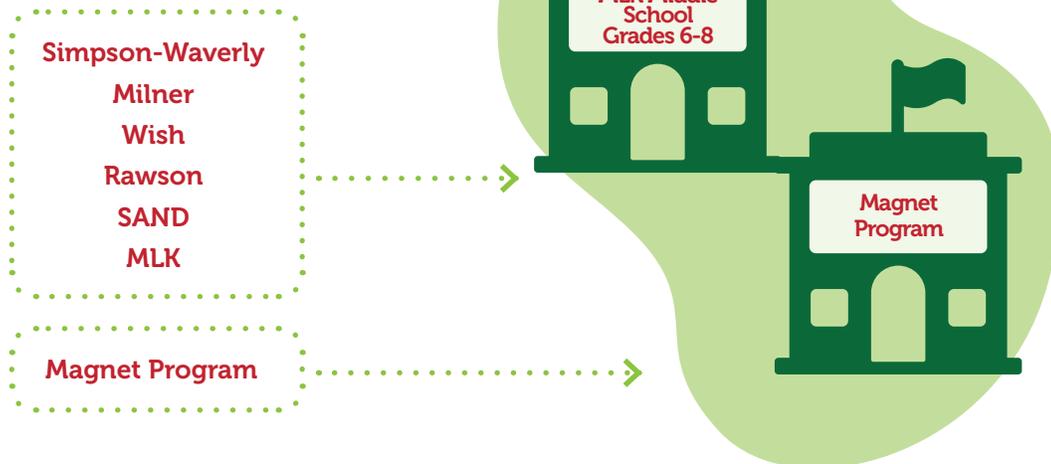


North Hartford Proposed School Design

Educational specifications* for the MLK site – which is a general overview of the project submitted to the State of Connecticut – will include MLK as a neighborhood school collocating with a magnet school. The inclusion of the magnet school makes possible the 95% state construction grant reimbursement rate; a requirement in this difficult fiscal climate. Our Superintendent, Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, will recommend an MLK plan and Ed Specs to the Board of Education for a vote on May 30, 2017.

Proposed MLK Redesigned Campus

By Year 2020-21, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School will consist of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from:



Benefits to Students

- ✓ Elementary and secondary pathways for students
- ✓ Dedicated middle schools model that provides developmentally responsive programming
- ✓ Focus on academic excellence
- ✓ Commitment to student-centered learning
- ✓ Design of extra-curricular and athletics programming
- ✓ Community partnerships as part of school redesign
- ✓ Neighborhood revitalization

*Educational Specifications or Ed Specs (also referred to as a program) is a detailed narrative, developed to guide the design process. An Ed Spec typically includes a summary of the educational organization's goals or mission, a list of rooms and sizes as well as descriptions of site and spatial characteristics.