

## Ohio School Facilities Summary for Fairfield City School District

At a special school board meeting Wednesday evening, representatives from the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) and the Steed-Hammond-Paul architectural firm reviewed the OSFC's report on our district's school buildings.

During the past year the OSFC did a detailed inspection of each school building. It used that information to project the expected cost to: a) repair and maintain the school over its remaining life, and b) renovate and upgrade the school as necessary to keep pace with enrollment and required standards for school buildings.

When these projected repair/renovation costs exceed 66 percent of the replacement cost of the building, OSFC guidelines recommend building a new school.

The OSFC assessment presented Wednesday evening indicated that eight of the district's 10 school buildings are over the 66 percent threshold. Specifically, the figures are:

Central – 83 percent  
West – 81  
Middle School – 79  
South – 75  
North – 74  
Intermediate School – 72  
Freshman School – 71  
Kindergarten – 70  
East – 30  
High School – 16

The total cost, if all eight schools are replaced with new buildings, is projected at \$236 million.

The total cost, if all eight schools are repaired/renovated as necessary, is projected at \$194 million.

The OSFC would fund approximately 25 percent of the cost.

The two options outlined Wednesday – replacing all eight buildings, or keeping all eight – were presented as “bookend” scenarios that are at either end of the range of more likely scenarios, which would call for some new construction and some repair/renovation in the coming years.

Districts are offered funding assistance from the OSFC in order depending on wealth. The Ohio Department of Education ranks districts from one to 614 each year by using a formula that is based on a three-year adjusted valuation per pupil (which relates largely to property wealth). Lowest wealth districts are served first. Our district is not yet being offered funding assistance, but is getting closer to that date as the OSFC works through the list.

The assessments presented Wednesday are to provide data for the Board of Education, the district staff, and the community to use in considering which direction to take when the funding assistance does become available. Accepting the funding assistance, and the OSFC recommendations, is not required.

The full assessments are lengthy and detailed. We will be providing a copy to each school, where additional copies can be made as necessary.