



Kettering City Schools Future-Ready Facilities Steering Committee

Steering Committee Meeting Summary February 5, 2025

This document contains notes from a Steering Committee meeting on February 5, 2025, discussing financial and strategic planning for Kettering Schools.

Key points include:

- **Discussion to learn different funding sources:**
 - **Operating levies** cover day-to-day expenses.
 - **Permanent improvement levies** fund maintenance and repairs of assets lasting five years or more (hence, the term “permanent” in this type of levy).
 - **Bond levies** are used for long-term capital improvements, such as new buildings or major renovations.
- **Review of the 2002 Bond Issue** – This is the last time the district underwent a major districtwide facilities project that brought renovations, added space, new construction and improvements to every building.
 - The 2002 bond issue of \$102,400,000 funded the complete renovation of every KCS school building. This included the addition of gymnasiums in our elementary buildings; expanded science labs at our middle schools; the installation of new mechanicals/HVAC systems that air conditioned all schools districtwide; the construction of Trent Arena; the renovation of Roush Stadium; and the construction of a new Greenmont Elementary School.
- **Certificates of Participation (COPS)** used for funding. There are COPS from 2016, 2017, 2019, and 2023.
 - The 2016 COPS end in FY26 with payments of \$281,000 and total funds of \$2,500,000.
 - The 2017 COPS end in FY46 with payments of \$630,000 and total funds of \$11,530,000.
 - The 2019 COPS end in FY48 with payments of \$930,000 and total funds of \$15,620,000.
 - The 2023 COPS end in FY32 with payments of \$605,000 and total funds of \$5,000,000.
- **Consideration of a co-funded project** in partnership with the Ohio Facilities Construction commission (OFCC), and the financial implications of not participating in the co-funded project were discussed.

- It has been nearly 23 years since the Kettering Schools undertook a major, districtwide renovation project. KCS's school buildings are beginning to show their age, particularly with the very expensive areas of mechanical (HVAC) issues, roofing issues, structural and infrastructural (technology) issues and energy efficiency issues.
- These major facilities issues will need to be addressed in the very near future, and the committee began discussions surrounding the pros and cons of funding these major improvements through a local bond issue, versus addressing these issues as part of a bigger facilities improvement plan, co-funded in partnership with the OFCC.
- **Steering Committee feedback** on various aspects of the Master Facility Planning process, including:
 - Exploring the possibility of two middle schools.
 - Developing the agenda for the March 20, 2025 Community Forum
 - Highlighting the benefits of consolidation and the history of past consolidations..
 - Emphasizing the long-term impact and generational decisions.
 - Addressing communication and community engagement.
 - Analyzing the financial aspects and potential challenges.
 - Discussion about the impact of school facility improvements to maintaining strong communities.

The meeting focused on strategic planning, financial considerations, and communication strategies related to potential school projects and improvements.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**The KCS Future-Ready Facilities Steering Committee
will host a**

COMMUNITY FORUM

March 20, 2025

6-8 p.m.

Fairmont High School Recital Hall

This informational meeting will provide community members with an overview of the future-ready facilities needs of the district, the impact of a partnership with OFCC to co-fund a major facilities construction and renovation project, draft conceptual plans for the first phase of a KCS Facilities Improvement Project, and the opportunity to ask questions about the entire Future-Ready Facilities Planning Process.