



PHOTO: TAO ZHANG

Barrington 220 to Review All Facilities

BARRINGTON 220 SCHOOL DISTRICT has committed the entire year of 2017 to focus on all its facilities and studying how its physical environments impact learning and teaching.

In partnership with DLR Group, a Chicago-based architectural firm, “Blueprint 220” is a multi-year initiative to align the district’s schools and facilities to its innovative vision for teaching and learning. A successful plan will combine feedback from staff, students, parents, and community members paired with best-practice and current research in school design.

I spoke with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brian Harris about Blueprint 220 and what this could mean for the future of our schools.

QB: *Why did the district decide to start a master facility plan like Blueprint 220?*

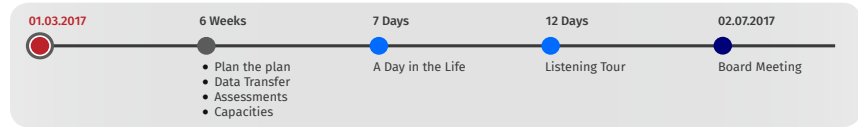
BH: While our facilities are maintained extremely well through the operational budget commitment of our Board of Education and preventative maintenance by our buildings and grounds staff, it has been nearly 20 years since we have provided a comprehensive review of the current and future needs of all our schools.

BLUEPRINT 220

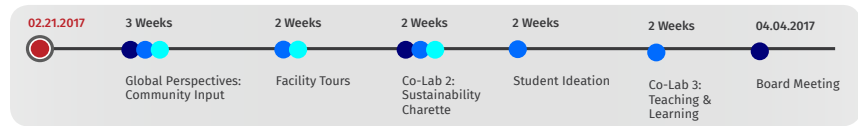
A future-ready facilities plan

- Phase Start Date
- Community Engagement
- Core Team Activity
- Primary User Activity
- Miscellaneous

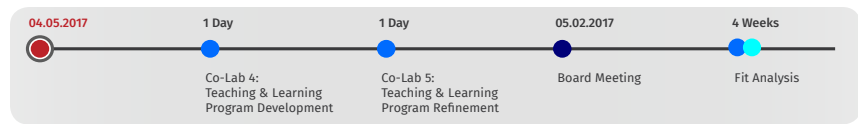
Phase 1: Deeper Understanding



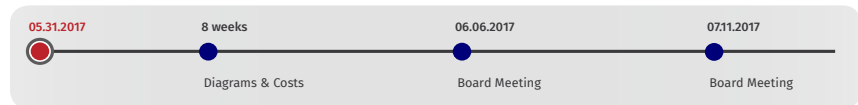
Phase 2: Discover & Explore



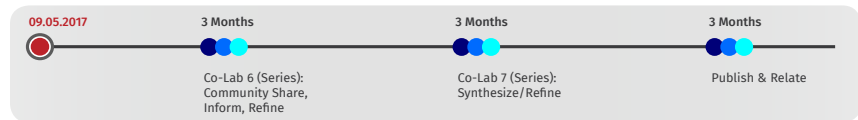
Phase 3: Program



Phase 4: Conceptualize



Phase 5: Game Plan



Phase 6: Board Adoption



Many of our schools were originally built in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s and are now in need of some major repairs and upgrades. The schools which were built or renovated and/or received an addition in the 1990s and early 2000s are also showing signs of needed attention as well. Just like homeowners do approximately every 20 years, it’s time to take a look at our facilities and determine what is critical to maintain and improve our schools for future-ready student learning.

QB: *What type of process is used to determine what will be recommended?*

BH: The architects and engineers from DLR Group have been conducting a structural, environmental, and mechanical analysis on every building in the district. These first steps will provide a baseline of data to start with when making decisions on any

potential renovations and improvements.

Between February and April 2017, we are hosting community conversations at each school to report these findings and solicit feedback from the community on any ideas for improvement they would like to see at each school.

The next steps will allow DLR to work with our staff, students, and community to determine what structural changes would have a positive impact on teaching and learning. The ultimate goal is to make our buildings as safe, secure, and welcoming, as well as conducive to creativity, collaboration, and productivity, which will enhance student learning. After several additional rounds of community feedback and input at each school in the fall of 2017, DLR will present a comprehensive plan to the Board of Education targeted for January 2018.

Spring Community Conversations


All meetings held at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Here are the dates for each school's meeting.

Feb. 23: Roslyn Road Elementary School
Feb. 27: Barrington High School (9-10:30 a.m.)
Feb. 27: Barrington High School
Feb. 28: Barrington High School
March 1: Sunny Hill Elementary School
March 1: Countryside Elementary School
March 2: Arnett C. Lines Elementary School
March 2: Early Learning Center
March 13: Prairie Middle School
March 14: Station Middle School
March 15: Grove Avenue Elementary School
March 15: North Barrington Elementary School
March 16: Barbara B. Rose Elementary School
March 16: Hough Street Elementary School
April 10: PreK-12 Fine Arts (BHS Cafeteria)
April 12: PreK-12 Athletics (BHS Cafeteria)

A list of current Barrington 220 buildings, their original built dates, as well as additions and renovations dates are listed here.

1949: Barrington High School (Additions/renovations: 1955, 1960, 1966, 1970, 1977, 1980, 1990, 1997-2000)
1954: Grove Avenue Elementary School (Addition: 1999)
1957: Sunny Hill Elementary School (Addition: 2001)
1957: James Street Administrative Center
1958: Woodland School (Renovation: 2001)
1966: Station Middle School (Addition: 1999)
1967: Hough Street Elementary School (Additions/renovations: 1986, 2016)
1969: Arnett C. Lines Elementary School (Addition: 2000)
1991: Prairie Middle School (Addition: 1999)
1999: North Barrington Elementary School
1999: Barbara B. Rose Elementary School
2002: Countryside Elementary School
2002: Roslyn Road Elementary School
2010: Early Learning Center

QB: *What else should the community know about Blueprint 220?*

BH: We can't create a successful plan without meaningful input from all stakeholders in the community. Our schools not only provide for student learning during the day, but serve as community facilities for numerous other activities valued by our community. Please join us at the community meetings to express your opinions and share your ideas. We are just beginning to imagine the positive changes that could take place in our community schools through the Blueprint 220 initiative. We would be thrilled for all community members to engage in the process with us to help determine the final recommendations for future-ready schools in our community. 

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