



Boston Public Schools

# BuildBPS Update East Boston Community Meeting

June 8, 2021

Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Superintendent

Nathan Kuder, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Tommy Welch, Elementary School Superintendent

# East Boston



## Agenda

- Our Vision For Excellent School Buildings
- Capital Projects Timeline and Educational Program Design Needs
- Reimagining Our Schools: Community Conversation



# Capital Plan Must Be Driven By Student Outcomes



## Equitable Academic Access

- Predictable pathways
- Access to high quality Pre-K
- Graduate students ready for college, career, and life



## Excellent Buildings

- Launch a cycle of new school buildings
- Give students excellent options close to home
- Renovate existing facilities

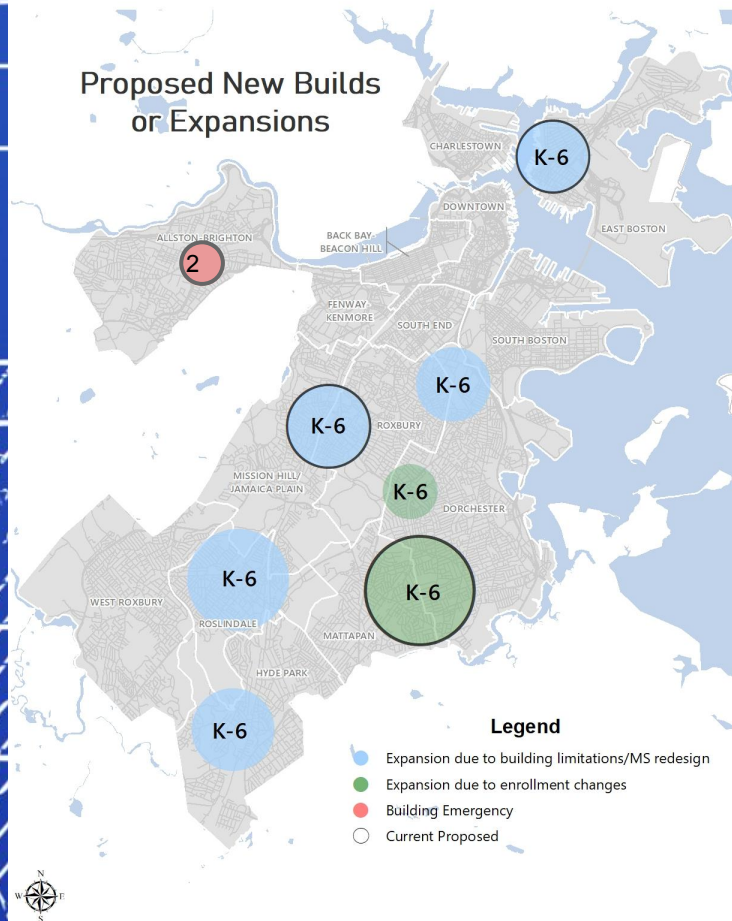


## Predictability and Transparency

- Authentic partnership in decision making
- Equity-centered strategic planning
- Transparency in our data to empower our community

# New School Buildings

## New Buildings: Proposed FY23 Projects

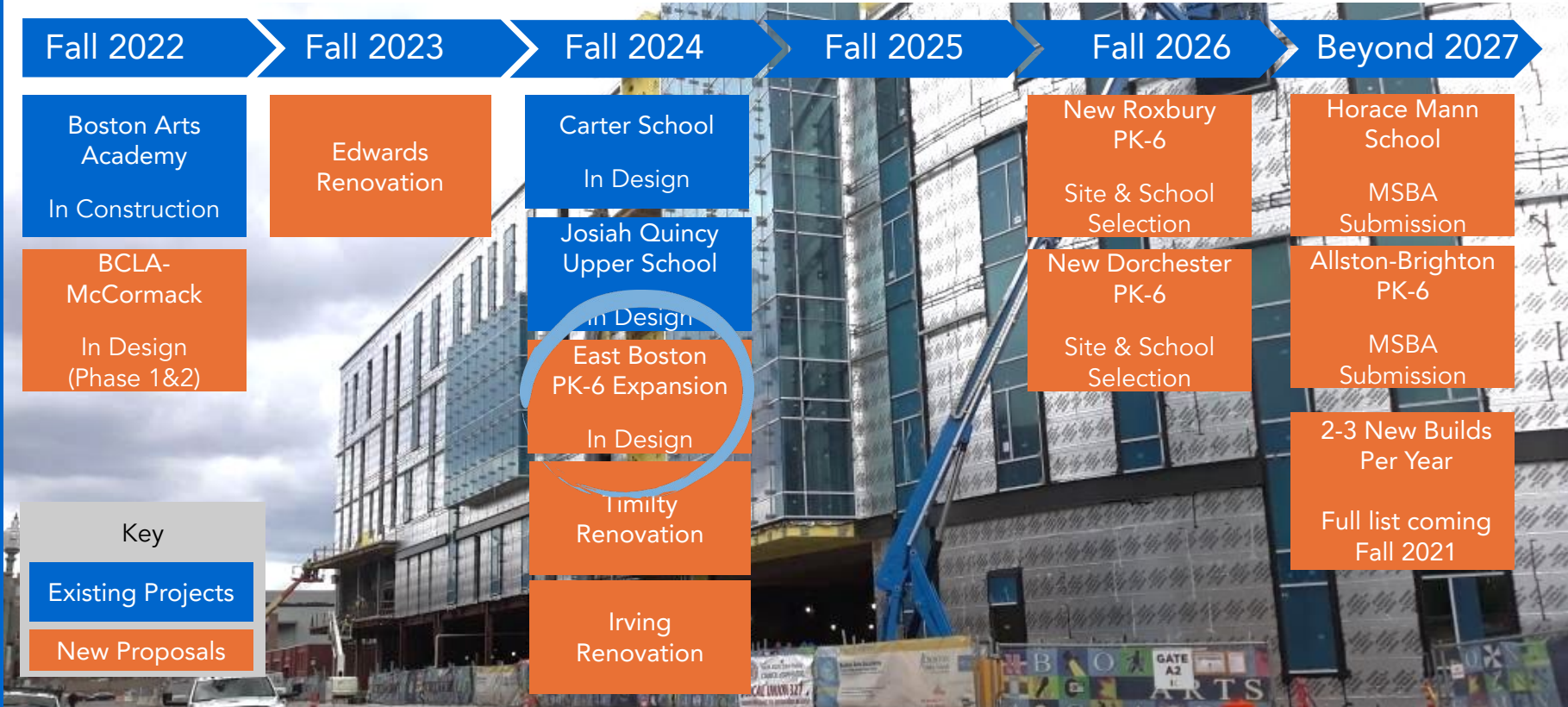


## New school buildings

1. **Dorchester** PK-6
2. **Roxbury** PK-6
3. **East Boston** Expansion
4. **Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**
5. **Allston-Brighton** PK-6

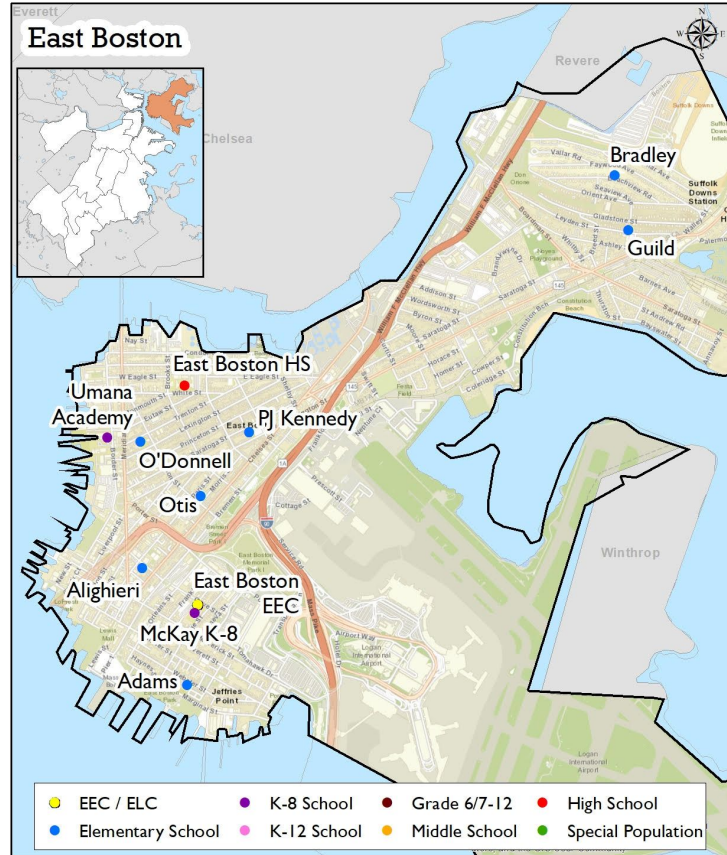
# Progress towards our goal of 2-3 new buildings every year

Current and proposed projects by **anticipated completion year** and current project phase.





# East Boston Neighborhood Data



## Neighborhood Data

Total school aged children living in East Boston	6,559
Total students attending BPS Schools (K0 - 12)	5,550
% of school aged children attending BPS	85%
% of total BPS population living in East Boston	11%

## Current School Configuration

K0-1:

East Boston EEC

Elementary K-6

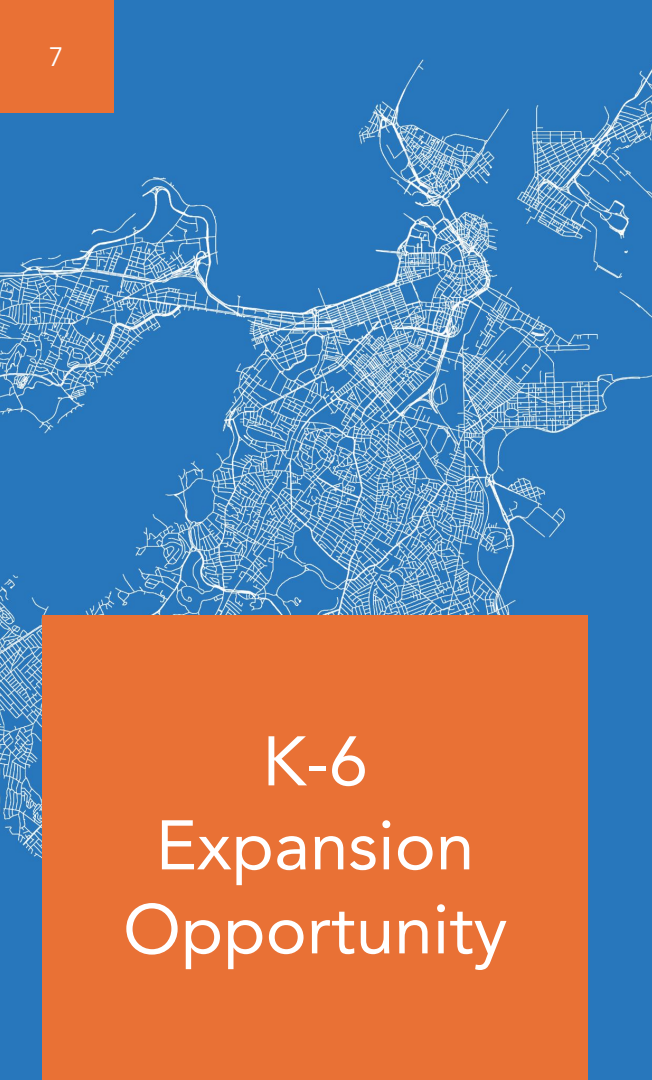
K-8

7-12

Adams, Alighieri, O'Donnell, Otis, PJ Kennedy, Guild, and Bradley

Umana Dual Language, McKay

East Boston High School



## K-6 Expansion Opportunity

The **James Otis Elementary** is being prioritized for usage of the Paris Street Property

- The Otis has over 400 students (three strands) - flexible scheduling/cohorts and aligned with BuildBPS fact base
- Attaching the 189 Paris St property to an existing school eliminates the need to add another small elementary school
- Added 21st Century learning space (for example a science lab)
- Space for 6th grade classrooms (currently in 350 sq ft classrooms)
- Arts space (Otis has Theater, Music, and Art on a cart - no classrooms)



# Eliot Innovation School | 585 Commercial Street





# Eliot Innovation School | 585 Commercial Street



# Life Skills Room Design @ BCLA/McCormack





# Science Lab Classroom Design @ BCLA/McCormack



# All Capital Projects are budgeted following the same process






BPS works closely with the City's Public Facilities Department (PFD) and Office of Budget Management (OBM) to include school projects in the capital budget proposal for the City of Boston.

Step	When	Description
Capital planning process begins	November - December	BPS, PFD, and OBM work together to understand the full scope of projects, determine cost and necessary resources.
Department review meetings and budget development	January - February	BPS and OBM meet to review the projects, analyze the costs and timelines, set overall priorities across project categories and determine final cost estimates for projects
Budget Proposal	April	On the second Wednesday in April, the Mayor proposes the Capital Budget to the City Council
Budget Hearings & Vote	April - June	City Council holds a series of hearings on the City budget, ending in a vote in June
Projects Begin	July	After the budget is formally adopted on July 1st, design for Capital projects can begin (construction starts after design)



# Capital Construction timelines vary by project scope

Despite following the same budget process, projects can take anywhere from 1 to 8 years to go complete design and construction.

Project Category		Example Projects	Timeline
	New Builds & Expansions	■ Dearborn, Carter School	6-8 years
	Real Estate Management	■ Paris Street Acquisition	1-3 years
	Renovations & Reconfigurations	■ Fenway High School	3-4 years
	District-Wide Investments	■ My Way Cafe, Fresh Water Initiative	1-2 Years
	Capital Repairs	■ Roof, window, boiler replacements	Simple Repairs: 1 Year Roof Project: 2-3 Years



## **Reimagining our Schools:**

Excellent buildings that promote health,  
enhance learning, and motivate students

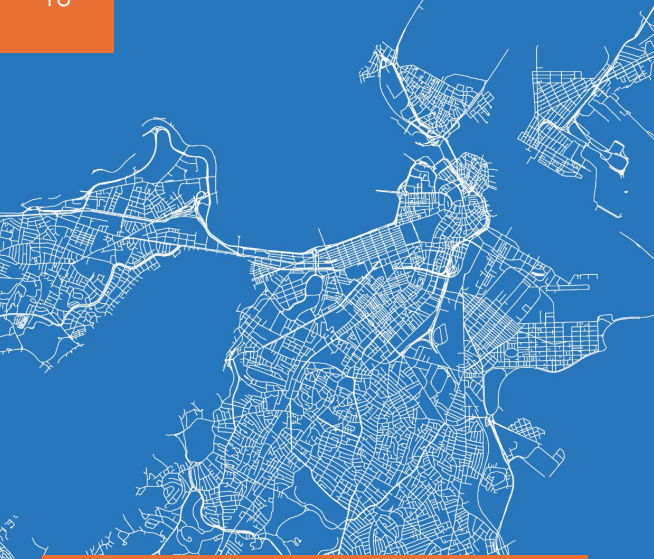




## Community Meetings

We've met with families, school leaders, and community to share updates or get input

- **Most Recent East Boston Community Meetings:** 1/28/19 (Parent Group), 1/7/21 (Community)
- **School Choice/Pathways:** Families need support with choices and priority seats in top choice schools.
- **Equity:** Need equity analysis completed
- **7-12 Expansion:** Share an array of program offerings and offer support on choices (ie. IB and AP)
- **Special Education:** Offer smooth transition support especially for students with special needs
- **Paris Street Parcel:** Want community engagement process on what happens to this space
- **Facilities Upgrades:** Air quality and bathrooms need major upgrades



## Community Discussion

### As we think about expanding the Otis Elementary School:

- How do we design the space to serve the school community's needs?
- What design elements are crucial to providing students with academic excellence and robust learning opportunities?
- Opportunity for expanded extracurricular activities and partnerships - what would you want to see?





## Next Steps

### Upcoming Engagement to be Scheduled:

- We are finding more spaces to spend time with the community during the Fall and will follow up with additional engagement sessions.
- This will be joint collaboration between City of Boston Public Facilities Department and Boston Public Schools BuildBPS. During the summer BBPS and PFD will meet to bring an update with next steps, including feedback from the community.
- Please reach out with any questions: [buildbps@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:buildbps@bostonpublicschools.org)