

The Challenge

Over the next 10 years, more than 3,500 potential new K-12 students are expected to move into the district. Current projections show that 15 schools will be over capacity and we will have a deficit of nearly 2,500 K-12 seats for students by 2031 if we do nothing.



PICTURED: Overcrowding in the East Ridge High School hallways.

Vote Starting June 24

Ballot Question - Bonds for Buildings

SoWashCo Schools will ask voters to consider approval of a \$462.6 million bond on Aug. 9, 2022. A bond is the only method to raise enough funds for construction, renovations and additions to meet the needs of our growing community.

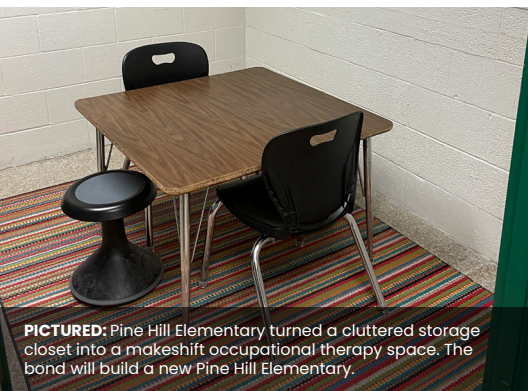
If Approved by Voters:

- Efficient use of current buildings
- Expansion of early learning programs and services
- Construction of two elementary schools
- Expansion of three high schools
- Improvements to facilities districtwide
- Purchase of land for future growth
- Accommodate early learning, special education and community education programming
- Minimal changes to attendance boundaries

Addressing Challenges



PICTURED: Park High School dismissal involves unsafe congestion and cars blocking bus lanes and pedestrian crossings. The bond will include a site redesign for safety.



PICTURED: Pine Hill Elementary turned a cluttered storage closet into a makeshift occupational therapy space. The bond will build a new Pine Hill Elementary.

If Voters Do Not Approve the Ballot Question:

If voters do not approve the bond, the current 10-year facility plan will be modified, but not dismantled, in order to address growth where it is occurring. With some schools overcapacity, there will likely be extensive boundary changes prior to 2025. Other considerations include:

- Beginning an alternative long-range facility planning process and considering all options available
- Returning to voters with a new election in February 2023
- Exploring temporary portable trailers at some school sites
- Minimal changes to attendance boundaries
- Considering alternative scheduling options for high schools
- Reviewing grade configurations at all levels
- Increasing rental space and costs for learning and instruction
- Struggling with continued higher than average class sizes in overcrowded schools

View the 10-Year Facility Plan for Your School or Program



Learn more: Visit sowashco.org/facilityplanning or email info@sowashco.org