



Building **Brighter** FUTURES

.....➔
PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE STUDENT SUCCESS



Today's Goals and Agenda



Goals

- Share important information about the **current state and future vision of CMSD**
- **Reflect on your feedback** from Spring engagement
- Take a closer look at how **regional and school-level data** will inform our recommendations

Agenda

- Overview of Building Brighter Futures and your feedback
- Regional and school-level data: Enrollment
 - Table Discussion
- Regional and school-level data: Buildings
 - Table Discussion
- Path ahead

Norms to support a productive discussion



- Please **monitor your air time** during table discussions
- Please **keep the focus** on topics that are within the scope of today's discussion
- For questions and ideas that you do not get a chance to share today, please **share them in whatever way is most comfortable for you** (on post its, on paper survey, via electronic survey, via Let's Talk)



Planning for a Brighter Future

Our vision for students



All CMSD students
are **safe, engaged,**
and successful, no
matter which school
they attend



Goals and Guardrails bring our vision to life



The Goals

1. Early Literacy

2. Math Proficiency

3. College Readiness

The Guardrails

1. Safety/Well-Being

2. Opportunity & Access

3. Community Engagement

2024-25 SY REPORT CARD

CMSD ★★★

LEVELS UP

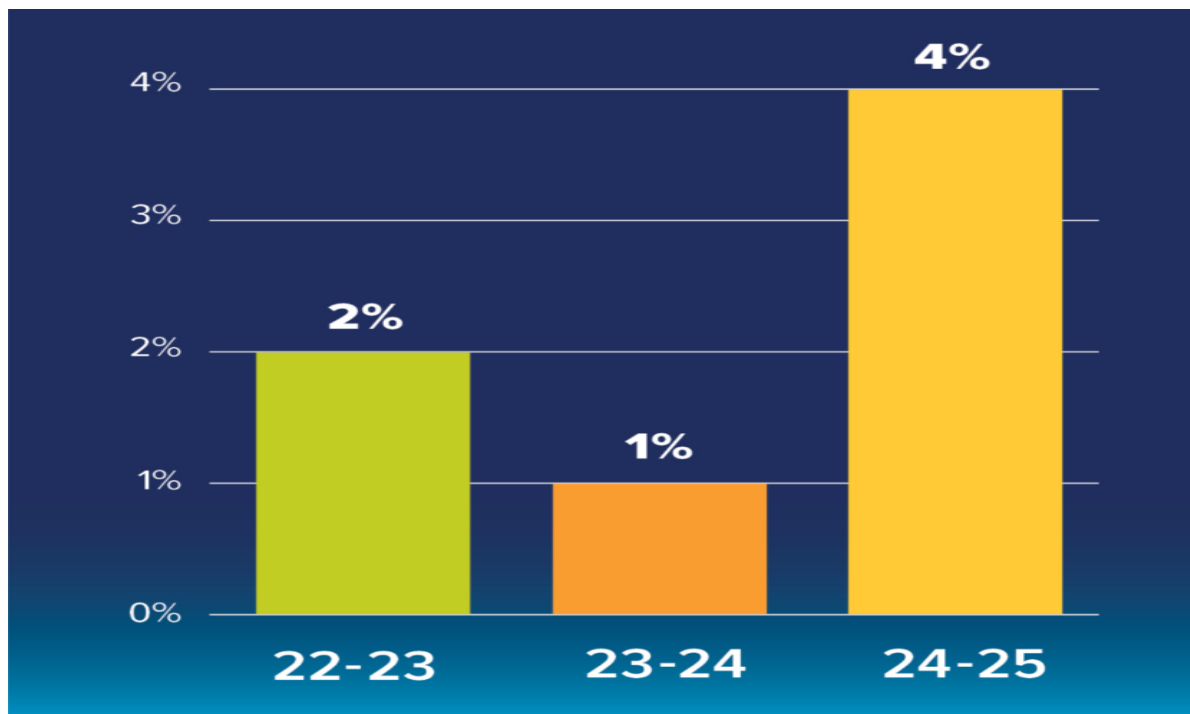
ACROSS THE BOARD



CMSD improves proficiency rates across ALL testing subjects, exceeding pre-pandemic rates in HS ELA, Algebra and US Govt.

% POINT INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR	CMSD Only	CMSD with Charters
Algebra 1	12.3%	11.7%
Geometry	8.0%	7.5%
K8 Math	4.8%	4.4%
Math Overall	6.2%	5.6%
HS ELA	6.4%	6.2%
ELA Overall	1.3%	1.0%
Science	5.6%	4.6%
Social Studies	9.9%	9.0%

Growth in overall proficiency across all tested subjects

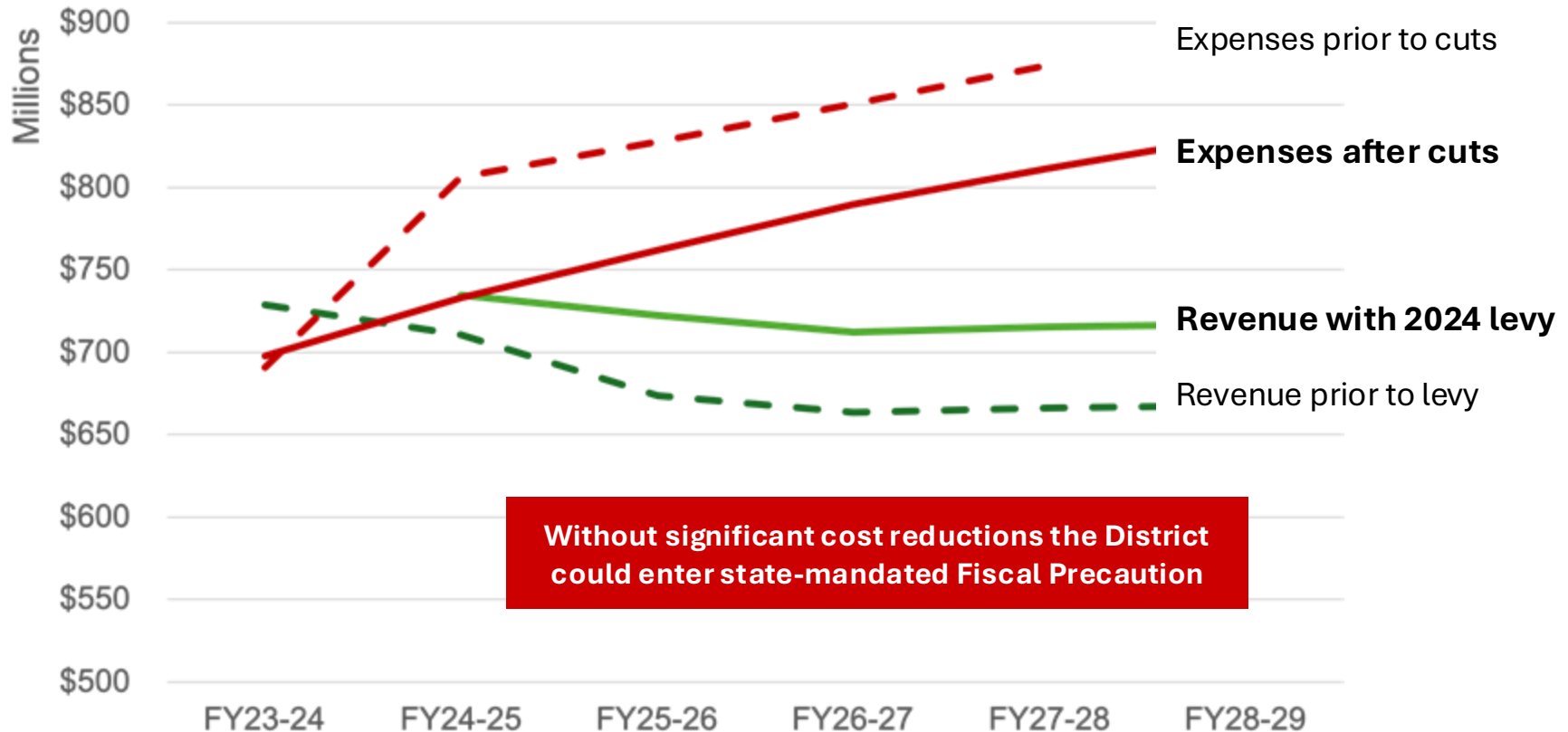


Perfect storm of challenges



- Increasing costs
- Funding cuts
- Declining enrollment

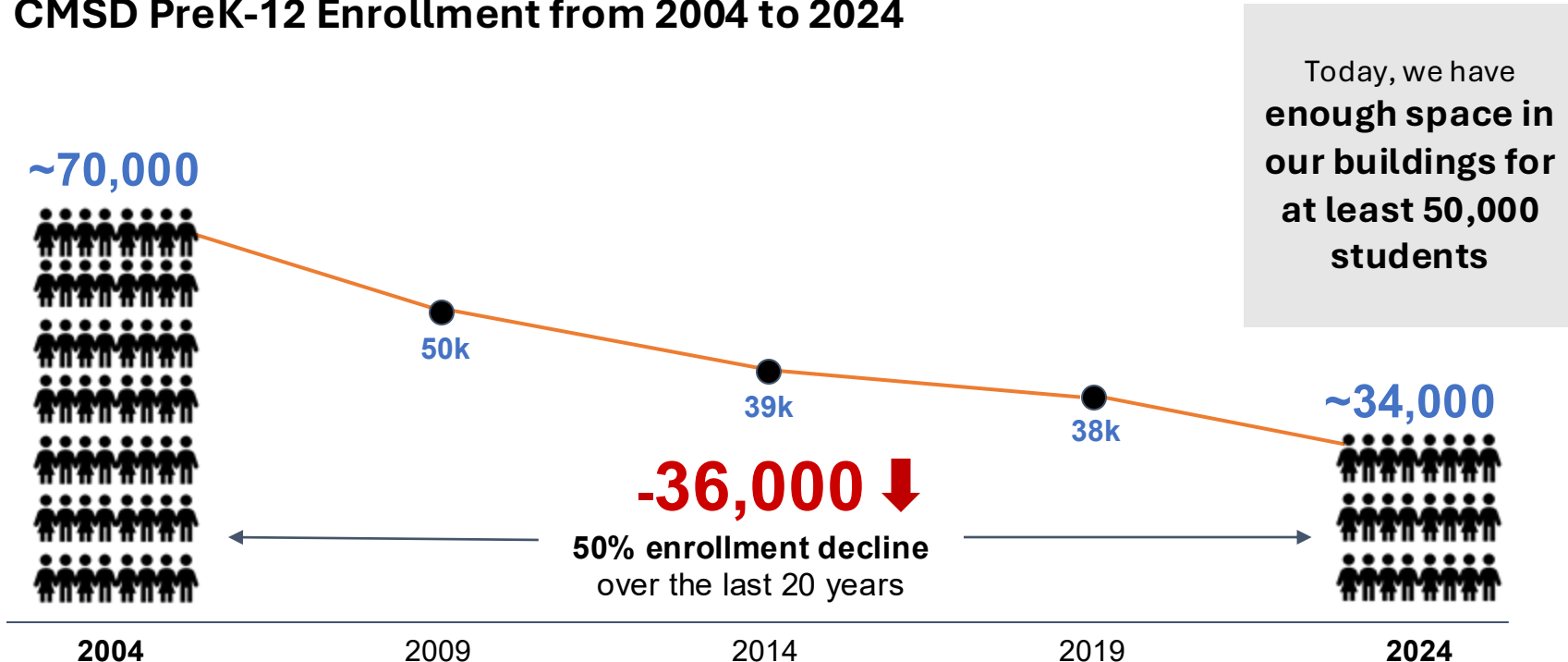
Our finances are out of balance, even with cost cutting and a levy



We cannot ignore our enrollment declines



CMUSD PreK-12 Enrollment from 2004 to 2024



Source: Ohio Department of Education, Fall Headcounts

* Note that values may not match current year totals, due to differences in Headcount vs End of Year enrollment methodology

We have an opportunity and a responsibility to act



We have hard, but necessary decisions ahead



Recommendations from this process will include:

- ☐ School closures, consolidations, and relocations
- ☐ Enhancing, moving and/or combining some programming
- ☐ New uses for some buildings
- ☐ Prioritizing funds to maintain existing buildings
- ☐ Some limited investments in new buildings

This is our current reality



Only **78%** of
High Schools offer
**COLLEGE
CREDIT**

Only **59%** of
High Schools offer
**CAREER
PATHWAYS**

**LOW
ENROLLMENT**

hurts teacher &
student experiences

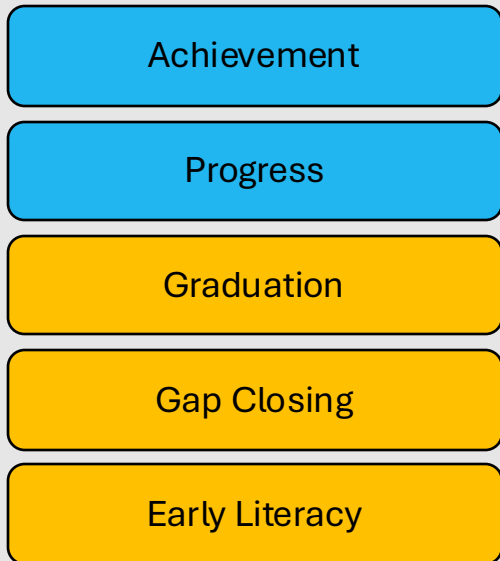
Only **70%**
of students in
**UPGRADED
BUILDINGS**

Only **38%**
of K-8s offer options
**BEYOND
ART, MUSIC & PE**

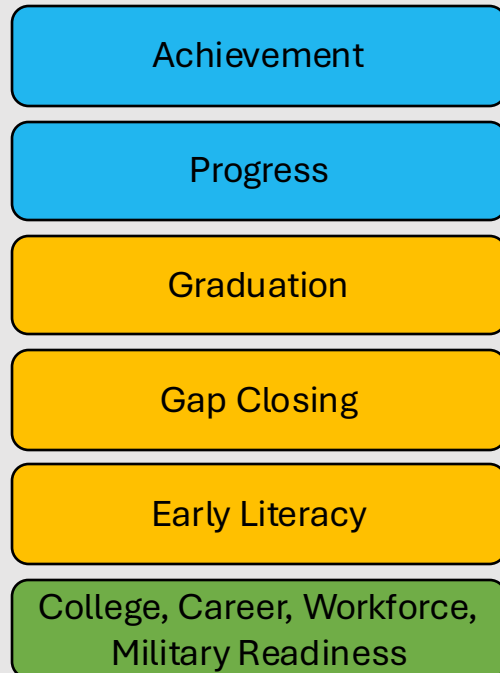
Academic improvement but our report card shows we need to work on preparing students for after HS



Last Year's Report Card



This Year's Report Card



Of the 2,449 students in the 2024 graduating class,

873 (36%)
successfully demonstrated college, career, workforce, and military readiness.

We are planning for a *Brighter Future*



100% of

High Schools offer

**COLLEGE
CREDIT**

100%

of students in

**UPGRADED
BUILDINGS**

100% of

High Schools offer

**CAREER
PATHWAYS**

**HEALTHY
ENROLLMENT**

Improve teacher &
student experiences



100%

of K-8s offer options

**BEYOND
ART, MUSIC & PE**

Your feedback is informing this work at every step



CMSD has engaged a wide **variety of key stakeholders** since last spring, through forums such as:

- 7 regional community meetings
- 3 districtwide virtual meetings
- Staff meetings at every school
- Student and Parent Advisory Council Meetings
- Presentations to neighborhood and community groups



Listening continues, but what we've heard so far...



LANGUAGE SERVICES SPECIAL EDUCATION
PREK CREATIVE BUILDING REUSE
SCHOOL HISTORIES & LEGACIES SCHOOL SAFETY
TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS THROUGH CHANGES
TEACHER & STUDENT RELATIONSHIPS REASONABLE CLASS SIZES
SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS & STAFF
NEIGHBORHOOD & SPECIALTY SCHOOLS

Clear feedback on this process



**Share more
school-level
data**

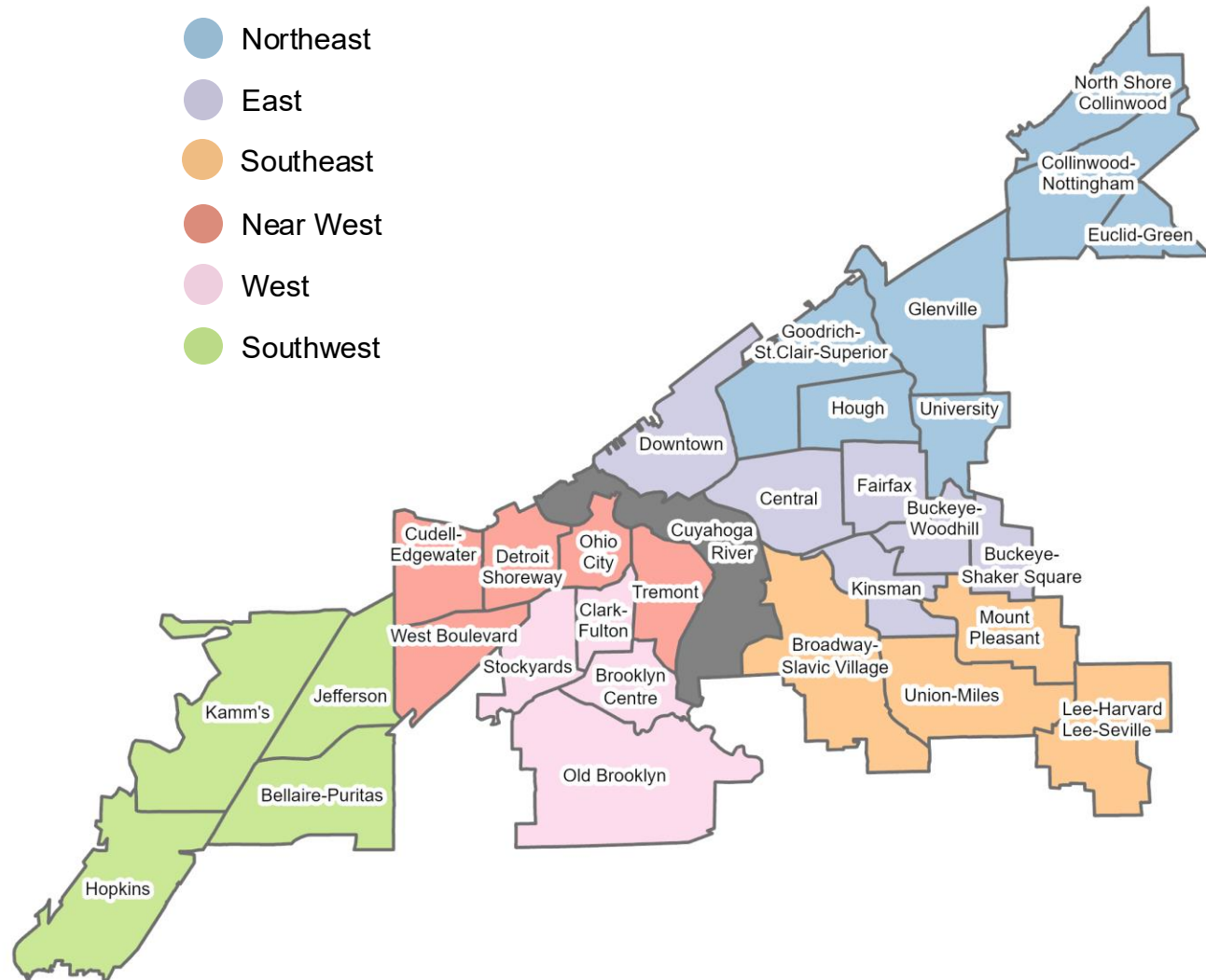
**Share how
decisions will
be made**

**Be honest &
transparent
about what's
necessary for
CMSD to thrive**



A Closer Look at Regional and School Data

Reminder on Regions



Our recommendations will be grounded in data



Primary Data

- Student enrollment
- Enrollment trends
- Building condition
- Building size and use



School and Neighborhood Factors

- Student outcomes (Report Card Star Rating)
- Special programming or unique models offered at a school
- Student demographics at each school (income, race, students with special needs)
- Student retention rates
- Regional historic and forecast enrollment trends
- Distance students travel to school (choice patterns)
- Number of school options nearby
- Physical barriers impacting walker safety
- Building details (green space, gym, auditorium, etc.)
- Cost to upgrade and maintain buildings
- Other neighborhood and historical factors

Recommendations will vary based on our current school types



PreK-8 schools

Neighborhood schools

Comprehensive programming

Specialty schools

Five models: arts-integration, dual language, IB, gender academies, and Montessori

High schools

Standalone schools

Each have their own building

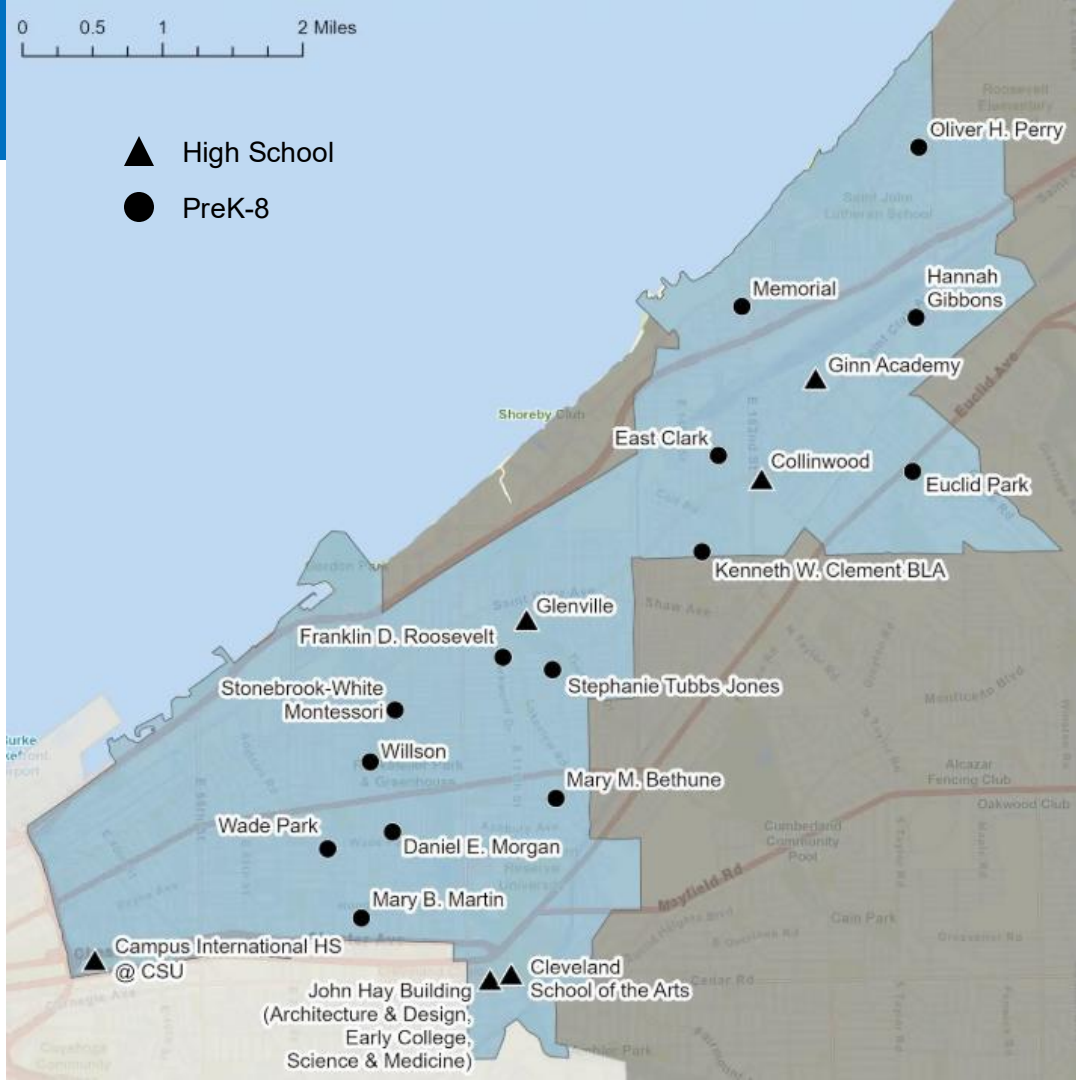
Co-located schools

Currently sharing a building and some student opportunities

Region: Northeast

PreK-8 Schools	High Schools
12 neighborhood	5 standalone
2 specialty (1 Boys' Leadership Academy and 1 Montessori)	3 co-located in same building

Data highlighted in colored bars and labeled on the following charts are for schools in this region



Our recommendations will be grounded in data



Primary Data



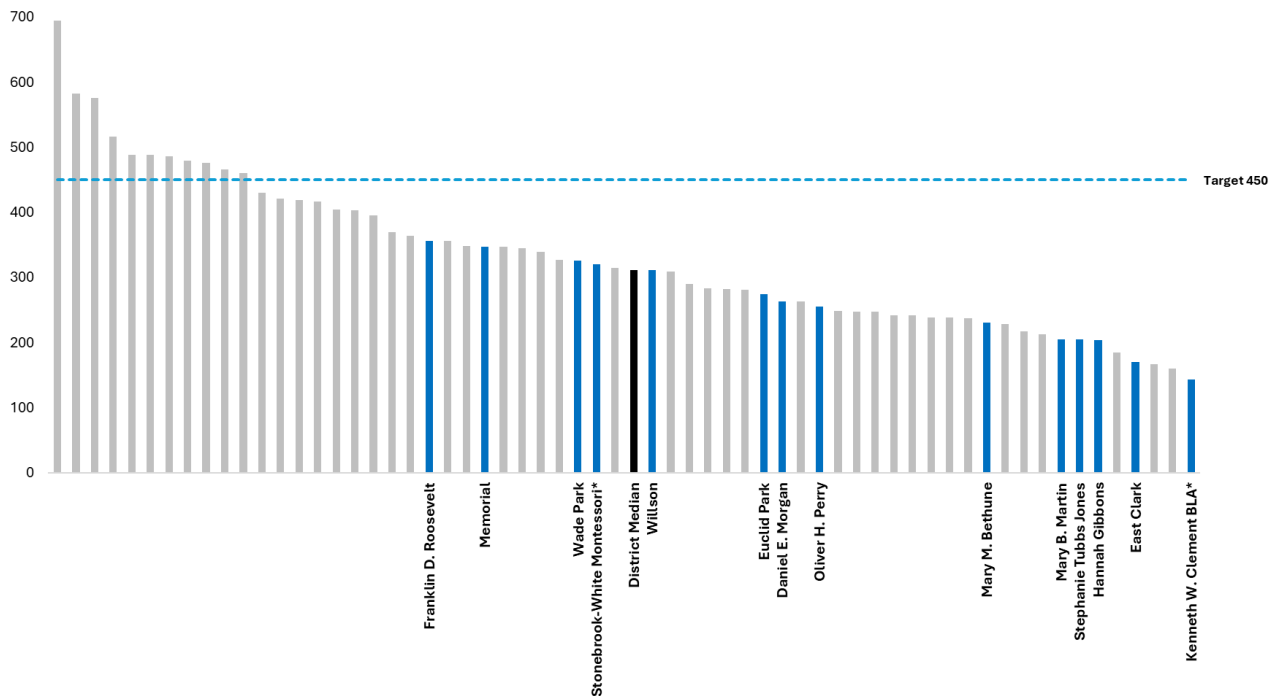
**School and
Neighborhood Factors**

*Data we are sharing
for each region and
every school*

*Your feedback confirmed
the importance of these
factors*



K-8 Student Enrollment (SY 2024-25)



A school with approximately 450 students — roughly two classes per grade from Kindergarten through 8th grade — can provide more opportunities for students.

Most of our schools have **enrollment below 450 students.**

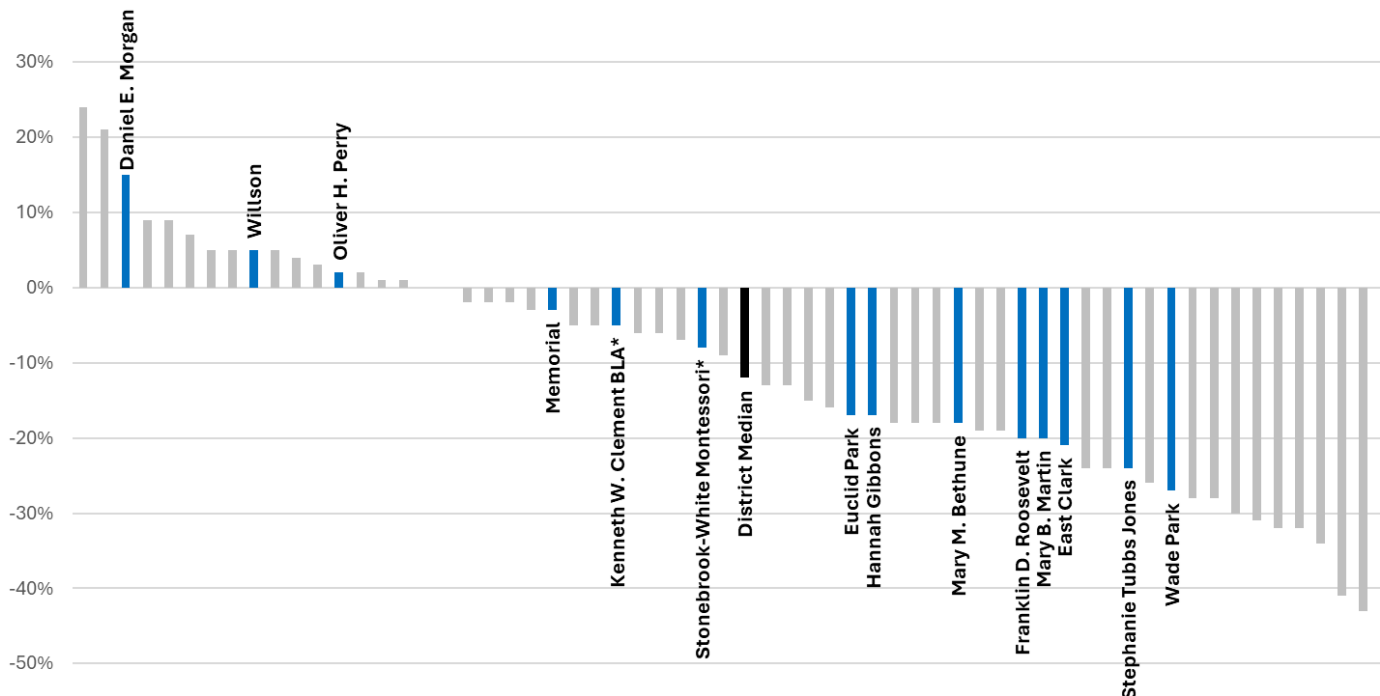
In this region, **0 out of 14 K-8 schools (0%) have enrollment of at least 450 students.**

K-8 student enrollment is school year 2024-25's end-of-year enrollment in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade, as reported to the Ohio Department of Education for all schools in the state. Excluding PreK enrollment allows for a more accurate comparison of enrollment across schools. CMSD remains committed to providing high-quality PreK options.

*Specialty schools in this region are shown with an asterisk.



K-8 Enrollment Trend (2019 to 2025)



The **decline in the number of school-aged children** in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, and Ohio **is forecast to continue** for the foreseeable future.

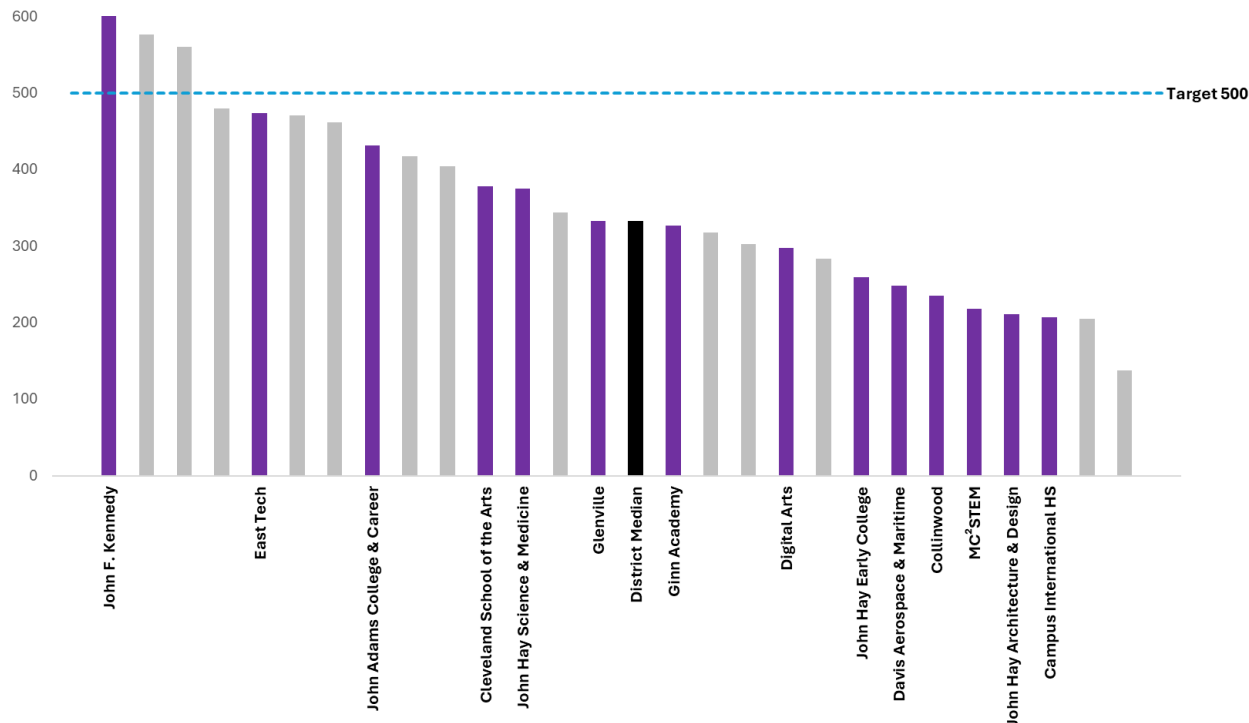
Since 2019, the **median decline in enrollment** across our K-8 schools has been **-12%**.

In this region, **6 out of 14 K-8 schools (43%)** have a stronger enrollment trend than the district median.

K-8 enrollment trend shows how the number of students at a school has changed by comparing the most recent end-of-year enrollment to previous years. For schools that were still phasing in grades after 2019 (e.g., Stonebrook-White Montessori and William Rainey Harper), the enrollment trend shown is for the first year of enrollment in all grades compared to SY24-25. *Specialty schools in this region are shown with an asterisk.



HS Student Enrollment (SY 2024-25)



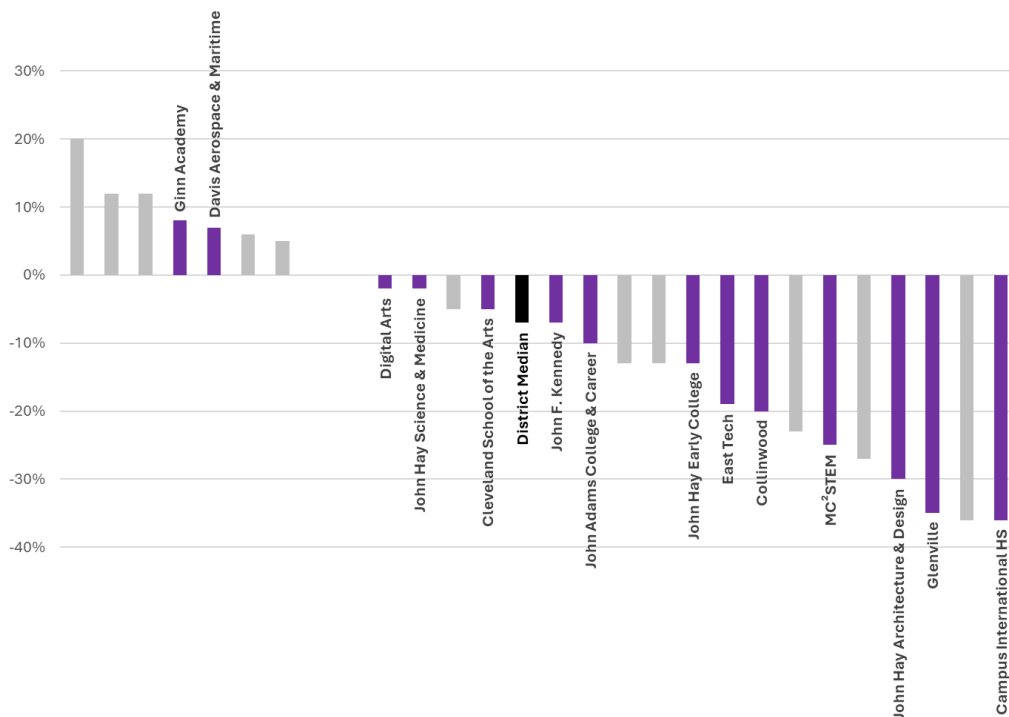
A school with at least 500 students — about 125 in each grade from 9th through 12th — **can provide more opportunities for students.**

Most of our high schools have **enrollment below 500 students.**

On the East Side, **1 out of 14 high schools (7%)** has **enrollment of at least 500 students.**



HS Enrollment Trend (2022 to 2025)



The **decline in the number of school-aged children** in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, and Ohio **is forecast to continue** for the foreseeable future.

Since 2022, the **median decline in enrollment** across our high schools has been **-7%**.

On the East Side, **5 out of 14 high schools (36%)** have a stronger enrollment trend than the district median.

HS enrollment trend shows how the number of students at a school has changed by comparing the most recent end-of-year enrollment to previous years. 2022 was chosen due to significant changes to high schools in previous years, making enrollment comparisons challenging. For schools that were still phasing in grades after 2022 (e.g., Garrett Morgan Leadership and Innovation), the enrollment trend shown is for the first year of enrollment in all grades compared to SY24-25.

Let's discuss!



Instructions

- Take your time to read the regional data charts
- Please share your feedback with each other or write it down on post it notes
- CMSD staff will also take notes
- Please make space for all voices at the table

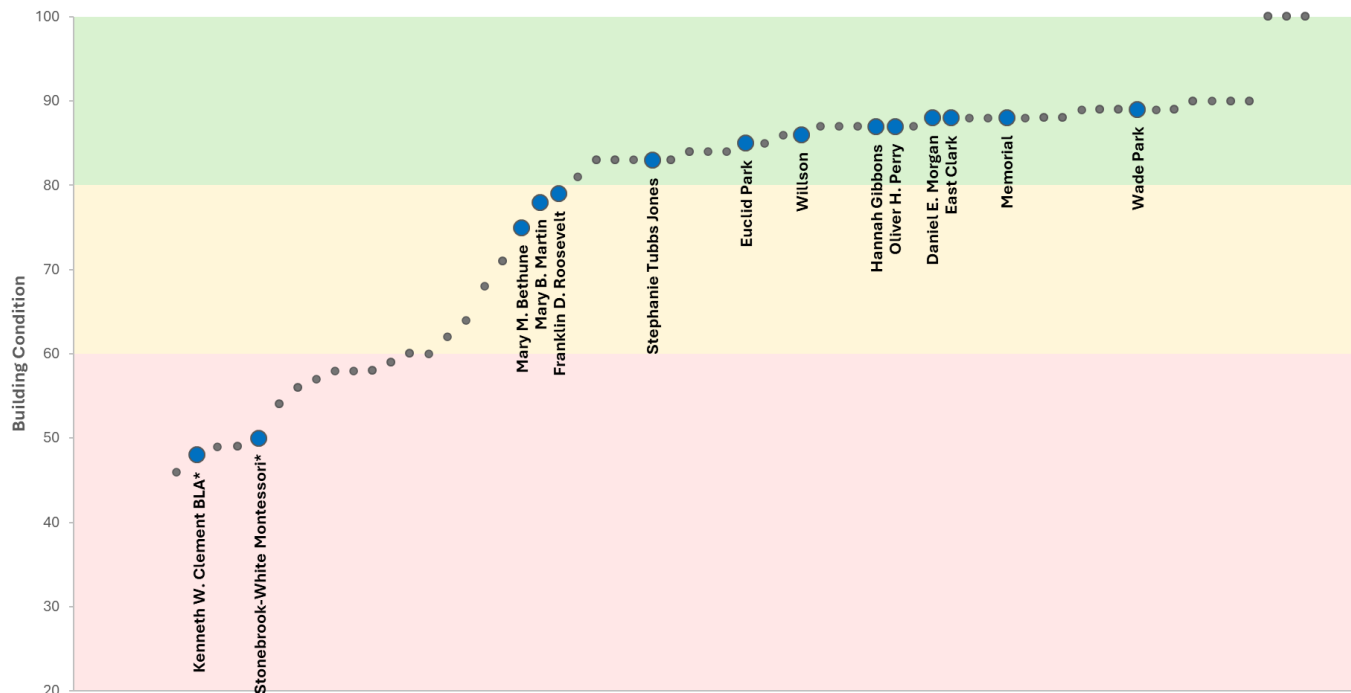
What stands out to you in this information?

Which of these data points seem most important for grounding our path forward?

What ideas are sparked by this data that would help us achieve a brighter future for all students?



PreK-8 Building Condition



Our long-term goal is to keep every building at a condition score of 80 or higher.

Most of our K-8 buildings are considered in “good” condition, with building condition scores of at least 80.

In this region, **9 out of 14 K-8 schools (64%) are in buildings** that are (or soon will be) considered **“good” condition**.

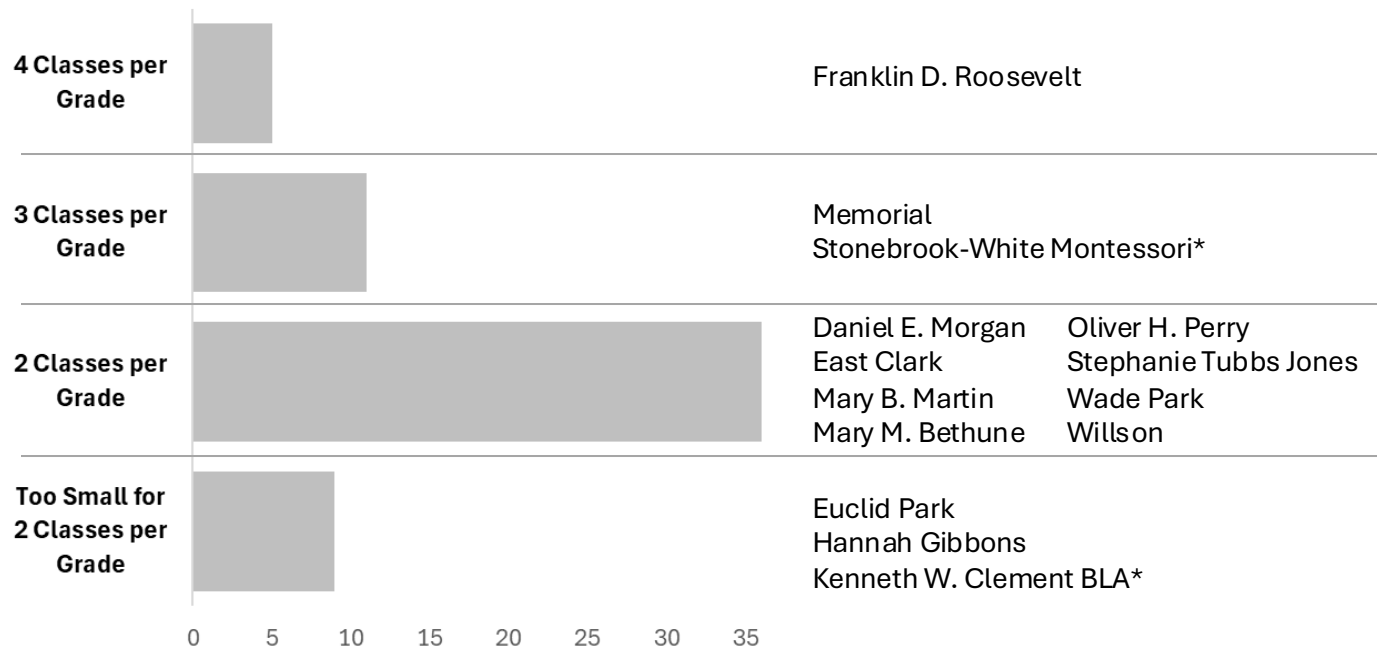
The building condition score reflects maintenance needs for the main systems, like A/C, plumbing, roofs, and windows. Lower scores mean more repairs are needed. These scores are a snapshot in time as of Spring 2025, except for (1) Gallagher and Clark (scores of 100 for the new buildings that opened August 2025), and (2) Marion Seltzer (score of 100 for the building that is in design). Schools operated out of leased spaces not owned by CMSD are not included. *Specialty schools in this region are shown with an asterisk.



PreK-8 Building Planning Capacity

Total CMSD Buildings by Size Category

Buildings in this Region by Size Category



The vast majority of our K-8 buildings are large enough to hold at least 2 classes per grade, or 450 students.

Buildings with a capacity lower than this may have to make tradeoffs that **can limit student opportunities and access.**

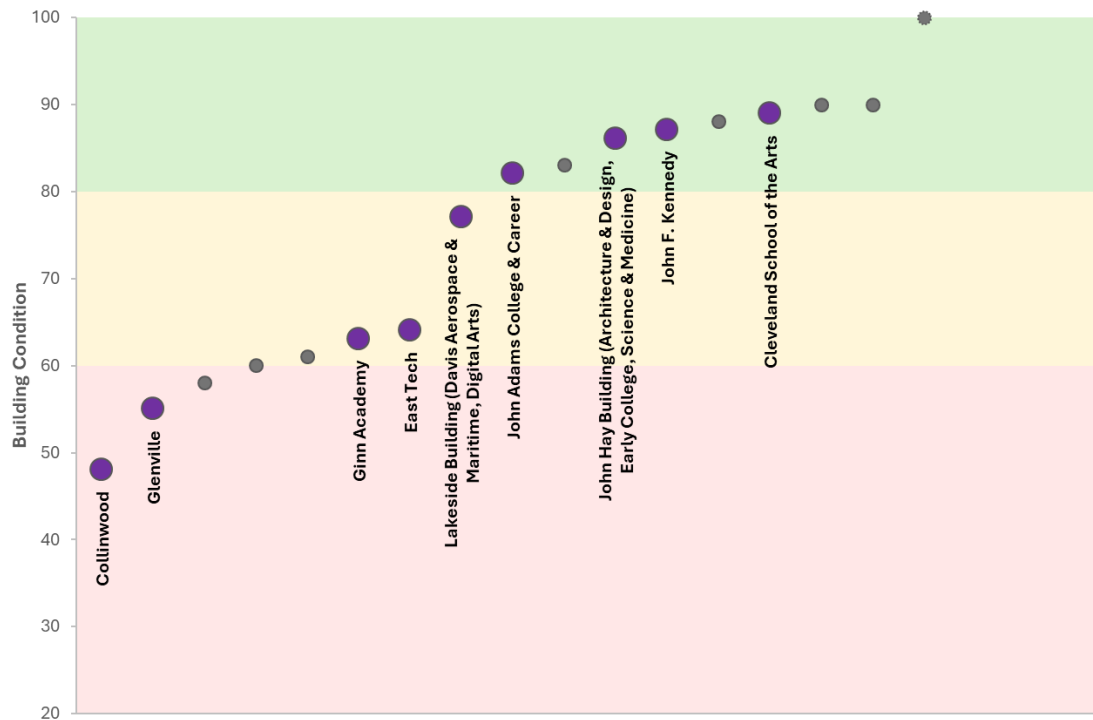
In this region, **11 out of 14 K-8 schools (79%) are in buildings with space for at least 450 students.**

Building planning capacity is the potential number of students a building could hold for future state planning purposes.

*Specialty schools in this region are shown with an asterisk.



HS Building Condition



Our long-term goal is to keep every building at a condition score of 80 or higher.

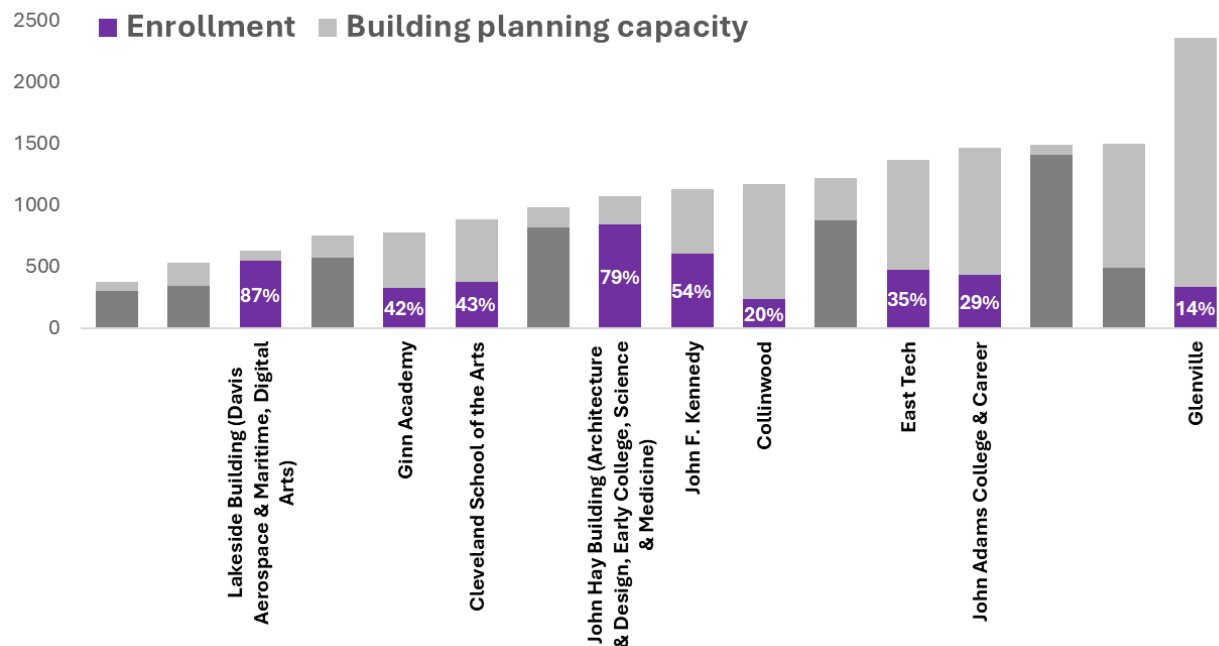
Just over half (53%) of CMSD-owned high school buildings are considered in “good” condition, with scores of at least 80.

On the East Side, 4 out of 9 high schools (44%) are in buildings that are (or soon will be) considered “good” condition.

The building condition score reflects maintenance needs for the main systems, like A/C, plumbing, roofs, and windows. Lower scores mean more repairs are needed. These scores are a snapshot in time as of Spring 2025, except for Lincoln-West, which has a score of 100 for the new building that is in design. Only high schools in CMSD-owned buildings have building condition scores.



HS Building Planning Capacity



All but one of our high school buildings can hold over 500 students.

For many of our high schools, student enrollment (**purple bar**) is significantly lower than the building's total planning capacity (**light grey bar**).

This creates **unused space** that must be maintained, which leads to **fewer resources for students and staff**.

Building planning capacity is the potential number of students a building could hold for future state planning purposes. The percentage (%) for each regional school shows enrollment divided by the building's total planning capacity. Facing History New Tech is not shown because it uses a portion of space within a K-8 building. Schools operated out of leased spaces not owned by CMSD are not included.

Let's discuss!



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Looking Ahead

Building Brighter Futures timeline



Spring 2025

**Community
Conversations Begin**

Summer 2025

**Planning and
Ongoing
Engagement**

Fall 2025 - Summer 2026

**Continued Engagement, Planning,
and Support in Preparation for
Implementation**

Fall 2026



Changes go
into effect at
the start of the
2026-27
school year

Immediate next steps



- Encourage others to join future meetings
- Visit <https://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/building-brighter-futures> to access additional information including your school's data snapshot
- Please complete the survey if you would like to provide additional feedback

Thank you!

