

# ATHENS CITY SCHOOL FACILITIES STEERING COMMITTEE

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*Recommendations presented to the Board  
of Education*

*March 16, 2017*



*ACSD Vision, Mission, and Motto (approved 2016):*

- Vision: The Athens City School District seeks to be a premier PreK-12 academic institution helping each student become an inquisitive, civically engaged adult equipped to build a better future in a rapidly changing world.
- Mission: The Athens City School District collaborates with students, parents, and the community to provide an enriched and rigorous learning environment where every student uses multiple pathways to grow, problem-solve, and reach their potential as a lifelong learner and productive citizen.

***Every learner, every day.***

## **FSC priorities:**

- High Quality Education
- Teachers' Professional Development
- Equity
- Financial Responsibility

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## **FSC Beliefs:**

- The FSC believes that the current school configuration, primarily related to the elementary schools, must change. The status quo is not in the best interest of all students.
- The FSC believes that a student's home address, family's economic circumstances, and ability should not be the key drivers of the opportunities available to them while a student in the ACSD. The FSC's recommendations have the potential to address some of the divisions in our community that can lead to uneven outcomes for students.

*Every learner, every day.*

## **FSC Beliefs:**

- The FSC believes that every child in the Athens City School District has the right to a quality education, including state-of-the-art facilities that foster learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- The FSC believes that our school facilities as they currently exist are not financially sustainable and that operational efficiencies realized through building reconfiguration will benefit students, as well as contribute to the district's financial health.

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## Recommendation Constraints

- Time
- Data
- Scope

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## **Recommendation Overview:**

- 3 Configurations
- Success determined by implementation

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## Overarching Factors

- Accessibility
- Class Size
- Special services and “specials”
- Efficiencies
- Middle school model
- Existing facilities
- Transition Plan
- Examination of enrollment practices
- Promote active transportation
- Promote student safety

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## Option 1

A single campus for elementary students:

- 3 sections of a space (possibly set up as connected buildings or pods for different groups of students based on grade level)
- Suggested groupings are grades PK-1, grades 2-3, and grades 4-5, but these configurations should be based on what the district and administration determine is best.

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## Option 1

If option 1 is pursued by the BOE, then:

- Student movement
- Additional community input
- Land needs
- Design
- Student activity participation
- Increased efficiencies

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## Option 1



### Additional points:

- Equal access for students
- Teacher opportunities
- Promote equity and integration

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## Option 2

Two grade-level buildings located at different geographic locations.

- Suggested grade breakdown is one school for grades PK-2, one for grades 3-5, but these configurations should be based on what the district and administration determine is best.
- This option is an attempt to keep building sizes lower and comparable to current elementary school configurations.

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## Option 2

If option 2 is pursued by the BOE, then:

- Age/relationship programming
- Transition planning
- Student movement
- Additional community input
- Land needs
- Design
- Student activity participation
- Increased efficiencies

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## Option 2



### Additional points:

- Equal access for students
- Teacher opportunities
- Promote equity and integration

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## **Option 3**

Two PK-5 buildings in different geographic locations in the district.

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## Option 3

If option 3 is pursued by the BOE, then:

- Redistrict elementary boundary lines
- Mirrored buildings
- Intradistrict enrollment practices
- Additional community input
- Design

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## **Athens Middle School (AMS)**

- Move 6th grade to the middle school
- Move to a middle school curriculum model

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## **Athens Middle School (AMS)**

### **- Uptown Location**

- Configuration limitations
- Opportunities to use location
- Student safety concerns

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## **Athens Middle School (AMS)**

### **- Location near AHS**

- Additional instructional possibilities
- Student interaction

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## **Athens High School (AHS)**

- Retain current grade configuration
- Update and improve facilities

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