



GCS Strategic Planning



Facilities



Lowes Elementary

- Existing Facility has \$10,815,694 in listed need
- Due to student enrollment, the District has a limit on restricted funds that can be used for projects at Lowes
 - \$7,056,554.56 per BG-1 for renovation
 - \$8,115,037.74 with Capital Construction 15% modifier
 - \$8,820,693.20 per BG-1 for new construction
 - \$10,143,797 with Capital Construction 15% modifier
- GC has bonding capacity of \$12.4 million as of 1-28-21
 - Projected increase to \$17 million in 2023

Renovation and Construction Options for Lowes

New Construction

- Estimated construction cost of \$9,500,000
- Estimated total project cost (construction, contingency, fees, equipment, demolition) of \$11,200,000
 - Does not include the cost of required storm shelter (Approx. \$400,000 above construction)
- Concerns
 - New Construction limit of \$8.8 million (\$10.14 million w/ modifier)
 - Would need approval from KBE to build a school for less than 300 students
 - This approval is rarely granted

Renovation and Construction Options for Lowes

Phased Construction/Renovation

- Three Phases w/ estimated construction cost of \$4,425,000, \$3,737,000, and \$4,917,000
- Each BG-1 would be under the \$7.06 million limit
- Concerns
 - Total estimated construction cost of \$13,079,000 and estimated total project cost of \$15,290,850
 - Over twice the allowable limit for renovation
 - Listed need is \$10,815,694

Other Factors to Consider

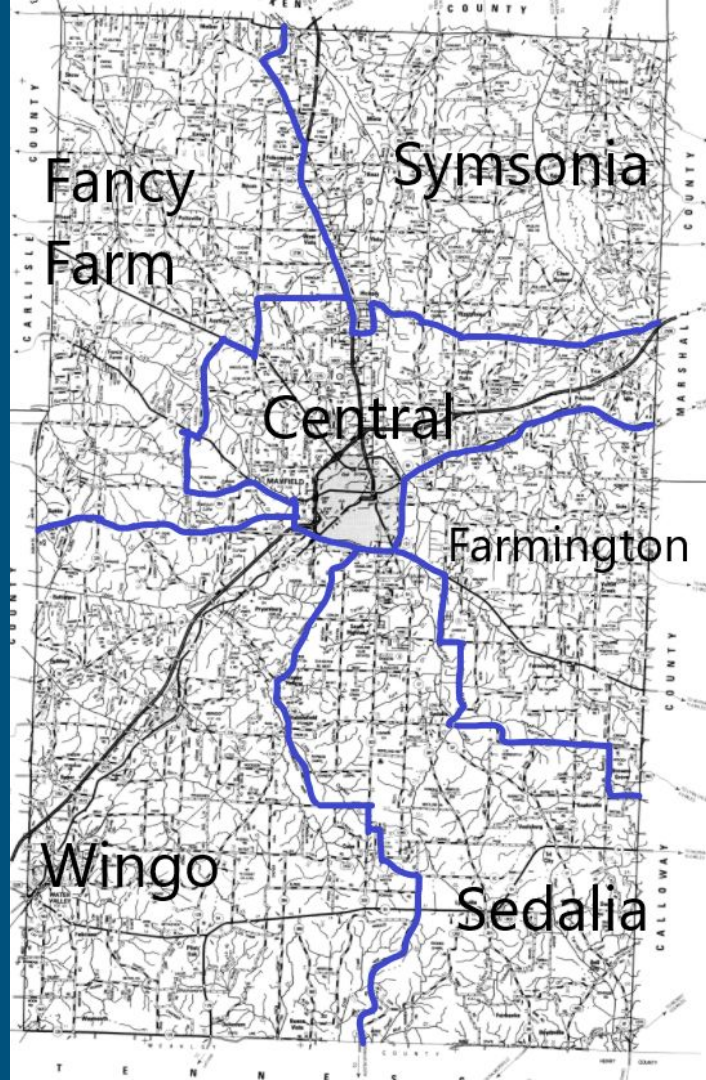
- Declining District Enrollment
 - Enrollment has declined since 2006 from 4,571 to 3,748
 - Lowes enrollment has declined from 306 to 221 in the same timeframe
- Space at other newer Graves County Schools
 - Symsonia - 255 (400), Fancy Farm - 170 (300), Central - 444 (525)
- District Budget
 - Declining enrollment leads to a direct loss in revenue
 - Cut \$750,000 out of budget in FY20
 - Continuing to seek ways to reduce expenditures that will have little/no impact on student learning
 - Operating cost of Lowes Elementary is \$267,000 per year

Recommendation

- Close the facility at Lowes on June 30, 2021
- Divide the current Lowes district among Fancy Farm, Symsonia, and Central
 - Fancy Farm Eastern Border/Symsonia Western Border
 - US-45 from West Vaughn Rd. to SR 1241
 - SR 1241 from US-45 to SR 2192
 - SR 2192 from SR 1241 to Harmon Rd.
 - Harmon Rd.
 - Central Border
 - Hickory Rd., Carter Rd., Huie Lane
 - SR 440 from SR 121 to SR 945
 - SR 945 from SR 121 to Hickory Rd.

Recommendation

Map



Recommendation

Current Students and Staff

- A letter would be sent on March 22 to families of current Lowes students
 - Notification of new school assignment
 - Notification of date and times for family visits to new school assignments
 - Family Night - April 22
 - School Day Visit - April 28
- A survey would be given to Lowes employees on March 19
 - Allow employees to select top three preferred work locations
 - Employees will be assigned to specific locations and can apply for other openings that occur
 - Some non-tenured employees will receive non-renewal letters due to decline in enrollment

Impact on Quality of Education

Enrollment Impact at Central, Fancy Farm, and Symsonia

- Projected Enrollment at Central, Fancy Farm, and Symsonia
 - Central - 450 (Largest Elementary in the District)
 - Fancy Farm - 290 (5th Largest Elementary in the District)
 - Symsonia - 330 (4th Largest Elementary in the District)
- Projected average class size at Central, Fancy Farm, and Symsonia
 - Central - 21.4
 - Fancy Farm - 21.3
 - Symsonia - 21.9

Impact on Quality of Education

Academic Performance at Central, Fancy Farm, and Symsonia

- K-PREP Proficiency Indicator from 2018-2019
 - Central: 87.8 (High)
 - Fancy Farm: 87.6 (High)
 - Symsonia: 89.2 (High)
 - State: 70.4 (Medium)