Return Holyoke Public Schools to a PK-5, 6-8, 9-12 grade configuration.

Demolish the existing Peck School.

Construct two new 21st Century middle schools, each for 550 students. 
One to be built at site of current Peck School.
One to be built on a vacant lot at Chestnut & Cabot Street.

Build both schools over a 2 year period. Open both in Fall 2022.
The new schools will be designed to provide the same quality spaces and equipment at both sites. The new schools will be built near where the majority of students live.
The District will be able to reduce operating expenses by $4.5M by closing older schools and replacing them with newer schools.
WHY ARE NEW SCHOOLS NEEDED?

To meet the educational needs of ALL our students.

To offer 21st century learning spaces and up-to-date instructional technology.

To promote students attending Holyoke Public Schools from preK-12.

To reduce overcrowding in our community elementary schools.

To provide a better education for tomorrow’s work force.

To make Holyoke a desirable place for families and employers.
WHY IS THIS NEEDED?

To reduce overcrowding in community elementary schools.

To provide a better education to tomorrow’s worker force.

AND BECAUSE OUR EXISTING FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE.
One school will be built across Chestnut Street from Lawrence School. Built in 1930, the historic Lawrence School can be re-used as housing or offices.
Built in 1973, the existing Peck School, is viewed by the State and City as an operational failure. It will be remediated, demolished and replaced. The new school will serve 550 students and will cost less to heat and maintain.
**EQUITY:** This solution ensures that every Holyoke middle student would be in a new middle school at the same time.

**COST:** This solution is the most cost effective. Building the schools sequentially would add several million dollars in inflationary cost.

**IMPACT:** This solution provides the most effective way to transition teaching staff and programs in the District to a new configuration.
THE DESIGN PROCESS

Jones Whitsett Architects has worked with the District for a year studying options, developing an education plan, and meeting with students, staff, residents and teachers to shape the design.
Educational Design Goals

Create a culture of high expectations and mutual respect.

Place greater emphasis on hands-on learning.

Focus on team teaching and caring learning communities.

Renew opportunities for art, music and STEM programs across all grade levels.

Provide greater support for students and teachers near to the classroom. Reduce grade span each teacher has to teach.

Promote the physical and emotional well-being of students through the design, spaces and activities.

Demostrate and teach sustainable living.
THE RESULT - Chestnut Street Middle School
Proposed Chestnut Street Middle School
Proposed Chestnut Street Middle School
THE RESULT - New Peck Middle School
The new school will be 64,000 sf smaller than the existing Peck School.
“New Peck” Site Plan

- visitor entry
- gym entry
- student entry

Improved Dingle and connection to HS
Proposed New “Peck” Middle School
REDUCED FOSSIL FUEL USE
The variable refrigerant flow HVAC system will be fueled by locally generated hydro and solar powered electricity.

CARBON STORAGE
Use of cross laminated timber (CLT) decking will improve on-site carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

ON-SITE STORM WATER RETENTION
Use of a green roof, bioswales and storm water retention systems will minimize storm water run-off.

ENERGY CONSERVATION & COMFORT
Building insulation levels will exceed MA Stretch Code by greater than 20%.

DESIGN FOR WELL-BEING
The interior will include healthy materials, good daylighting and acoustics, thermal comfort, fresh air, natural finishes and furniture that is age appropriate.
The project will cost $131M in total.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority has agreed to pay approximately 60% ($76M) of the cost.

The City’s share is 40% ($55M), to be paid for over 30 years.
## THE HOLYOKE PROPOSAL

This is the annual cost to property taxpayers based on a 30 year bond.

The debt can be reduced by applying new revenues over time.

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<th>Current Residential Rate:</th>
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<td>Annual cost/year:</td>
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<table>
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In April Holyoke residents will be asked to vote for or against the plan to build two new middle schools. Designing and building the projects one at a time was rejected by the Building Committee because it would cost more in the long run. There is not sufficient space for a middle school elsewhere in the District. Neighboring districts are investing in new buildings. Holyoke needs to support its educational investment with quality infrastructure. A vote against the project means giving up $75 Million in funding offered to the project by the Massachusetts School Building Authority.
The MSBA’s grant for this project comes from 1% of state sales tax revenue.

These neighboring communities are also using the MSBA program to build new schools.

Nearby MSBA Projects 2014-2021

- GRANBY ELEMENTARY ADD/RENO: $36.7 M (2018)*
- EASTHAMPTON ELEM/MIDDLE: $109 M (2021)
- SOUTH HADLEY PLAINS ELEMNTARY: $34 M (2015)*
- LUDLOW CHAPIN ELEMENTARY: $57M (2021)
- SPRINGFIELD BRIGHTWOOD ELEM: $82M (2021)
- W. SPRINGFIELD HIGH*: $135.4M (2015)
- CHICOPEE ACADEMY RENOVATION*: $39.2 M (2014)

*escalated to 2020 costs
BUILD A BETTER HOLYOKE
THANK YOU!

To learn more, please visit
https://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/turnaround/msredesign/