

# Help Us Create a Modernized Ida B. Wells High School



## Spring 2024 Update

On May 7th, 2024, the PPS School Board approved the comprehensive plan for a new four-story Ida B. Wells High School to be built to the west of the existing school on the multipurpose field.

## A Focus on Community Engagement

The plan was developed through extensive community engagement, including six Comprehensive Planning Committee meetings, three Community Design Workshops, meetings with IBW teachers, staff and students, presentations to nearby community organizations, and outreach to groups and individuals that have been historically under-served.

## Plan Highlights

The brand-new school will feature state-of-the-art academic and support spaces, including specialized instructional classrooms and computer labs for woods and metals, computer science, engineering, robotics, sound engineering, journalism, occupational health, costuming, and business management programs.

The performing arts facilities include a 500-seat theater, dedicated band and choir spaces, and a black box teaching theater. Updated athletics spaces include a 1,700-seat main gym, auxiliary gym, weight room and wrestling room. The track and field will be relocated and reoriented while the swimming pool will remain in its current location and is not part of the renovation.

## Next Steps

The project team is now developing ideas for how the building and outdoor student spaces will be organized on the site. A Design Advisory Group has been formed and will work with the architects in the coming months to refine the design of the new school.

## Future Engagement Opportunities

You can help us create a better Ida B. Wells by sharing your input at upcoming design workshops and open houses. Please visit the project website for more information.

## Project Design Schedule

Planning and Design began in early fall of 2023 and will continue over the next two years.

## Construction Schedule

The 2020 Bond Program does not include construction funding for a new Ida B. Wells High School. Money for construction would need to come from a future school improvement bond.

## Visit the website regularly for more information

The Ida B. Wells modernization website, [www.pps.net/IdaBWellsBond](http://www.pps.net/IdaBWellsBond) will keep you updated on the latest developments and provide a list of upcoming engagement opportunities.

