

Help Us Create a Modernized Jefferson High School



All New Jefferson High plan details

PPS is moving forward with the design of an all-new Jefferson High School to be built at the North end of the campus with construction beginning in the summer of 2025. The school will feature specialized instructional spaces for Jeff's unique Career Technical Education [CTE] programs. Other highlights include a new 1,000 seat Jefferson theater, a centrally located student commons, plus dedicated spaces for local community organizations and a new teen parent center. The track and field will be relocated and reoriented, with new grandstands. Plus, brand new baseball and softball fields with new turf and dugouts will be added.

Project History

In 2021, Comprehensive Planning for Jefferson began. During two years of planning and extensive community engagement, PPS developed a plan that included modernizing the original 1909 building and building new facilities around it. This plan kept students on site during construction. However, in-depth cost analysis in 2023 revealed that seismically upgrading the existing four-story unreinforced masonry building, while keeping students on site, would greatly exceed the budget. A new approach was needed.

In December 2023, the Board of Education called for a full reassessment of the Jefferson modernization plans with the following criteria.

- Keep students & staff on the Jefferson campus during construction.
- Include a targeted student enrollment of 1,700.
- Demolish the 1909 building and build a new building.

On April 2nd, 2024, the Project Team presented a revised plan for an all-new Jefferson High School building constructed at the north end of the campus along Killingsworth. This plan will cost \$491 million which is \$125 million more than the \$366 million provided by the 2020 School Improvement Bond. To complete the project, funding will be required from an upcoming School Improvement Bond.

Students and staff will remain on the campus during the four-year construction process.



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Upcoming Community Involvement Opportunities

In the coming months PPS will hold a series of meetings to provide updates and get input from the Jefferson community. Some of the questions PPS will ask include:

- What do you want the new school to look and feel like?
- When you visit the school, what elements of community history do you want to see, feel and experience?
- The new campus includes shared outdoor spaces, a plaza, walkways, and landscape features. What kind of activities do you want to see in those spaces?

Next Steps

Next in the Jefferson design process, PPS and the design team will work with the school staff and community to:

- Refine the site layout and its relationship to the neighborhood.
- Learn how the landscape and fields will be used.
- Determine the new building's interior space scale and experience.
- Develop a shared sustainability vision for the new school.

Project Schedule

May 2024 - October 2025

Design & Documentation

February 2025 - February 2026

Land Use & Permitting

Summer 2025 - Fall 2028

Construction

Fall 2028

Students & Staff move into new building

Fall 2028 - Fall 2029

Site work continues

Visit the website regularly for more information

The Jefferson modernization website, <https://www.pps.net/JeffersonBond> is updated with the latest project developments and provides a list of upcoming engagement opportunities. Share your opinions with the Project Team or ask them a question at JHSBond@pps.net.

