

Consolidate Ida B. Wells Academy

Impact Report October 21, 2025

Recommendation to be effective for the 2026-27 school year

Recommendation

The recommendation is to consolidate Ida B. Wells Academy. Students may continue to exercise their choice transfer option at any district school with available seats. Students may also attend their zoned schools. Any alternative education students at Ida B. Wells Academy will attend Norris Achievement Academy.

Rationale for Consolidation

The Ida B. Wells facility has ten-year maintenance costs of \$5.8 million. On the twentieth day, there were only 84 students enrolled across the school's nine grades (K-8), yielding a 16% utilization. The students will be better served in schools with more students, staff, and programming.

Ida B. Wells has no attendance zone; students attend the school by choice. Students currently at the school are from 18 different school attendance zones.

School Performance Profile

Each school's performance profile includes the most recent unembargoed district, state, and federal accountability metrics. Together, these metrics provide an overview of student outcomes at each school.

Indicator	Metric	Ida B. Wells Academy
23-24 School Letter Grade	Letter Grade	B
24-25 School Performance Scorecard (SPS) (1 – 5 Scale)	Overall Level	4.2
	Achievement Level	4.3
	Growth Level	4.6
	College & Career Level	--
	Climate Level	3.5
24-25 TCAP	ELA Proficiency Rate	25.0
	Math Proficiency Rate	27.6
24-25 TVAAS (1 – 5 Scale)	Overall Composite	5
	Literacy Composite	3
	Numeracy Composite	5
	Science Composite	5
	Social Studies Composite	3
23-24 Chronic Absenteeism	Chronic Absenteeism Rate	22.7

Tennessee's school letter grading system provides a snapshot of how each school performed based on student achievement, growth, and college & career readiness. In 23-24, Ida B. Wells earned a B. The School Performance Scorecard (SPS) uses the following performance categories and levels: *Needs Improvement* (1 - 1.99), *Fair* (2 - 2.99), *Good* (3 - 3.99), and *Excellent* (4 - 5). In 24-25, Ida B. Wells' overall level of 4.2 placed them in the *Excellent* category.

Students who score "Met" or "Exceeded" on TCAP assessments are considered proficient. In 24-25, Ida B. Well's had an ELA proficient rate of 25% and a math proficiency rate of 27.6%. The Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) measures student growth from one school year to the next. Level 5 is the highest score possible, and Level 1 is the lowest score possible. Level 3 represents average growth. In 24-25, Ida B. Wells earned the highest growth score possible.

Chronic absenteeism is defined as a student who is absent for 10 percent or more of the instructional days for which he or she is enrolled in a school (must be enrolled for at least 50% of the instructional days). In 23-24, Ida B. Well's chronic absenteeism rate was 22.7%.

Enrollment Profile

End of Year Enrollment	Ida B. Wells Academy
21-22	123
22-23	150
23-24	88
24-25	90
25-26 (Current)	84
Average	107

Ida B. Wells Academy has experienced declining enrollment for the past four years. The average enrollment for the past five years is 107. However, this average is positively impacted by an enrollment of 150 in 22-23 which is 67 students higher than the current enrollment.

Facilities Profile

Ida B. Wells Academy is 62 years old. The building is 71,059 square feet on 3.4 acres of land. The five-year facility condition index (FCI) is 16% with ten-year maintenance costs of \$5.8 million. There were only 84 students enrolled in the school at twentieth day, yielding a 16% utilization.

Facility	Year Built	Acres	SF	10 year costs	5 YR FCI	2025-26 20th Day Baseline Enroll	Program- matic Capacity	Utilization
Ida B Wells Academy	1963	3.42	71,059	\$ 5,838,209	16%	84	525	16%
Norris Achievement Acad	1961	4.06	52,000	\$ 2,873,435	7%	5	375	1%

Finance Profile

The fiscal impact in year 1 of the consolidation of Ida B. Wells School would amount to an estimated savings of \$2,128,378.74. The savings would be contingent upon the final recommendation to relocate the school.

Personnel Profile

A net of 21 positions will be impacted as outlined in the fiscal impact report below

Fiscal Impact

MEMPHIS-SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOLS
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY
OCTOBER 2025

Total Salaries and Benefits*			
SCHOOL CLOSURE/MERGER	FTE	JOB DESCRIPTION	2025/2026
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	PRINCIPAL	144,070.27
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	125,013.73
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	SPECIAL PROJECT ASSISTANT	67,304.96
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	15	CLASSROOM TEACHER K-5	1,295,024.55
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	0	LIBRARIAN	0.00
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	PROF SCH COUNSELOR	95,816.69
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITATOR	94,757.44
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	CLERICAL	50,076.55
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	EDUCATIONAL ASST.	34,130.11
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	BUILDING ENGINEER	59,331.00
IDA B. WELLS ACADEMY	1	NUTRITION SERVICE SUPERVISOR	50,363.00
TOTAL	21		2,015,888.30

Utilities**	75,767.18
Building Insurance	19,037.35
Building Security***	50,634.50
One-Time Relocation Cost	-25,948.59
Decommittal Of Building	-7,000.00
Transportation	0.00
Total Other Costs	112,490.44
Total Projected Cost Savings	2,128,378.74

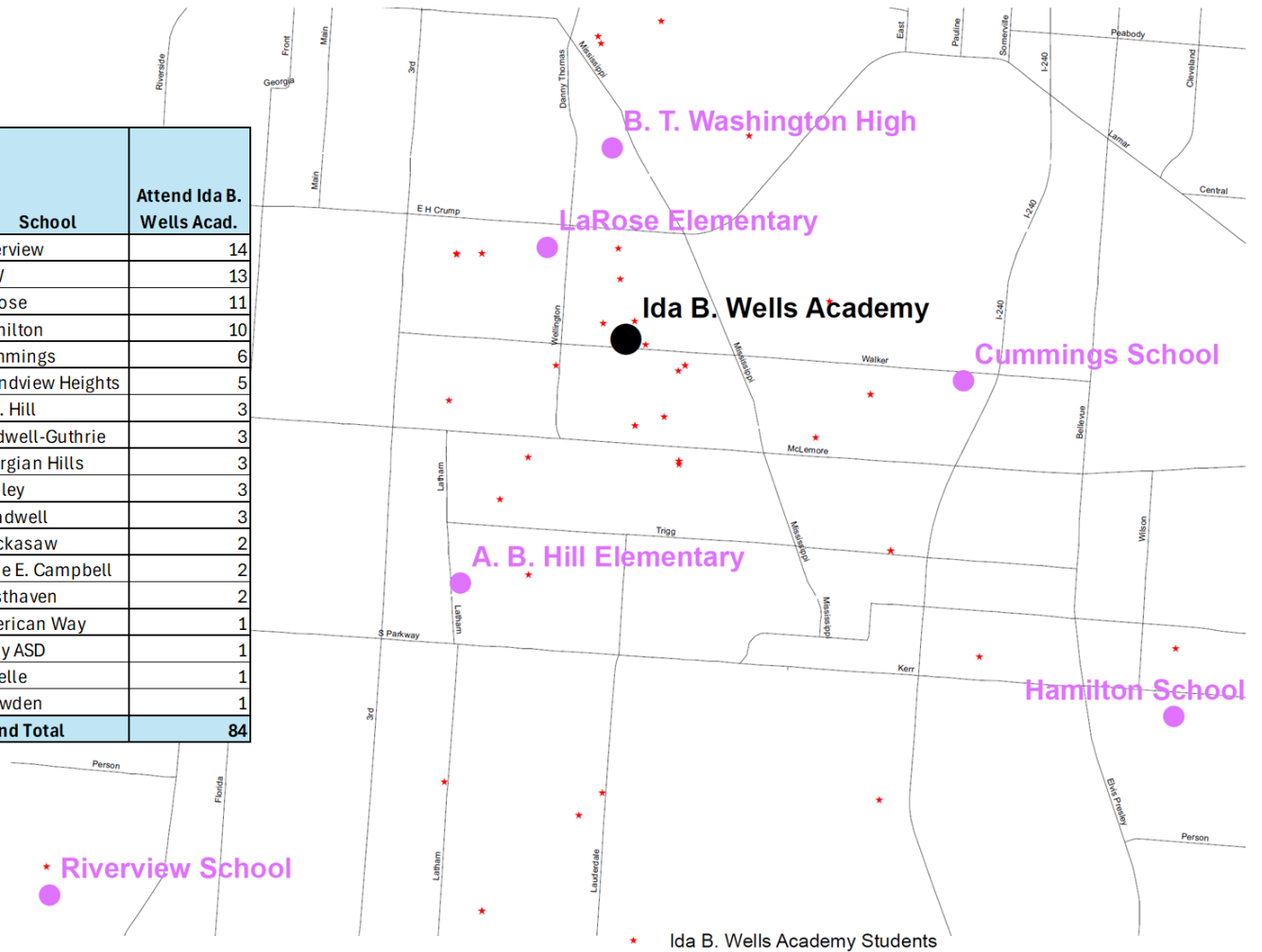
*Salaries and benefits based upon projections

**Utilities based upon Fiscal Year 24/25

***Building Security will be impacted based upon future use of building

Ida B. Wells Academy Area Map

School	Attend Ida B. Wells Acad.
Riverview	14
BTW	13
LaRose	11
Hamilton	10
Cummings	6
Grandview Heights	5
A. B. Hill	3
Caldwell-Guthrie	3
Georgian Hills	3
Hanley	3
Treadwell	3
Chickasaw	2
Lucie E. Campbell	2
Westhaven	2
American Way	1
Kirby ASD	1
Rozelle	1
Snowden	1
Grand Total	84



Preliminary Repurposing Recommendation

Options for repurposing are being discussed by the Facility Ad-Hoc Committee, and ideas and input will be heard during the public hearings and community meetings.