

School Closures & Repurposing (2025–2026)

MSCS Facilities Action Plan

Target: Board Vote – February 2026



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GOAL

The goal is to complete due diligence, engagement, and legal review to bring formal recommendations to the MSCS Board for a February 2026 vote in alignment with **Board Policy 7002 (School Closures and Disposition)**.



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POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

Purpose

- Ensure district-owned real estate is managed to align with educational, operational, community, and neighborhood goals.

Scope

- Applies to acquisition, disposition, maintenance, use, and operation of district-owned real estate.
- Applies to closure of district-authorized charter schools identified as priority schools.

Key Definitions

- Real Estate: Land, buildings, and permanently affixed items.
- Capacity Utilization: Enrollment vs. programmatic capacity of a school.



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POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

Policy Statement

- Facilities should support education, community services, and neighborhood development.
- Well-maintained, appropriately constructed facilities improve academic achievement.

Closing School Facilities

- Considerations: declining enrollment, population shifts, facility condition, fiscal impact, etc.
- Superintendent makes recommendations by end of 2nd quarter (prior school year).
- School Closing Impact Report required:
 - Rationale and academic impact.
 - Analysis of effects on students, staff, parents, and community.



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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

(per Policy 7002 & Framework)

- Transparent, equitable, and legally compliant process
- Prioritize continuity of education for students (receiving school placement plans)
- Develop School Closing Impact Reports and conduct two public hearings per closure
- Consider repurposing properties for community benefit
- Ensure reversionary clauses and alignment with district strategic priorities



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PURPOSE

In alignment with **Board Policy 7002 (School Closures and Disposition)** and the MSCS Facilities Framework, this action plan outlines the process for the proposed closure, transfer, or repurposing of the following schools:

- Lucy Elementary – *Proposed transfer to Millington Municipal School District*
- Ida B. Wells Academy – *Closure/Repurpose for District Use*
- Frayser-Corning Elementary – *Closure/Consolidation*
- Chickasaw Middle – *Closure/Consolidation*
- Georgian Hills Elementary – *Closure/Consolidation*

Action Steps & Timeline

Phase I: Initiation & Due Diligence (August – September 2025)



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PHASE I

Initiation & Due Diligence
(August – October 2025)

- Form Facilities Closure Subcommittee under Ad Hoc Facilities Planning Committee
 - Members: Board reps, legal, academics, operations, community stakeholders
- Commission School Closing Impact Reports for each affected school (Policy 7002 requirement)
 - Enrollment/utilization
 - Academic performance
 - Facility condition & deferred maintenance
 - Financial impact
 - Student reassignment/transportation needs
- Publish Data on MSCS website (utilization, facility assessments, enrollment trends).
- Develop Receiving School Plans for displaced students, ensuring capacity, academic programming, and facilities upgrades.

Phase II: Community Engagement

(October – December 2025)



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PHASE II

Community Engagement
(October - December 2025)

- **Conduct Public Hearings** (minimum of two per school, per Policy 7002)
 - Partner with Ad Hoc Engagement Committee
 - Locations: affected schools/community centers
 - Provide translation services and written reports
- **Host Community Forums in impacted ZIP codes**
 - Address parent concerns (safety, transportation, academics)
 - Share possible repurposing concepts (youth hubs, adult ed, career centers)
- **Document Feedback** and publish a public-facing summary of input.

Phase III: Legal & Intergovernmental Review

(December 2025 – January 2026)



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PHASE III

Legal & Intergovernmental Review
(December 2025 - January 2026)

- **Lucy Elementary Transfer**
 - Negotiate with Millington Municipal Schools
 - Draft interlocal agreement for property transfer (must include reversionary clause)
 - Confirm with TN DOE & Shelby County Commission if required
- **Closure/Repurposing of Other Schools**
 - Ensure compliance with Title I, IDEA, and federal/state regulations
 - Conduct legal and fiduciary review (charter protection, conflict of interest safeguards)
- **Finalize Repurposing Recommendations**
- **Ida B. Wells:** explore alternative use (student services, adult learning, or district ops)
- **Chickasaw MS, Frayser-Corning ES, Georgian Hills ES:** evaluate potential use or disposition

Phase IV: Board Decision

(February 2026)



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PHASE IV

Board Decision
(February 2026)

- **Prepare Board Resolution(s) for:**
 1. Transfer of Lucy Elementary to Millington
 2. Closure of Frayser-Corning, Georgian Hills, Ida B. Wells, and Chickasaw
 3. Repurposing/disposition framework for vacated facilities
- **Present to Board with full documentation:**
 1. School Closing Impact Reports
 2. Community input summaries
 3. Legal/financial analyses
 4. Receiving school assignments

Board Vote – February 2026

Phase V: Implementation

(March – July 2026)



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PHASE V

Implementation
(March - July 2026)

- Notify Families and Staff of final decisions and transition supports
- Reassign Students to designated schools (with transportation plans)
- HR Transition Plan for affected staff (placement, reassignment, RIF protocols)
- Secure & Repurpose Facilities
- Transfer Lucy Elementary to Millington (per inter-local agreement)
- Initiate reuse/disposition process for closed schools

Deliverables by February 2026



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DELIVERABLES (By Feb 2026)

- Completed School Closing Impact Reports (Policy 7002)
- Two public hearings per school completed and documented
- Interlocal agreement for Lucy Elementary transfer
- Draft repurposing/disposition framework for remaining schools
- Board resolution package for closures and transfers

THANK YOU



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