

South Windsor Public Schools
Elementary Schools Master Plan
 Ten-Year Timeline



Artwork by Finn Jennings, 2013

Plan adopted by the Board of Education on October 29, 2013
 Plan updated September 2015

Phase One Milestones to Date

7/2013	School conditions assessed	10/2014	Geotechnical site exploration conducted
10/2013	Elementary Facilities Master Plan approved by BOE	12/2014	Community public information session held
12/2013	Master Plan presented to Town Council by BOE	12/2014	Construction Manager selected by PBC
12/2013	Education Specifications approved by BOE	1/2015	Surveying work conducted
3/2014	PBC appointed by Town Council	2/2015	Schematic Design documents approved by PBC
3/2014	Referendum passed by South Windsor residents	3/2015	Project reviewed by Planning and Zoning
6/2014	ED049 Grant Application filed	4/2015	Commissioning Agent selected by PBC
7/2014	Architect selected by PBC	5/2015	Community public information session held
8/2014	Owner's Representative selected by PBC	6/2015	ED049 Grant Application approved by the state
9/2014	Education programming meetings held	7/2015	Office of School Facilities (OSF) Plan Review Meeting

Frequently Asked Questions

When will we see on-site construction activity?

The official groundbreaking for the new Orchard Hill School is scheduled to begin in February 2016; however, one might see limited activity such as tree/brush removal or installation of temporary fencing prior to this date.

How long will construction take?

Following groundbreaking, the construction of the new school is expected to take about 15 months. There are a variety of factors that can impact construction timelines, but every effort will be made to remain on schedule.

When and how will families learn about redistricting?

The elementary master plan calls for reducing our elementary schools from five to four. Specifically, the plan calls for the closing of Wapping School in the summer of 2017 followed by the opening of the new Orchard Hill School in August of 2017. It is too early in the process to make redistricting decisions, but as the time gets closer we will be providing families with a timeline for when to expect information about elementary school boundary lines and specific neighborhoods and street addresses impacted. It is important to note that the administration and the South Windsor Board of Education are committed to making these decisions thoughtfully and well in advance of the opening of the new Orchard Hill School. This will allow ample time for transition activities to occur for students, families and staff.

What will happen to Wapping School when it closes?

Once the Board of Education closes Wapping School as an educational facility, the Town Council will decide if the building should be razed or repurposed. While no official action has been taken, it is widely known that there are competing demands for space at the Community Center. The notion that the Parks and Recreation Department could move from the overcrowded Community Center to the newly available Wapping School has been discussed publicly. The move would provide Parks and Recreation with space desirable for supporting its mission while opening up more space at the Community Center for senior activities. There are also preliminary discussions regarding space for additional town staff functions as well the opportunity to address some instructional space needs associated with the High School as it endeavors to offer more career pathway opportunities for students.

What will happen to the current Orchard Hill building after the new school opens?

The current Orchard Hill facility will serve as "swing space" in support of our Ten-Year Elementary Facilities Master Plan. As currently proposed, both Philip R. Smith and Pleasant Valley Schools will require the use of swing space while their buildings undergo renovate-like-new construction. At the close of the master plan, the Board of Education will turn over the building to the town and the Town Council will decide at that time whether the building should be razed or repurposed.

About this Document

This document outlines a plan for addressing our aging elementary schools and includes a timeline for consolidating from five elementary schools to four. Without question, changes in enrollment, changes in reimbursement rates, changes in the economy, and changes in education legislation could alter this Master Plan or its intended timeline. While variables may arise, we believe a transparent and detailed proposal of a ten-year scenario, based on the information available to us today, allows for a conceptual long-range plan for the community to consider. The first edition of this document was published in October 2013. This edition was updated in September 2015 and reflects refreshed enrollment projections as well as more specific details regarding future project milestones.



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Academic Year: September - August	Referendum Year 2013 - 2014	2014 - 2015	2015 - 2016	Referendum Year 2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	Referendum Year 2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024
Orchard Hill Elementary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st year of full day kindergarten Ed Specs approved by BOE Referendum regarding the construction of new Orchard Hill elementary school passes March 2014 ED 049 filed June 2014 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff involved in programming design meetings for new OH Schematic Design for new Orchard Hill approved by PBC Design Development approved by PBC Community meetings conducted in December and May ED 049 grant approved June 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orchard Hill students remain in original Orchard Hill school Construction documents filed with Office of School Facilities (OSF) Construction bids due December 2015 Construction begins in February 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orchard Hill students remain in original Orchard Hill School Completion of construction targeted for May 2017 Offer tours of new Orchard Hill facility upon opening Plan for K-5 staffing assignments in response to redistricting 	<p>OPEN NEW ORCHARD HILL SCHOOL!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome redistricted Wapping students and Pre-K students from Eli Terry Prepare original Orchard Hill building as "swing space" for 2018-2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original Orchard Hill School serves as swing space for PRS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original Orchard Hill School serves as swing space for PRS 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original Orchard Hill School serves as swing space for PV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original Orchard Hill School serves as swing space for PV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original Orchard Hill School no longer needed for swing space
Wapping Elementary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st year of full day kindergarten Overcrowded conditions Temporary music classroom constructed in cafeteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff involved in programming design meetings for new Orchard Hill Wapping repurposing meeting with Town Manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin planning redistricting for students and staff Transportation analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for transition of medically fragile program to Eli Terry Plan for relocation of Autism program Plan K-5 staffing assignments in response to redistricting Communicate redistricting plans to families Develop new bus routes for redistricted students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wapping students redistricted to surrounding schools Turn Wapping School over to town Potential partial use by South Windsor High School (see FAQs) Redeploy technology hardware from Wapping 						
Eli Terry Elementary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st year of full day kindergarten Overcrowded conditions Art-on-a-Cart implemented Pre-K Program consumed 6 classroom spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff involved in programming design meetings for new Orchard Hill Pre-K staff participated in schematic design and design development phases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin planning for Pre-K population to move to new Orchard Hill in Fall 2017 BOE requests funding for early services in 2016-2017 fiscal year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Ed Specs Town referendum in March 2017 File ED 049 in June 2017 Early project services (site analysis) Hold pre-referendum community information sessions Plan K-5 staffing assignments in response to redistricting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-K students transition to new Orchard Hill School Potential medically fragile students from Wapping Design phase of new school ED 049 grant approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction begins Spring 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction completed in May 2020 Demolish old Eli Terry building Summer 2020 Construct new playground 	<p>OPEN NEW ELI TERRY SCHOOL!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct new ball fields in Fall 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ball fields available for use in Fall 2021 		
Philip R. Smith Elementary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st year of full day kindergarten 3 portable classrooms removed due to unsafe conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff involved in programming design meetings for new Orchard Hill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOE requests funding for early services in 2016-2017 fiscal year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Ed Specs Town referendum in March 2017 File ED 049 in June 2017 Early project services Hold pre-referendum community information sessions Plan K-5 staffing assignments in response to redistricting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome redistricted Wapping students to PRS Design phase of renovated school ED 049 grant approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRS students attend swing space school (original Orchard Hill building) Renovations begin in Spring 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRS students continue to attend swing space school Renovations completed Spring 2020 	<p>OPEN NEWLY RENOVATED PHILIP R. SMITH SCHOOL!</p>			
Pleasant Valley Elementary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st year of full day kindergarten Installed new kitchen floor and removed asbestos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replaced roof Staff involved in programming design meetings for new Orchard Hill 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for K-5 staffing assignments in response to redistricting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome redistricted Wapping students to Pleasant Valley School 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Ed Specs Town referendum to "renovate like new" existing Pleasant Valley School in March 2020 File ED 049 in June 2020 Early project services (site analysis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State review of ED 049 Design phase of renovated school ED 049 grant approval June 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovations begin in Spring 2022 Pleasant Valley students attend swing space school (original Orchard Hill bldg) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pleasant Valley students attend swing space school Renovations completed Spring 2023 	<p>OPEN NEWLY RENOVATED PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL!</p>

* Includes actual Pre-K enrollment; ** Includes average projected 70 Pre-K enrollment

Phase One Phase Two Phase Three