

THE PARMA CITY SCHOOLS MONITOR



Carl H. Hilling
PCSD Superintendent
- Expect The Best -

A Message From The Superintendent

As the school year enters the final quarter, the Parma City School District enters a "new day."

Our "new day" began in January, when three

new Board of Education members, Amanda Karpus, John Schweitzer and Steven Vaughn, began their term serving the residents of our three communities.

In March, the Board appointed Dr. Charles Smialek as the next superintendent of the district, beginning on August 1, 2018.

The dawn of this "new day" brings a renewed sense of optimism, positivity and hope back to the Parma Schools. This feeling has been reinforced through our stakeholder-driven initiatives. The tangible results realized from these initiatives are undeniable and they have been moving the district forward.

I am proud of the work that the Focus on the Future Action Teams have accomplished in less than one year. Our stakeholder-driven initiative has successfully completed 42 of 52, or approximately 80 percent, of the short-term recommendations approved by the Board. These recommendations included

the OFCC report, Educational Visioning, increased financial reporting and other community engagement initiatives.

I would like to thank our dedicated, volunteer community stakeholders as they continue to provide valuable feedback and input throughout this time. We have accomplished much together.

As you will read in this issue of The Monitor, the district continues to address areas that are most concerning for our community members - our facilities and our finances.

With the data and information provided by the OFCC report and Educational Visioning, the district has begun the Facilities Master Planning process to determine the most efficient and educationally sound way to move forward. The Master Planning Process

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PCSD Board of Education Appoints Next Superintendent, Dr. Charles Smialek

On March 1, 2018, the Parma City School District Board of Education approved Resolution 2018-03-89, "Resolution to Appoint and Employ Superintendent of Schools." The Board of Education approved the appointment of Dr. Charles Smialek as superintendent, beginning on August 1, 2018.

Dr. Smialek currently serves as the Superintendent of the Euclid City School District in Euclid, Ohio. The Euclid Schools serves approximately 5,300 students in seven buildings. Dr. Smialek is also a proud graduate of the Euclid City Schools.

"Three communities, the 115,000 people of Parma, Parma Heights and Seven Hills turn their hopeful eyes to us, to this Board of Education, to me, to our team," said Dr. Smialek at the March 1, 2018 regular meeting. "They are hopeful we can continue the positive



Pictured from left to right:
Current PCSD Superintendent Carl H. Hilling,
next PCSD Superintendent Dr. Charles Smialek and
PCSD Board of Education President John Schweitzer

momentum of the 'new day' that Mr. Schweitzer spoke of at the swearing-in ceremony in January... We will organize our 'new day' around three goals: improve student achievement, practice fiscal responsibility and increase our credibility in the community."

Dr. Smialek earned his bachelor's degree in history from Ohio State University in 1998. He then earned his master's degree in teaching from Kent State University in 1999, focusing on secondary social studies. In 2008, he earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership from Kent State University.

He began his career in education as a social studies teacher at Euclid Central Middle School in 1999. From 2004 through 2006, he served as unit principal and assistant principal at two separate Euclid middle schools.

Beginning in 2006, Dr. Smialek was appointed principal of Forest Park Middle School, serving in that position for three years. Then in 2009, he was named principal of Euclid High School, which serves approximately 2,250 students.

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Here's What's Next: Master Planning

The future of the Parma City School District's school buildings and facilities has arrived in Facilities Master Planning.

In 2017, the district engaged in two major facility-related initiatives, both recommended by Focus on the Future, the district's stakeholder-driven initiative. The results of these initiatives will help drive the next process, the blueprint for the future, the Facilities Master Plan.

The Facilities Master Planning process to address our school buildings and facilities is planned in three phases: "assessment," "options" and "decisions." Phase one, the "assessment" phase, was centered around two main initiatives, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) report and Educational Visioning.

PHASE ONE: ASSESSMENT: OFCC REPORT

"It's vitally important the district knows where it stands in regard to facilities and the condition of those facilities," Rusty Kuse, Business Manager for the Parma Schools, explained. "What the OFCC report will give us is facts and data behind where our facilities are in regard to cost for renovation versus cost of replacement."

The OFCC has worked with over half of all 612 school districts in Ohio. They provide guidance to public institutions, like school districts, when considering rebuilding or renovating facilities. The OFCC also provides state-funded financial support for approved plans.

Each building has different renovation and/or replacement costs based on current conditions. The OFCC report assigns a specific cost associated to each area of the facility to meet today's design standards. However, if the renovation cost is more than 66% of the total replacement cost for that specific building, the OFCC recommends replacing the entire building.

Of the 18 district-owned buildings, the OFCC concluded all PCSD buildings exceeded the 66% threshold. However, if the district implements the changes as prescribed by the OFCC, the state would co-fund at least 27% of the total cost.

PHASE ONE: ASSESSMENT: EDUCATIONAL VISIONING

The second piece of the "assessment" phase is Educational Visioning. Educational Visioning provided community stakeholders an opportunity to evaluate current educational delivery methods while setting up long-term goals for the district and its facilities. The Educational Visioning three-day workshop was held in January 2018.

"I think there was great value in the cross-section of people that were there," said PCSD Chief Curriculum Officer, Jeff Cook. "It was made up of students, community members and school personnel. It was exciting to see people's vision and what they believed in. It was nice to see not only the physical designs that people contributed but also the philosophy behind those designs."

Educational Visioning was facilitated by a third-party vendor, Harrison Planning Group. They specialize in developing future plans and strategies for school districts to benefit all learners.

Educational Visioning then develops a report and plan for moving forward, based off of recommendations by the stakeholders and parameters set by the Ohio School Design Manual.

"The feedback at my table was completely supportive of the process," Cook added. "This is year 26 for me, and I have never had the chance to be a part of something like this. It was just very insightful that the people were excited for the possibility of the new direction of the district and having the ability to be involved with that part of the design."

The final report from Educational Visioning should be complete by late March, early April 2018.

PHASE TWO: OPTIONS: MASTER PLANNING

In the meantime, the PCSD has already begun to move forward with the second phase, or the "options" phase.

"The Board approved a resolution at the February 8 meeting to enter into a request for qualifications for design professionals to assist with Master Planning," Kuse explained. "We have developed a set of parameters and set a date in April to have the process of the selection of the firm completed."

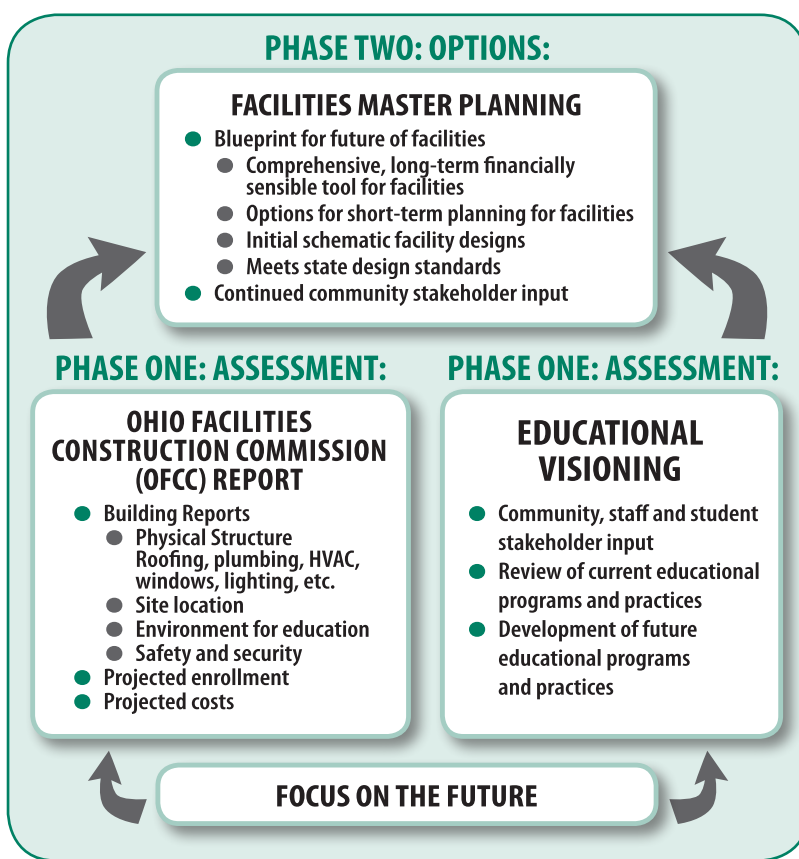
Having the data from the OFCC report and Educational Visioning will provide the design firm with the specifics on how the district wishes to move forward. Master Planning will provide scenarios for the communities and the school district to consider.

"Once they are hired and brought on to assist with this, their 'boots on the ground' efforts could take up to 12 to 18 months. We are a large district and there are a lot of moving parts," Kuse added.

The PCSD will continue to gather stakeholder feedback during the entire Master Planning process and through the final "decisions" phase.

"There is a lot of community engagement that goes into Master Planning. One idea that may work is developing building-level teams to engage the community," Kuse added. "The needs of each of our schools are different. If we can have building-level teams bringing up ideas of what they would like to see during this process, I think that allows us to more effectively engage the neighborhoods, the parents and the stakeholders in each of the three cities as we begin this new day."

For more information about the OFCC report, Educational Visioning and Master Planning, visit the website at www.parmacityschools.org/future.



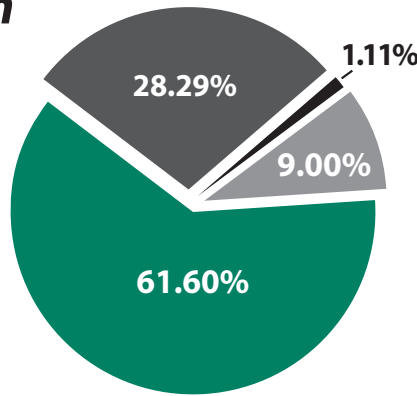
ISSUE 5

Will Protect and Safeguard Our Students' Education, Our Staff and Our Buildings



How Will Money From Issue 5 Be Spent?

Student Instruction & Student Support Services	61.60%
Sustainability Safeguard	28.29%
Support & Operations	9.00%
Extracurricular & Other	1.11%
TOTAL	100%



Issue 5 Will Help Protect and Safeguard:

Our Students Education

- Up-to-date educational tools and programs
- Media centers will stay open and available to all students
- Reasonable class sizes
- Advanced Placement and Honors courses
- Affordable pay-to-participate fees

Our Buildings

- As the district completes Facility Master Planning

Our Staff

- Attracting, maintaining and sustaining high-quality staff members throughout the district

- We are the **7th lowest** in building operation expenditures in Cuyahoga county.
- **PCSD student-to-administrator ratio is 184:1**
We have the **5th lowest** administrator cost per pupil in Cuyahoga county.
- Over the last two years, **PCSD has cut \$15 million in spending** by streamlining operations, while trying to minimize the impact on students
- Without the passage of a new money levy, the Ohio Department of Education will mandate the **PCSD cut \$3.6 million in 2019** and an additional **\$9.3 million in 2020**.

www.parmacityschools.org/levy

Did You Know?

Discover more about our students, our staff and our buildings, at www.parmacityschools.org/facts

Our Staff

Our teachers strive to engage students with the most up-to-date and effective methods and practices. 78% of our teachers have a master's degree, and over 58% of our teachers have 10+ years experience in the classroom.

Preparing Our Students

Preparing students for college, careers and success after high school is a top priority. PCSD offers 16 Career and Technical pathway programs in addition to job training and elective courses for students beginning in the eighth grade. Nearly 1 out of 3 PCSD students are enrolled in a pathway program or elective course.

Last school year our students took over 700 Advanced Placement exams, with 62% earning college credit. That's 5% above the national average and 4% above the global average.

Career Tech Education

The Ohio Department of Education gave Parma Schools Career and Technical Education three "A" grades on the most recent state report card.

Post-Program Outcomes: A

Nearly 95% of 2016 Career Tech graduates enrolled in college, careers or the military within six months of graduation.

Technical Skill Attainment: A

Technical skill attainment is a test that measures how well our students know the subject matter in their pathway program. Of the 94% of Career Tech students that were tested, 91% passed their test.

Graduation Rates: A

95% of Career Tech students graduate in four years and nearly 97% graduate in five years.

Focus on the Future

To help move the district forward, the Focus on the Future Action Teams have implemented 42 of 52 board approved short-term recommendations in less than a year. To view all of the completed recommendations, visit www.parmacityschools.org/future.



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"SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE" FROM PG. 1

will take time, perhaps 12 to 18 months. However, the data-driven results combined with the continued stakeholder input will provide a rock-solid blueprint for our buildings.

The PCSD continues to address our finances. The Board has placed a 7.4 mill new operating levy on the May 8 ballot for the residents to consider. We have a spending plan in place to not only strengthen and safeguard programs, but also ensure the money lasts at least 6 to 8 years.

Without passage of the new money levy, the Ohio Department of Education will mandate the district cut \$3.6 million in 2019 and an additional \$9.3 million in 2020. In either case, the district will continue with our prudent spending along with regular financial reporting to ensure we consistently communicate where we are.

This is an exciting time to be in the Parma Schools. I am confident that we are leaving the past missteps behind as we look forward to our bright future. We continue to work to improve student achievement. We continue to engage our parents, our students and our

communities. We continue to work to make you proud of your school district.

Finally, I would like to say "thank you" to our three communities. Over my eight years as superintendent here, there has been a lot we have accomplished, together. I am proud of our schools, students, staff and administration and what they accomplish on a daily basis. Everyday, much of the positive work that the staff does for kids goes by unheralded. For this reason, I am proud to serve as their superintendent.

After 47 years in education, I have made many great friends along the way. I have tried to make a positive difference in students, families and staff lives. I also want to thank these people for helping me keep my promise to Rosemary Gulick. When the Board hired me on as an Interim Superintendent in 2015, I promised Rosemary Gulick that I would leave the Parma City School District in better condition than when I found it. Over the last three years, we have accomplished this together.

Together, we will build on our successes as the sun rises on this "new day" in Parma, Parma Heights and Seven Hills.

POSTAL CUSTOMER

"NEW SUPERINTENDENT" FROM PG. 1

Dr. Smialek was named assistant superintendent of the Euclid Schools beginning in 2015. In July 2016, he was named Superintendent.

Also at the March 1 regular meeting, retiring superintendent Carl Hilling was praised for doing an outstanding job given the tough circumstances the district has been in. He was thanked and recognized for his dedicated service to the Parma Schools.

"In regard to Charlie, he has spent his career dedicated to his alma mater in the Euclid City Schools. His dedication and passion for students and educational programs has not gone unnoticed in that community. We look forward to Charlie continuing to bring his positive energy to the Parma Schools and the three cities we serve. On behalf of the entire Board of Education, I would like to welcome him to the Parma Schools as we work together to build a stronger and more vibrant district for the future," Board of Education president John Schweitzer said.

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