

School Facilities

***Potential parent priority:** Resources to support all children having access to modern school facilities.*

What are the key components of modern school facilities?

Healthy and Safety: All schools need baseline health and safety measures like locks on all doors, soap in bathrooms, proper cleaning supplies, air conditioning and heating systems, safe drinking water, and rooms free of mold, toxins, or leaks.

Modern Design: Maximizing access to natural light, creating spaces to encourage collaboration, and open floor plans all help keep students interested in learning and foster curiosity.

Supports for 21st Century Learning: Modern learning environments need to support different types of learners (hands-on, visual, audio, reading/writing), support both individual and group work, promote interaction and a sense of community, and foster both formal and informal learning.

What is the current state of school facilities?

- The state of school facilities varies widely across the District:
 - Only some schools are properly **renovated**, which is important for ensuring basic health and safety.
 - Some schools are still **lacking the basics**: soap and working plumbing, air conditioning, door locks, repairs to paint/plaster issues, and more.
 - Not all schools are **modernized** with 21st century learning supports.
 - We don't have comprehensive data about the state of DCPS and public schools because they are managed differently with different tracking and oversight processes.
- In PAVE's Spring 2023 School Facilities Survey, **76.36% of parents were unaware of plans to modernize and/or renovate their child(ren)'s school(s).**
- For parents whose schools have been modernized and/or renovated or who were aware of plans to do so, **nearly 50% of parents were unaware of opportunities for their students or families to engage in the plans.**