

<b>MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:</b>		<b>June 2025</b>
LONG RANGE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REIMAGINING MISSOURI SCHOOLS FOR THE SEVERELY DISABLED		
<b>STATUTORY AUTHORITY:</b>  Section 162.685, RSMo	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Consent Item         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Action Item         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Report Item         </div> </div>	
<b>STRATEGIC PRIORITY (OR PRIORITIES)</b>  Success-Ready Students & Workforce Development		
<b>SUMMARY</b>  Over the last two years, the Department has engaged with Public Consulting Group LLC (PCG) and Capital Asset Engineering to independently evaluate the operational and educational programming of the Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled (MSSD). In September 2024, a Long Range Planning Advisory Committee (LRPAC), made up of over 50 stakeholders, was established to review the findings of the PCG study and make recommendations for reimagining MSSD. The overall recommendations from the LRPAC were presented during the May 2025 board meeting. This report item identifies the immediate next steps requiring board approval as well as further impact statements related to the long-range plan.		
<b>PRESENTERS</b>  Mark Wheatley, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Special Education, along with a representative from PCG, will assist in the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.		



# Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled (MSSD)

**State Board of Education Meeting**

June 3, 2025



## LRPAC Task Force Pillars



- Summary of Phase 1 Recommendations
- Summary of Progress Underway and Immediate Next Steps
- School Facilities Plan and Rebranding
- Plan Approval Request for August Board Meeting



## **August approval action requests:**

### 1. General approval of the Long Range Plan contingent upon:

- Annual progress report
- Annual accountability status report
- Annual review of recommended adjustments

### 2. Phase 1

- Permanently close six schools that are temporarily closed due to emergency consolidations - Fall 2025
- Initiate budget and planning with OA-FMDC for one new school at Lakeview Woods (Kansas City region) – Fall 2025
- Permanently close six schools identified in Long Range Plan – Summer 2026
- Rebrand/Rename MSSD – July 2026



# Summary of Progress and Immediate Next Steps



## Analysis and Planning

Analysis of current student enrollment and demographic data underway

Establishing plans for task force and necessary work groups

## Staff Capacity and Support

Evaluating staffing patterns and opportunities for redistribution

Salary Increase for SOPs

Four new contracted RPDC ESN consultants hired for 2025-26 SY

## Leadership

New MSSD Superintendent hired (starting July 2025)



# Immediate Next Steps



## Long Range Planning Committee (LRPAC)

Begin developing application process to select LRPAC Task Force and Committee Members

Determine meeting calendar for the year

Create task dashboard to monitor monthly progress of each committee

## Extensive Support Needs (ESN) Grant Cooperatives

Start development of ESN grant structure and solicit interest from Local Education Agencies (LEAs)

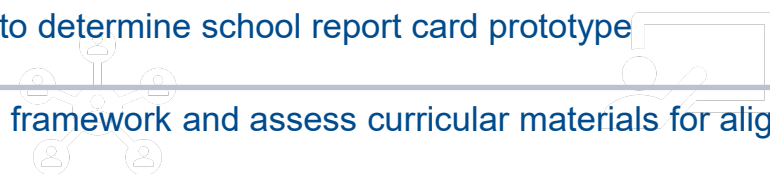
Create program guidelines and application; hold information sessions for LEAs

## Accountability and Professional Learning

Establish committee to determine school report card prototype

Develop instructional framework and assess curricular materials for alignment

Begin coaching/training for new ESN RPDC consultants





# School Facilities Plan and Rebranding MSSD



# Phase 1: School Closures/Consolidations

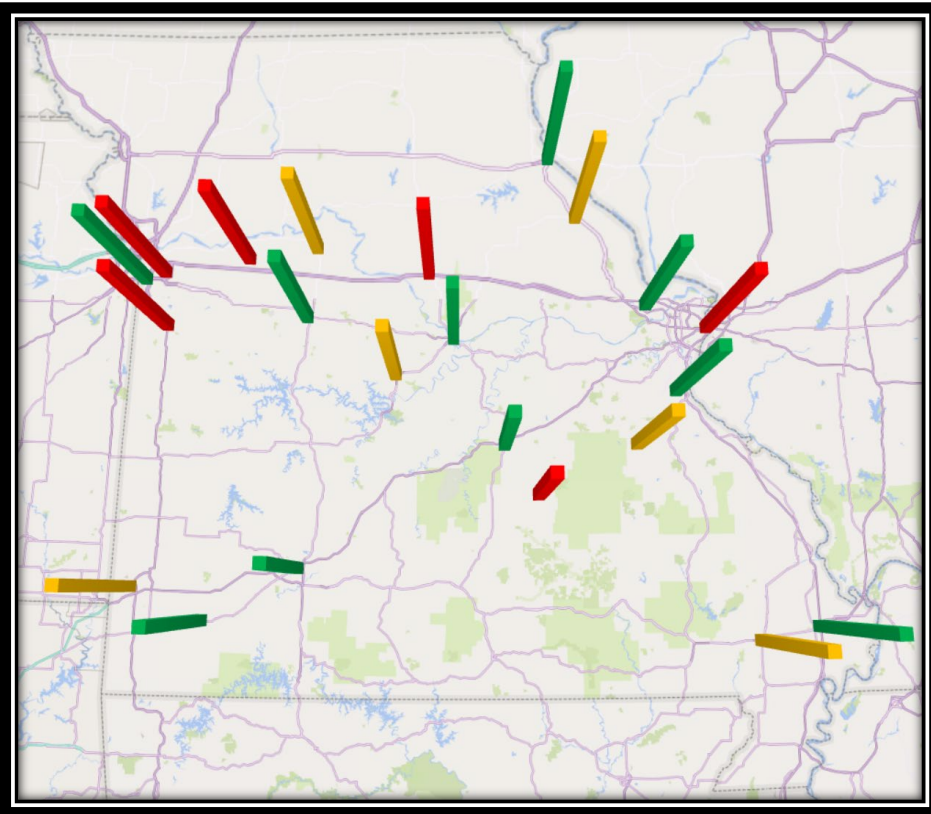


SCHOOL	RECOMMENDED ACTION	STATUS	TIMELINE
Briarwood State School	PERMANENT CLOSURE	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CLOSURE	CURRENTLY CLOSED
Delmar Cobble State School	PERMANENT CLOSURE	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CLOSURE	CURRENTLY CLOSED
Gateway (Hubert Wheeler) State School	PERMANENT CLOSURE	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CLOSURE	CURRENTLY CLOSED
Lakeview Woods State School	PERMANENT CLOSURE	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CLOSURE	CURRENTLY CLOSED
Ozark Hills State School (Leased)	PERMANENT CLOSURE	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CLOSURE	CURRENTLY CLOSED
Rolling Meadows State School	PERMANENT CLOSURE	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CLOSURE	CURRENTLY CLOSED
Citadel State School	CLOSE	OPEN	2026
College View State School	CLOSE	OPEN	2026
Crowley Ridge State School (Leased)	CLOSE	OPEN	2026
Dogwood Hills State School (Leased)	CLOSE	OPEN	2026
Lillian Schaper State School	CLOSE	OPEN	2026
Prairie View State School	CLOSE	OPEN	2026

Oakview State School is temporarily closed due to Facility Maintenance (HVAC Upgrades).

- ***Schools identified for closures in 2026 will occur at the end of 2025-26 school year.***
- ***Closure of the six schools scheduled for 2026 involves approximately 60 students (slightly less than 10 percent of the overall current enrollment with MSSD).***
- ***Student and family transition planning will be school specific and comprehensive.***

# Phase 1: Student Impact



Schools currently closed due to emergency closures  
~55 students impacted

- Briarwood School – Harrisonville
- Delmar Cobble School – Columbia
- Gateway (Hubert Wheeler) School – St. Louis
- Lakeview Woods School – Lee's Summit
- Ozark Hills School – Salem
- Rolling Meadows – Higginsville



Schools recommended to close in May 2026.  
~60 students impacted

- Citadel School – Potosi
- College View School – Joplin
- Crowley Ridge School – Dexter
- Dogwood Hills School – Eldon
- Lillian Schaper School – Bowling Green
- Prairie View School – Marshall



Schools consolidated during 2025/2026 closures.  
❖ School capacities will not be exceeded because of the consolidations.

# Phase 1: School Construction



School	Est. Open Date	Est. Cost
		(Rebuild)
Lakeview Woods State School	2030	\$28,481,700

- *Building a new Lakeview Woods School first will impact the most students at one time.*
- *The new school would host 109 students.*
- *The new school allows for the consolidation of five existing schools into one, enriching resources into one location.*
- *Urban location has resources to design and construct the first school with qualified and experienced vendors.*
- *Exact location of new school in Kansas City region to be determined through vetting process with OA-FMDC.*

# Phase 1: Estimated Savings



Type	Annual Savings
Utilities	\$198,718
Facility Maintenance	\$238,461
Major Capital Projects	\$397,436
Building Leases (3)	\$160,000
Worker's Compensation	\$68,182
Staffing	N/A
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,062,797</b>
Deferred Maintenance	\$12,861,522

- *Savings based on 12 schools closing in Phase 1.*
- *Staffing: Reduction in Force is unlikely – most positions will transfer, be re-assigned, or absorbed by current vacancies.*
- *Reduction of worker's compensation claims estimated at 25 percent.*
- *Deferred maintenance is a one-time cost elimination.*
- *Savings do not include earnings from real estate transactions via sale of existing schools, buildings, or property.*



The term “severely disabled” is no longer used to describe the population of students served by MSSD. A recommendation from the PCG report is to rename MSSD schools so that the new nomenclature is respectful of its students and their potential and describes its reimagined future. The LRPAC agreed with this recommendation.

## **Next steps:**

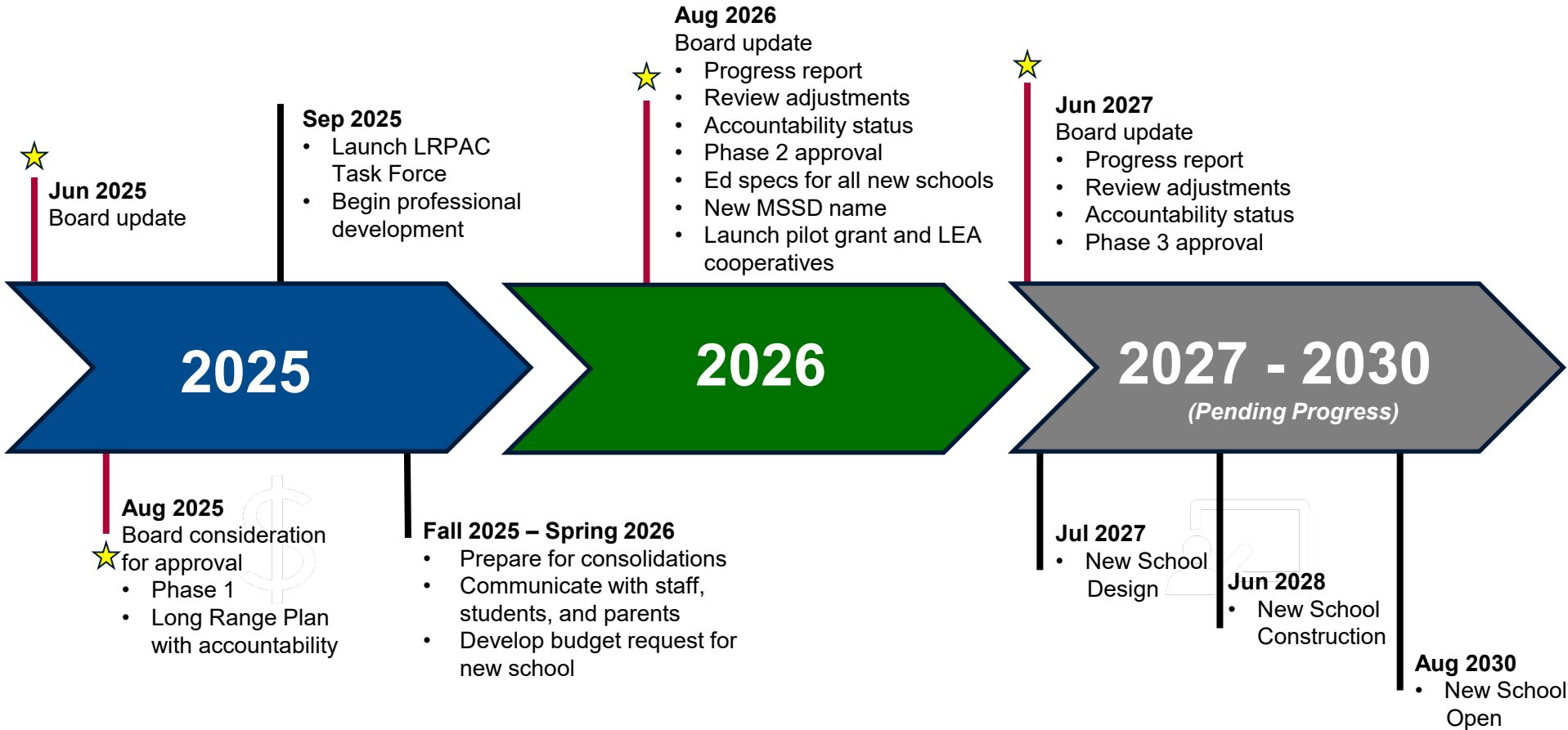
1. Obtain SBE approval to commence a name changing process
2. Develop a Learner Profile that denotes the characteristics of MSSD’s students and future programming
3. Convene LRPAC Task Force Committee to research names and identify process for legislative changes to the name
4. Bring forward a recommended new name to the SBE in August 2026



# Implementation and Timeline



13





# Approval Request in August



## **August approval action requests:**

### 1. General approval of the Long Range Plan contingent upon:

- Annual progress report
- Annual accountability status report
- Annual review of recommended adjustments

### 2. Phase 1

- Permanently close six schools that are temporarily closed due to emergency consolidations - Fall 2025
- Initiate budget and planning with OA-FMDC for one new school at Lakeview Woods (Kansas City region) – Fall 2025
- Permanently close six schools identified in Long Range Plan – Summer 2026
- Rebrand/Rename MSSD – July 2026





**Thank You**