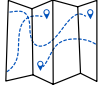


Shaping the Future Together: Proposed School Closure Study

Purpose

The Proposed School Closure Study provides data to help the CHCCS Board of Education make an informed decision about the District's future. It evaluates key factors around three schools the District is considering for closure, Ephesus, Glenwood, and Seawell elementary schools, including:



Geographic Conditions



Anticipated changes in student enrollment



Potential inconvenience or hardship on affected students

This Study **Does:**

- Provide additional data
- Add factual information, alongside public comments and Board discussions
- Fulfill a legally required procedural step

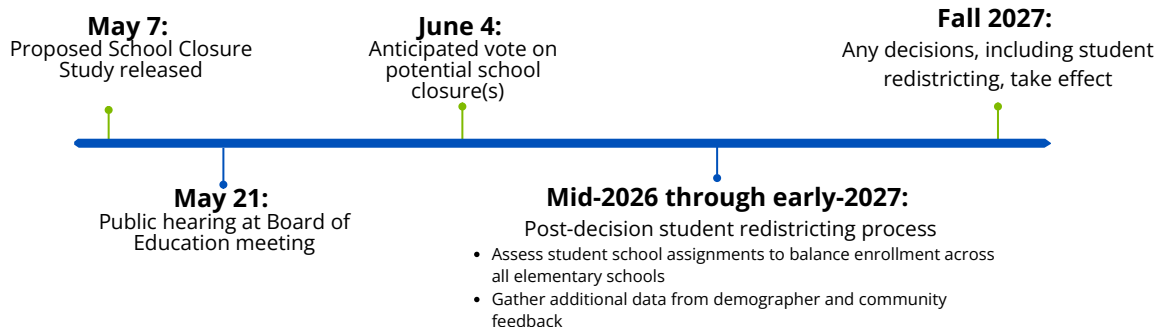
This Study **Does Not:**

- Weigh, prioritize, or score any criteria for the closure of a specific school
- Propose specific recommendations or judgments on any school

Information Sources

- **Demographic & Housing Development Information:** Orange County (Carolina Demography)
- **2025 Schools Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (SAPFO) Report 2025:** Orange County
- **Facilities and Capital Needs:** 2023 study conducted by Woolpert, Inc. and surveys conducted by District facilities staff
- **Transportation:** Town of Chapel Hill's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) audit observations, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), and CHCCS transportation staff
- **Inconvenience or Hardship Demographics:** CHCCS Office of Research, Assessment, and Student Information staff
- **LEAP Information:** CHCCS Advanced Learning & Leadership staff
- **Program Capacity Analysis:** NC State SchoolCAMP staff
- **Legal Requirements:** Tharrington Smith LLP

Decision Timeline



Next Steps

- The Board and the community will have time to review the study ahead of the May 21 Public Hearing.
- Board members will continue to engage in discussions, focused on making a careful, informed decision based on data and community feedback.

Scan to view the full study:



For additional background information, FAQs, and more, visit:

CHCCSTogether.org

Summary of Key Data:

Below is a summary of key data related to the eight primary focus areas approved by the Board of Education. No single criterion will determine the Board's decision.

Criteria	Ephesus Elementary	Glenwood Elementary	Seawell Elementary
Geographic Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site contains 2 small wetland areas, but no floodplains Wetland areas pose no known concerns Air quality classified as moderate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site has substantial topographic variance, which causes the back athletic field to require an extended period to dry out after rain No identified wetlands or floodplains on site Air quality classified as moderate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolin Creek runs very close to the property, creek has caused no known flooding concerns No identified wetlands or floodplains on the property Air quality not clearly available, but surrounding area corresponds to moderate
Anticipated Increase or Decrease in Enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current enrollment: approx. 343 students (K-5) 2035 estimate: approx. 423 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current enrollment: approx. 394 students (K-5) 2035 estimate: approx. 418 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current enrollment: approx. 364 students (K-5) 2035 estimate: approx. 340 students
Pupils Affected <i>(Inconvenience, Hardship, Equity impact analysis)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White: 50.6% Black: 15.3% Asian: 14.3% Latinx: 13.0% Multiracial students: 6.4% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economically Disadvantaged students: 34.5% Students with Disabilities: 13.3% Multilingual Learners: 10.2% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title I school 4 Pre-K classes: 56 total students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian: 38.0% White: 35.4% Multiracial students: 12.9% Black: 8.6% Latinx: 4.6% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economically Disadvantaged students: 17.5% Students with Disabilities: 9.1% Multilingual Learners: 11.6% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lottery-based Mandarin Dual Language and World Language programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White: 34.9% Asian: 28.6% Black: 16.5% Latinx: 11.1% Multiracial: 8.9% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economically Disadvantaged students: 32.2% Students with Disabilities: 13.4% Multilingual Learners: 16.5% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosts the LEAP program for profoundly gifted students.
Additional Facility Costs	N/A; evaluation is based on existing facilities for closure rather than consolidation.		
Recent & Projected Capital Expenditures <i>(needs for 2026-2036 shown)</i> <i>Option B: based on a 2023 report by Woolpert, Inc. on restoring all existing facilities to a safe, functional, and "like-new" condition.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx. \$24.5 million needed for infrastructure replacement Option B (Woolpert plan): approx. \$28.2 million recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx. \$23.3 million needed for infrastructure replacement Option B (Woolpert plan): \$16.3 million recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx. \$21.6 million needed for infrastructure replacement Option B (Woolpert): \$23.1 million recommended
Building Adjacency to Middle or High Schools	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contiguous to Smith Middle and Chapel Hill High Schools, allowing for a continuous learning environment, vertical curriculum alignment, and expanded student resource access
Transportation Costs <i>(If closed)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated additional annual cost: \$118,000 to transport 125 students currently in the non-transportation zone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated additional annual cost: Similar to present costs, dependent on the new program location. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated additional annual cost: \$112,500 to transport 120 students currently in the non-transportation zone.
Site Adequacy <i>Whether physical spaces effectively support both the programs offered and the number of students served. Percentages represent the proportion within the school that fit the criteria</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School has all necessary spaces: 72% Rooms appropriately sized: 36% Rooms have the right equipment: 88% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School has all necessary spaces: 76% Rooms appropriately sized: 54% Rooms have the right equipment: 86% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School has all necessary spaces: 66% Rooms appropriately sized: 33% Rooms have the right equipment: 83%
Program Capacity <i>Based on total number of classrooms, school size and suitability, students' grade level and learning needs, and specific classroom features for instruction delivery.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated number of students who can be accommodated: 416 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated number of students who can be accommodated: 420 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated number of students who can be accommodated: 416