



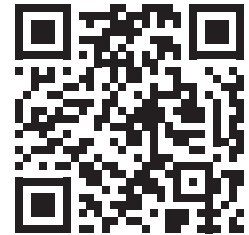
**WE ARE
AITKIN**
Long-Range Facilities Planning

LONG-RANGE FACILITIES PLANNING

Aitkin Public Schools provide a quality education that prepares students for success. However, our aging buildings and limited space no longer meet our needs. In 2022, the school board initiated a long-term facilities planning process to address these needs.

Through community input, research, and facilities assessments, the district is now considering the best ways to address our building challenges. We aim to create a cost-effective plan that will serve our students, staff, and community for decades.

For more information, visit:
WeAreAitkin.org



THE CHALLENGES WE FACE

As our buildings age, the need for repairs, upgrades, and additional space continues to grow. Staff, parents, and residents have identified these challenges:

- Address undersized classrooms
- Enhance safety and security
- Update the high school's HVAC (heating, ventilation, and cooling) system
- Fix the roofs at the elementary school and middle school/high school
- Update the high school auditorium
- Add gym and athletic spaces
- Have all facilities on one campus



WE ARE AITKIN



THE PLANNING PROCESS

Aitkin Public Schools has taken several steps to address its facilities' needs and plan for the future:

2016

Bought land to prepare for future space needs of its schools and facilities.

2018

Formed a Community Task Force to evaluate the district's facilities needs. The Task Force recommended a long-range plan to bring all facilities to one campus.

2022

Completed a comprehensive facilities assessment to evaluate the condition of our buildings, prioritize repairs and upgrades, and plan investments.

2024

Hosted 14 listening sessions with stakeholders; conducted an online survey open to all residents; evaluated projected enrollment and assessed educational adequacy compared to the guidelines set by the Minnesota Department of Education; and completed a strategic planning process with the Minnesota School Board Association.

Based on what we learned in 2024 and current cost estimates, we updated our 2022 facilities assessment.



NEXT STEPS

In the months ahead, we will continue to seek feedback from our community as the school board considers options to address our district's facilities needs. Please stay tuned for more information as the board works to present a plan to voters by the end of 2025.

CONNECT WITH US!

Your feedback on the needs of our schools and how we should address them is important. Please share your questions and input through the contact form at [WeAreAitkin.org](https://www.WeAreAitkin.org).



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