

District 113 Master Plan Development Process

District 113 began developing its Long Range Facility Master Plan for Deerfield and Highland Park High Schools in May, 2011. The goal was “to create facilities that foster education excellence while respecting the District’s taxpayers.”

- **(May 2011 – May 2012)** In May, 2011 District 113 sought community volunteers to serve on six different study groups that analyzed and prioritized the needs at each high school. Over 100 community participants studied the high schools for more than a year. Participants toured District 113 high schools and neighboring high schools several times; they met with education experts, engineers, pool specialists and reviewed ADA accessibility issues. The Market Research Team conducted a District 113 community survey to determine what matters most to residents when it comes to an improvement plan, they also conducted focus groups. Meanwhile, the Finance Study Group created detailed rubrics on financial options. The study groups developed a list of recommendations for District 113, which were adopted by the Board of Education. Those recommendations were used by architects to develop a new Master Plan.
- **(Summer 2012)** District 113 hired Building Technology Consultants (BTC) in the summer of 2012 to conduct tests on the exterior of the B and C buildings at HPHS, which are almost 100 years old. Their objective was to pinpoint the cause of water leakage and determine if the buildings’ envelope could be saved and rehabbed for a minimum of 50 years.
- **(May 2012 – Present)** The architecture firm Perkins+Will was hired by District 113 to develop the new plan. P+W is an international firm that is extremely experienced in long range planning for high schools. As recommended by the community study groups, District 113 also hired the construction management firm Gilbane to formulate pricing and cost estimates for different stages of the plan.
- **(July 2012 – Jan. 2013)** District 113 selected a Steering Committee---made up of community members--to oversee the architect’s entire design phase. The majority of the members had a great deal of expertise in architecture, construction and finance. They met with P+W throughout their planning.
- **(Sept. Oct. Nov.)** District 113 scheduled four Community Engagement Meetings to update residents on the planning process and collect feedback.
- **(Dec. 2012)** Perkins+Will presented a Long Range Facility Mater Plan for Deerfield and Highland Park High Schools to the Board of Education in December, 2012. The Master Plan outlined a lengthy list of upgrades for both high schools, which the Board analyzed during multiple workshop sessions. The Board adopted the Master Plan and tasked the Steering Committee with prioritizing the Mater Plan and deciding which projects to implement in phase one.
- **(Jan. 2013)** On Jan. 14, 2013 the Board of Education adopted the Steering Committee’s recommendation of phase one projects. To finance the project, the Board unanimously voted to seek an \$89 M bond issue from the community, which would be repaid over a 20-25 year time frame. The Board also decided to contribute \$25 M from its current fund balances, which are to be rebuilt over the next five years.
- **(April 2013)** District 113 residents will vote on the referendum item during the April 9, 2013 consolidated election.