Healthy Schools Call to Action

Learning in schools that are clean, safe and welcoming is the fundamental right of every public school student in Philadelphia.

Our Challenge: An Aging Infrastructure in Dire Need of Repair

- **70 Years**: Half of our school buildings are over 70 years old, with some more than 120 years old.
- **80%**: Like most buildings built before 1978, about 80% of our schools were built using asbestos-containing materials and lead paint.
- **$4.5 Billion**: The School District has $4.5 billion in deferred maintenance and $3 billion in future capital needs.

Our Progress

Since 2014, we’ve:
- invested $400 million to renovate classrooms and modernize basic building infrastructure
- spent $23 million to complete asbestos-related projects in schools
- fully stabilized lead paint in 32 elementaries, certified another 13 as Lead Safe and will certify another 26 by end of year
- added 112 new cleaning positions
- installed 150 new A/C units at nine schools

In October 2019:
- we also borrowed $500 million in capital funds to build three new schools and support more than 200 capital improvements in 141 schools.

But our students and staff need and deserve much more.
TOP PRIORITIES

$15 MILLION

LEAD SAFE SCHOOLS
For $15 million per year over the next five years, we can stabilize lead paint and certify every school Lead Safe.* (Total need: $75 million)

$10 MILLION

ASBESTOS SAFE SCHOOLS
For $10 million per year over the next five years, we can remove asbestos containing materials from student-, teacher-, and staff-occupied areas in every school.** (Total need: $50 million)

$300 MILLION

MORE PLANCON FUNDING
To help their limited dollars stretch farther, Pennsylvania school districts that undertake a major school construction project can seek reimbursement from the Commonwealth through a process known as PlanCon (Planning and Construction Workbook). PlanCon is currently unfunded. We need the Commonwealth to provide a minimum of $300 million to restore PlanCon to its 2014/2015 funding levels.

SECONDARY PRIORITIES

$28 MILLION

AIR CONDITIONED SCHOOLS
For $28 million per year over the next five years, we can make the electrical upgrades needed to add air conditioners and classroom technology in over 2,000 classrooms. (Total need: $140 million)

$15 MILLION

CLASSROOM MODERNIZATIONS
For $15 million each year, we can transform 100 classrooms into modern, welcoming learning spaces with new paint and lighting, customized furniture and state-of-the-art technology.

* $15 million per year covers the pre-painting environmental assessment, labor and material costs for painting contractors, on-site lead stabilization monitoring and environmental testing prior to re-occupancy of the area for approximately 20 schools.

** $10 million per year covers environmental scope development, contractor removal activities (including containment, removal and disposal) and environmental testing prior to re-occupancy for schools that do not have short term capital renovations scheduled.