# **SMART** INVESTMENTS LEAD TO SMART STUDENTS.

# **SMART** Futures January 2015 Information Update

# Background

As part of the SMART Initiative, the School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC) and Superintendent Robert W. Runcie committed to allocating \$100,000 towards school choice enhancement (capital-related) projects at each District school. This document provides information about the school choice enhancements process.

## About School Choice Enhancements Projects

School choice enhancement (\$100,000) funding will be allocated to every District school for a school-based, school-choice project to improve the condition of an instructional or educational space at the school. The District's Facilities and Construction Management Department (Facilities) is working with schools to develop and execute a project that meets each school's needs within the \$100,000 budget allocation. The year each school's project is scheduled, is available on individual School Summary pages, located at browardschools.com/Web/Smart-Needs.

## What types of projects are eligible?

The School Choice Enhancement project selected by each school community must be "capital eligible." "Capital eligible" is defined as improvements to the physical building and





have a useful life greater than 5 years. For example, art supplies are consumable and have no useful life, and, therefore, are not eligible as a capital project. However, a kiln, exhaust and a separate room would be eligible as capital projects. Another example is a photography darkroom and the required furniture, fixtures and equipment. These are eligible capital projects, but the photography materials needed to produce photos would be consumables and, therefore, are not eligible.

instructional environments that

### School Choice Enhancements Project Selection Options

 A school can select a project from its School Summary Report that is currently not funded, totaling less than \$100,000. The list of unfunded needs for each school can be found on its School Detail report, located at

#### browardschools.com/Web/Smart-Needs.

- 2. A school can choose to select frequently requested projects, such as:
  - a. Elementary and middle schools: playground equipment, shade structure, hard scape play courts, STEM lab build out, music or art room renovation.
  - b. High schools: band or choral room renovation, new outdoor bleacher seating, hardwiring spaces into a computer lab, art studio renovation, new dance studio.
- 3. A school can select a unique facility or instructional need, which has been identified by its school community.

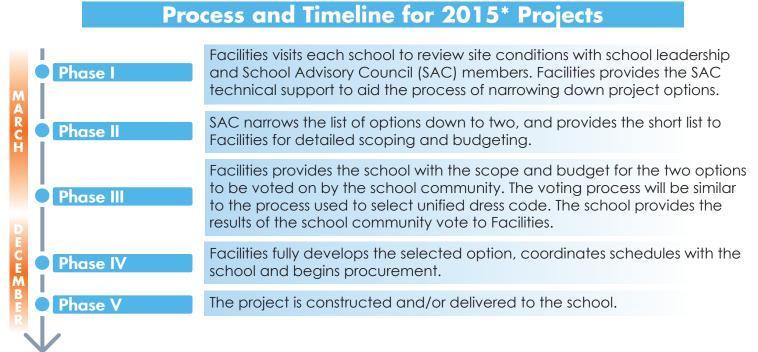
# **About Technology Considerations**

In an effort to ensure the appropriate level of infrastructure and professional development support for technology in our schools, school communities considering technology purchases for their school choice enhancement (\$100,000) project funds will require the approval of the Office of School Performance & Accountability, the Office of Academics, the Facilities Department and the Information & Technology Division. More information will be provided in late February/early March 2015 regarding the approval process.

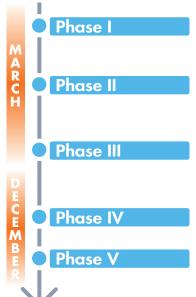
School choice enhancement funded projects must align with the approved SMART projects, as outlined in the School Summary and/or School Detail reports, which are located on the District website at <u>browardschools.com/Web/Smart-Needs</u>. As a reminder, every District school is receiving technology in the initial phases of the SMART program. **SMART** INVESTMENTS LEAD TO SMART STUDENTS.

# When would the school choice enhancements projects occur?

Regardless of the option/project the school selects, each school's project planning will begin in January\* of the year listed on its School Summary report.



# Process and Timeline for 2016-2019\* Projects



Facilities visits each school to review site conditions with school leadership and School Advisory Council (SAC) members. Facilities provides the SAC technical support to aid the process of narrowing down project options.

SAC narrows the list of options down to two, and provides the short list to Facilities for detailed scoping and budgeting.

Facilities provides the school with the scope and budget for the two options to be voted on by the school community. The voting process will be similar to the process used to select unified dress code. The school provides the results of the school community vote to Facilities.

Facilities fully develops the selected option, coordinates schedules with the school and begins procurement.

The project is constructed and/or delivered to the school.

\*Schools identified to begin in 2015 will start in March 2015. In subsequent years, project planning will begin in January of the identified year.



#### To Stay Updated About the **SMART** Initiative visit <u>browardschools.com/smartfutures</u>

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