Implementation requires full funding of the 10-year plan.

New Era Academy High School

School/building number: 422/181
Address: 2700 Seamon Avenue, 21225
Planning area: South

Recommendation: RENOVATE OR REPLACE WITH POSSIBLE REDUCTION
Proposed Year: 5

Rationale for Recommendation

» The Facility Condition Index (FCI) is an indicator of the basic condition of the building. It compares the cost of renovating an existing building to the cost of constructing a new building of the same size; in general, an FCI greater than 75 percent indicates that constructing a new building should be considered. Estimated costs are $30,933,647 to renovate the Southside Building and $40,079,408 to replace it, giving an FCI of 77.2 percent. This FCI suggests that renovation or replacement should both be considered, and that replacement may be the more cost-effective option.

» The target Educational Adequacy Score is 80 for district buildings in which instruction occurs. The Southside Building has an Educational Adequacy Score of 55.6, indicating that it does not meet the standard for supporting excellent teaching and learning.

» The acceptable utilization rate for City Schools buildings is 65 to 100 percent. With a 2011–12 capacity of 1,347 and a projected 2016 enrollment for New Era Academy of 463, the Southside Building is on track to be utilized at a rate of 34.4 percent.

» This utilization rate, together with an analysis of projected enrollment trends in the community, points to excess capacity in this region for these grades. A new or newly renovated smaller building for a high school in this area will serve both projected enrollment and programmatic needs. As a result of the spring 2012 decision by the Board of School Commissioners to close Southside Academy, a community planning process is now underway to determine what high school program will occupy a new or renovated building.

» New Era is a transformation school with an outside operator whose contract is up for renewal in 2013–14. Final plans for this building will take into account the outcome of that renewal process.