

Outdoor Leadership Schools

Austin ISD will create Outdoor Leadership Schools at Widén and Perez elementary schools and at Paredes Middle School by leveraging nearby natural resources, parks and green spaces. The schools will offer experiential learning, and provide additional cognitive, physical, academic, mental and emotional benefits to students through increased time spent outdoors. Palm Elementary School will close, and resources will be combined and reinvested to enhance academic programming. If capacity is needed to serve both school communities, it will be provided within a modernized addition. Students from Palm will attend Perez and some Perez students will be reassigned to Langford Elementary School.

Serving Students

Students at elementary schools in Southeast Austin will learn in green spaces and natural landscapes while embarking on a leadership pathway with expanded academic programs in modern facilities.

Preparing Our Kids To Succeed By

- Increasing time outdoors, which leads to multiple positive improvements in health, well-being, cognitive and academic abilities, and mental, physical and emotional states.
- Addressing student interest in, and community need for, conservation and stewardship of natural resources.
- Providing opportunities for students to participate in outdoor discovery and leadership curriculum.
- Allowing students to engage multidisciplinary projects in green spaces.
- Creating modern, flexible, inspiring academic spaces.
- Combining resources and talents to expand academic programs, improving student outcomes and success.
- Adjusting boundaries and feeder patterns to meet the needs of students.

SCENARIO Summary

Meets Guiding Principles



Anticipated Date

Timing will be determined upon a comprehensive assessment of complete School Changes project phasing

Campuses in this Scenario

Langford Elementary	Widén Elementary
Palm Elementary	Paredes Middle
Perez Elementary	

Financial Implications

Academic Program Cost	TBD
Reinvested 2017 Bond Funds	\$1.66 MILLION
Deferred Maintenance Savings	\$14.83 MILLION
Annual Operations & Maintenance Savings	\$500,000

Summary of Changes

	Districtwide Changes	
✓	New Program	Outdoor discovery and leadership curriculum
	Enhanced Program	
✓	Campus Consolidation	Students from Palm will attend a modernized Perez
	Campus Repurpose	
✓	Facility Improvement	Modernize Perez
✓	Boundary or Feeder Implications	Langford, Perez, Palm

To give feedback on this scenario visit <https://tinyurl.com/AISDScenarios>.

