

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top left shows a line of yellow school buses, with the number '32' visible on the front of one. The bottom left shows a classroom with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. There are several small white tables and chairs arranged in the room.

The Role of the Kentucky Department of Education in School Facilities Construction

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KDE's Role in Public School Construction Funding

- Determine facility funding amounts as provided through SEEK including local nickel(s), state equalization(s), and capital outlay
- Determine school district unmet need used for offers of assistance by the School Facilities Construction Commission
- Review and approval of property acquisition and disposal for local school districts
- Limited review and approval on facility plans and financing (HB 727, 2024 RS)
- KY Facilities Inventory and Classification System (KFICS), including review and publishing of data
- District Facilities Plan (DFP) training assistance, compliance review, and approvals

Kentucky Facilities Inventory and Classification System (KFICS)

- KRS 157.420(9):
 - Beginning in 2011-12, KDE shall standardize the process for evaluation the overall quality and condition of all school buildings across the state – KFICS
- KFICS provides the school districts and their third-party architects the ability to collect, integrate, and maintain the assessed data for local ownership and transparency of it. The system supports a quality assurance component for KDE to review and publish the data. KFICS also supports a standard scoring methodology for building conditions and educational suitability that is easily maintainable and uses construction industry standards
- HB 500 (2026 RS) added language that no offers of assistance through the School Facilities Construction Commission can be made unless the district's facilities have been evaluated in KFICS

KFICS

- Kentucky School Score
 - Condition Index (75%) + Educational Suitability (25%)
- Condition Index
 - A ratio of the identified replacement cost in the next 4 years to the estimated replacement value of the building
- Educational Suitability
 - Measures how well a building supports the delivery of educational programs against standards being offered. Includes Space Survey, Site Survey, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Survey

District Facility Plan (DFP)

- A comprehensive review and evaluation of a school district's facility construction and renovation needs that is prepared every four years
- Includes a Local Planning Committee (LPC) which acts in an advisory capacity to the Local Board of Education who ultimately approves the District Facility Plan
- The LPC includes parents, teachers, building administrators, facility directors, central office staff, local board members, local planning staff, and the superintendent
- The LPC studies financial information, demographics, and other information in order to develop a plan for addressing the district's construction needs

District Facility Plan Priorities

- Priority 1: Educational Projects to begin within the Biennium
- Priority 2: Educational Projects not Scheduled within the Biennium
- Priority 3: Non-Educational Additions or Expansions (Kitchens/Cafeterias, Admin areas, auditoriums and gymnasiums not associated with major renovations)
- Priority 4: Management Support Facilities (Central Office and Bus Garages)
- Priority 5: Discretionary Projects (Excess space, Extracurricular, Athletic Facilities)

School Facility Planning Framework

- KDE uses DFP priorities 1-4 to determine district financial need
- HB 727 (2024 RS) allowed districts to move any project, including athletic/extracurricular, to any priority until June 30, 2027
- Local available revenue is evaluated to determine district participation
- The percentage of need at the district level is then used to determine the district's School Facilities Construction Commission offer

Sample DFP

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PRIORITIES (Schedule within the 2022-2024 Biennium)

1c. Major renovation/additions of educational facilities; including expansions, kitchens, cafeterias, libraries, administrative areas, auditoriums, and gymnasiums.

Eff. %

Cost Est.

1. Heritage Elementary School

1990

53,088 sf

Major renovation to include: New HVAC, plumbing fixtures and lighting throughout; ceiling replacement, door hardware upgrades, exterior doors and window replacement, secure vestibule and new roofing; upgrades to sanitary sewer treatment system; site development to be conducive to student body and teacher populations as well as optimal vehicular traffic flow to improve life safety.

\$5,430,119

Construct:

4 Standard Classrooms

800 sf

3,200 sf

74%

\$1,499,243

2b. New construction to replace inadequate spaces; expand existing or new buildings for educational purposes; consolidate schools; or replace deteriorated facilities.

Eff. %

Cost Est.

1. New Shelby East Middle School

84,958 sf

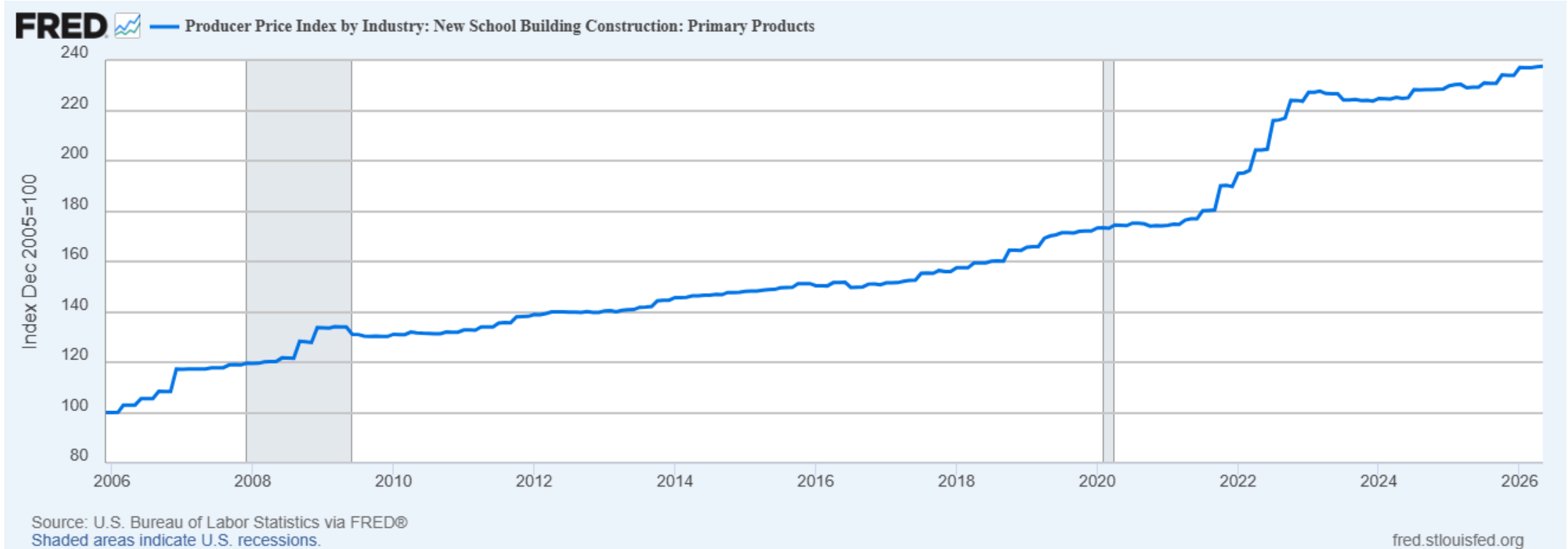
New 600 student middle school to replace existing Shelby East Middle School on adjacent property.

\$30,088,725



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

New Construction Cost



Trends in School Construction Cost

- KDE does not maintain a standardized square footage cost for new construction or renovations. However, a review of a sampled projects shows that in 2019-2020, projects ran between \$211-\$275 per square foot. More recent projects (2023-2026) indicated a higher range of \$388-\$525 per square foot.