

Community Workshop #1

Jan. 27, 2026

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Quincy High School



Welcome!

Community Workshop

#1

Jan. 27, 2026

Please introduce yourself to others at your table.

Put on a nametag.

Sign in at your table.



Why We Are Here

- **HELP SHAPE** a long-term vision for the future of Quincy Public Schools
- **EXPLORE WHAT OUR SCHOOLS NEED** to support student success now and for years to come
- **UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGES WE FACE**, including aging facilities and limited resources
- **LEAD A TRANSPARENT PROCESS** that invites broad input and builds shared direction across the community



Facilitating Team

Community Members & Parents		District Staff & Leadership
Community Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ryan Sparks● Martin McCarthy Members <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Kevin Blickhan● Adam Booth● Lucy Bordewick● Travis Brown	Members (cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Kathi Dooley● Rachel Hansen● Sandra Hite● Tim White● Denette Kuhlman● Mark Philpot● Rayvette Wilson● Rev. Carl Terry● Cathy Niemann	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rachael Petty● Damion Dodd● Sharla Heightman● Ryan Whicker● Anna Oakley● Kim Dinkheller● Eryn Beswick● Lisa Otten● Erica Maynard

WHAT YOU WILL DO IN THIS PROCESS

SHARE INPUT: Provide your perspectives on the district's strengths, challenges, and priorities

LEARN TOGETHER: Gain a clear picture of current programs, services, resources, and facilities

COLLABORATE: Join discussions that build stronger communication and partnerships across the community

EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES: Consider future-focused programs and learning opportunities for all students

HELP PRIORITIZE: Weigh in on resources needed to sustain strong programs and learning environments

Why It Matters

Your voice will help shape the future of our schools for years to come.



Why We're Here: Our Charge

Create a report for the Board regarding a long-range vision for the district's operation:

- Broad base of community perceptions and priorities
- The role, objectives and needs of the district in the community
- Long-term goals for the district regarding staffing, facilities, resources and educational performance criteria
- Steps that need to be taken to accomplish those goals



Community Engagement Sessions

• **PARTICIPANTS** •
ANY DISTRICT RESIDENT
CAN PARTICIPATE

• **WORKSHOPS** •
DESIGNED AND LED BY
FACILITATING TEAM

• **TOPICS** •
RELEVANT TO THE
DISTRICT PLANNING
PROCESS

• **DISCUSSION** •
DIALOGUE IN SMALL
GROUP SETTING

Our Workshops

Welcome and review of previous session

Data/informational presentation

Small group work (dialogue/decisions)

Small group reporting to large group

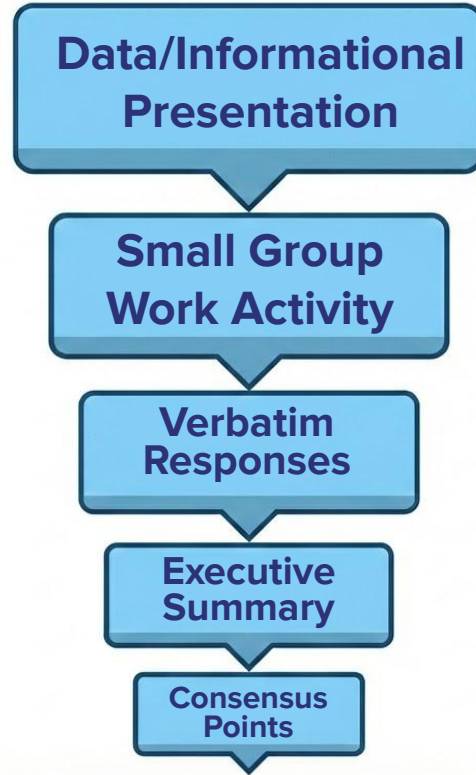
Closing/preview of next session



Quincy Together Process Calendar

DATE	ACTIVITY
January 27	Community Workshop 1: Understanding Our Schools Today
February 24	Community Workshop 2: The People, Programs, and Places That Make Great Schools
March 24	Community Workshop 3: Helping Every Student Succeed
April 21	Community Workshop 4: Our Financial Future
April 28	Building Tours/ Open House
May 19	Community Workshop 5: Finalizing Our Community Recommendations
TBD	BOE Presentation

Session Documentation



**Collective Decisions Used in
Formation of Recommendations**

I Have A Question/Comment!

- Complete a form
- Email oakleyan@qps.org
- Ask during small group work time



I HAVE A QUESTION!

I would like to be contacted by a Quincy Public Schools representative who can respond to this question/comment:

Your question or comment may be directly related to the community engagement project or any other matter regarding the school district.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

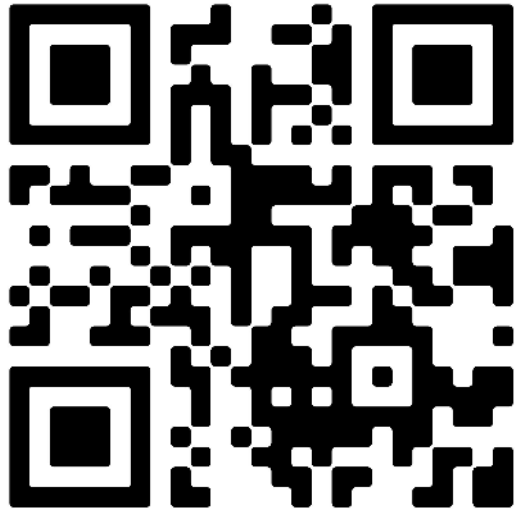
E-Mail:

Tonight's Presentation

- **Setting the stage for tonight's small group work activity.**
- **You'll use the information learned to complete activities together.**
- **This won't answer every question, but it will give us a shared starting point.**
- **Future information shared will be shaped by what we hear tonight.**



Tonight's Presentation



Ongoing Information

 [**quincytogether.org**](https://quincytogether.org)

 [**facebook.com/qps172**](https://facebook.com/qps172)

 [**instagram.com/qps172**](https://instagram.com/qps172)

Get To Know QPS - Overview

3rd QPS is the
Third Largest
Employer in
Adams County

6,100⁺
6,100+ Students



1,000⁺
Employees



11
Schools



Get To Know Our Schools



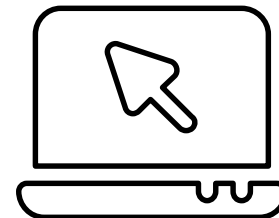
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Early Childhood
Center



5

Elementary
Schools



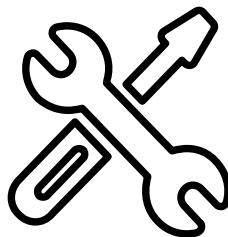
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Junior
High



1

High School



1

Vocational
Center



1

Alternative
School



1

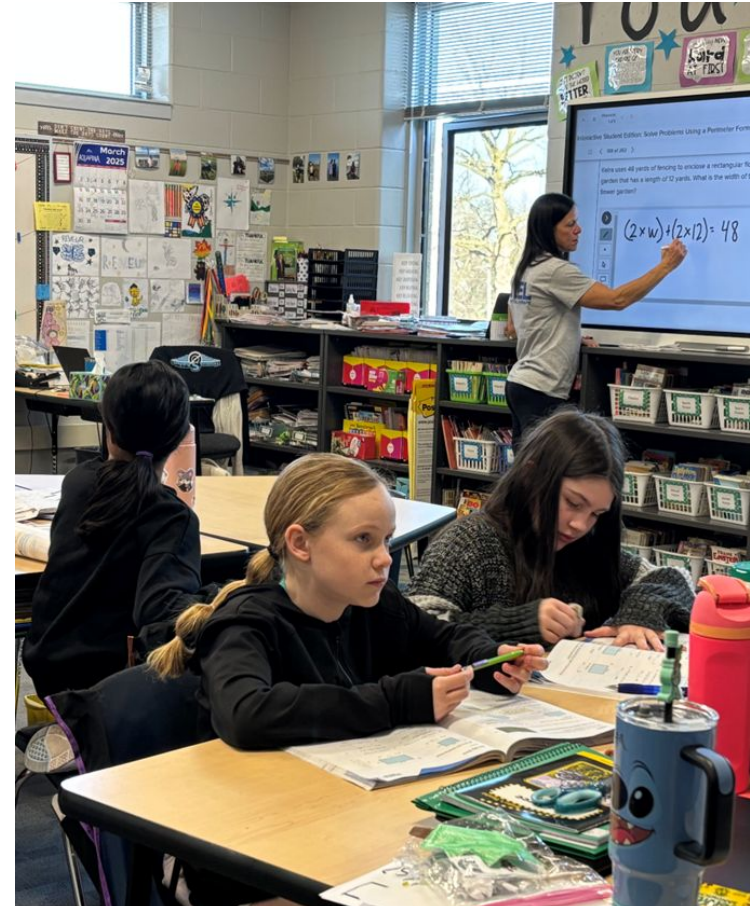
Juvenile Detention
Center

We *also* serve:

- Non-Public Schools

The Challenges Facing Quincy Public Schools

- Preparing Students for the Future
- Teacher and Staff Recruitment & Retention
- Updating Buildings and Facilities

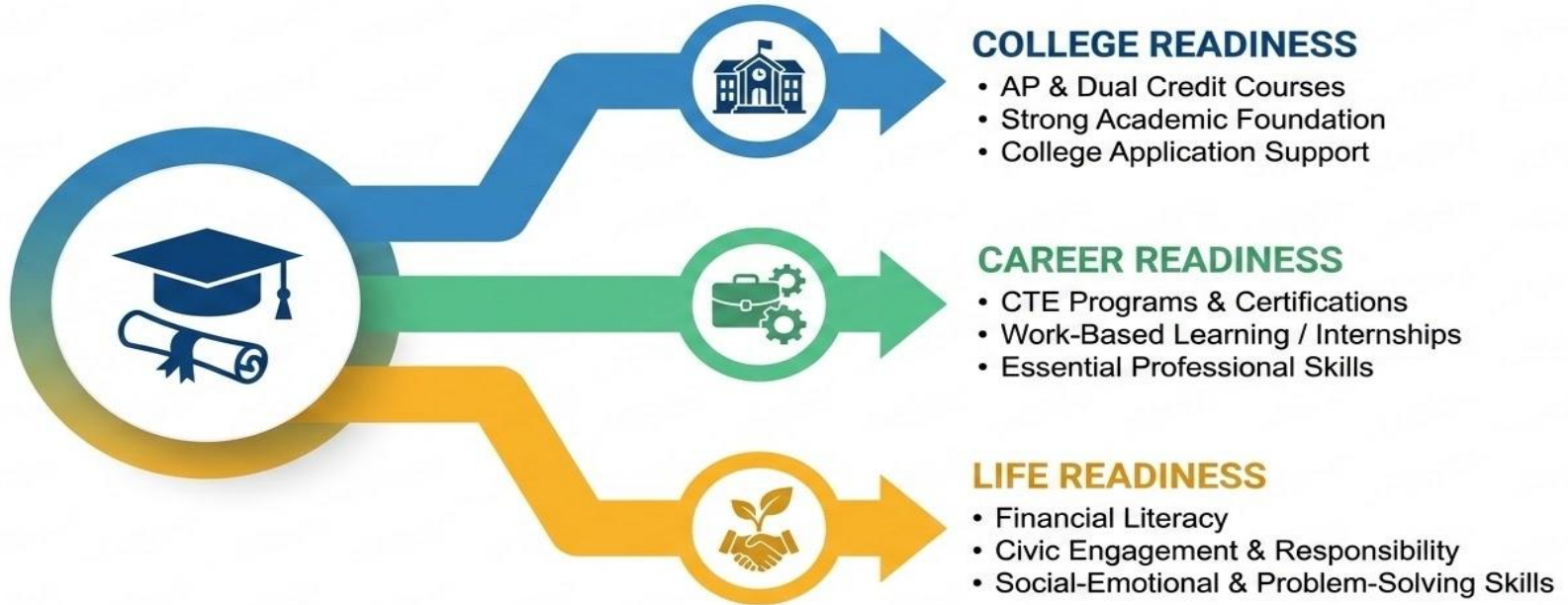


The Challenges Facing Quincy Public Schools

Preparing Students for the Future



QHS Graduates Leave with Options



Academic Needs - Currently Unfunded

Multiple areas rely heavily on grant funding:

- 6-12 Academic Intervention
- *K-3 Art*
- *K-5 Math Intervention*
- *Curricular Mandates*
- *Extended Day/Summer School*
- *Top 20% for suspension/exclusionary discipline*



The Challenges Facing Quincy Public Schools

Teacher/Staff Recruitment and Retention



**Teacher
Salaries
55 Illinois
Large Unit
School Districts**

**QPS
Lowest Base Salary
\$40,780**

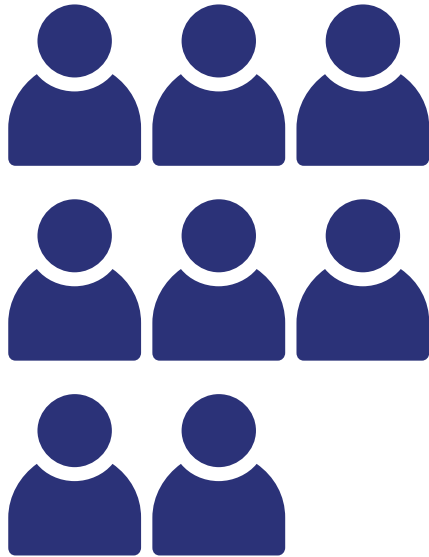


Local Salary Comparisons*

District	Enrollment	Student Teacher Ratio	Starting Salary	Year 10
Camp Point	739	14:1	\$42,411	\$46,491
Liberty	582	17:1	\$42,429	\$47,891
Mendon	671	15:1	\$42,411	\$45,025
Payson	439	18:1	\$43,637	\$48,069
Quincy	6,169	22:1	\$42,427	\$45,756

*** Includes Teacher Retirement Contributions**

Mid-Year Resignations

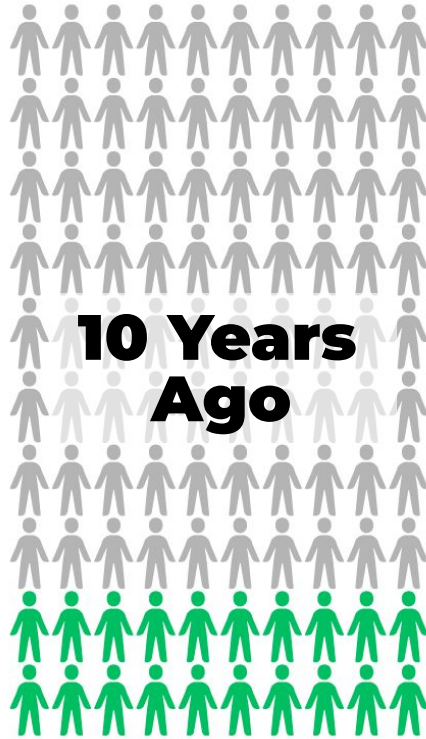


**2024-25
School Year**



**2025-26
YTD**

Applicants Per Job Opening



Current Job Openings : 28 Teaching Positions • 28 Support

Special Education Staffing Shortages

- Staffing shortages affect the entire school system—general education, behavior supports, and crisis response.
- Decreased support affects:
 - Students receiving special education services
 - General education peers
 - Classroom teachers and support staff



The Challenges Facing Quincy Public Schools

Updating Buildings and Facilities



Maintaining Facilities



Maintaining Facilities



Maintaining Facilities

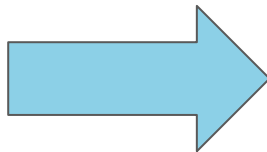


The Challenges Facing Quincy Public Schools

School Buildings & Facilities



**Outdated, Aging
Facilities**



**Impact Learning
and Safety**

Quincy Area Vocational Technical Center



Quincy Area Vocational Technical Center



Quincy Area Vocational Technical Center



Quincy Area Vocational Technical Center



A Stronger Quincy Starts with Strong Schools



**Here's where we
need your help!**



Small Group Work

Recorder Responsibilities

- Complete the information on the **YELLOW** worksheet your table

Facilitator Responsibilities

- Facilitate discussion
- Keep group focused and on task
- Report group's information



Small Group Worksheet

Information recorded should reflect consensus/ general agreement of group members

Monitor progress to complete all tasks in allotted time

Group recorder will document on the worksheet



Small Group Work Activities

Task #1

Based on the information you learned tonight, what are your group's biggest surprises and concerns about QPS?



Small Group Work Activities

Task #2

What are the top five priorities that need to be addressed by our long-range plan? *(Please rank them in order with one being the most important.)*

Small Group Work Activities

Task #3

Does your group have any suggestions for the district to overcome the challenges presented tonight?

40:00

Small Group Work Activity Reporting

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TBD	BOE Presentation

Community Workshop #2

Feb. 24, 2026

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

QHS

 quincytogether.org

 facebook.com/qps172

 instagram.com/qps172

