

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 |
|--|---|
| <p>Community Chairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ryan Sparks• Martin McCarthy <p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kevin Blickhan• Adam Booth• Lucy Bordewick• Travis Brown | <p>Members (cont'd)</p> <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 <p>District Staff & Leadership</p> <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** •

IALOGUE 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

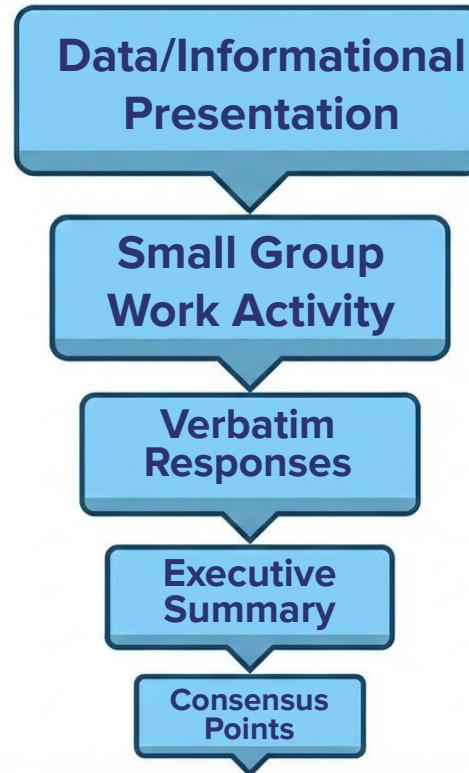


Quincy Together Process

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: _____

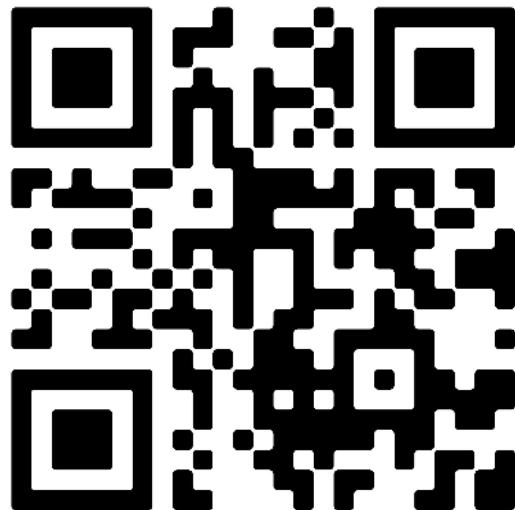
E-Mail: _____

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 Presentatio n



Ongoing Information

- quincyogether.org
- facebook.com/qps172
- instagram.com/qps172

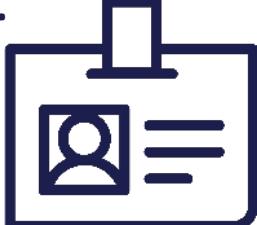
Get To Know QPS - Overview

3

rd QPS is the
Third Largest
Employer in
Adams County

1,000 +

Employees

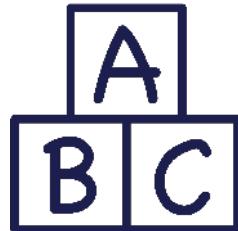


6,100+ Students

11
Schools

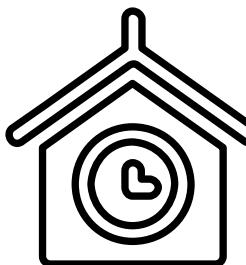


Get To Know Our Schools



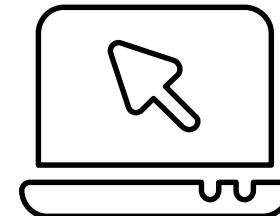
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Early Childhood
Center



5

Elementary
Schools



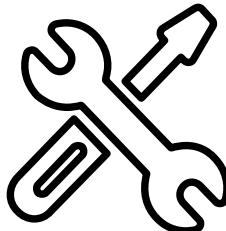
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Junior
High



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



COLLEGE READINESS

- AP & Dual Credit Courses
- Strong Academic Foundation
- College Application Support

CAREER READINESS

- CTE Programs & Certifications
- Work-Based Learning / Internships
- Essential Professional Skills

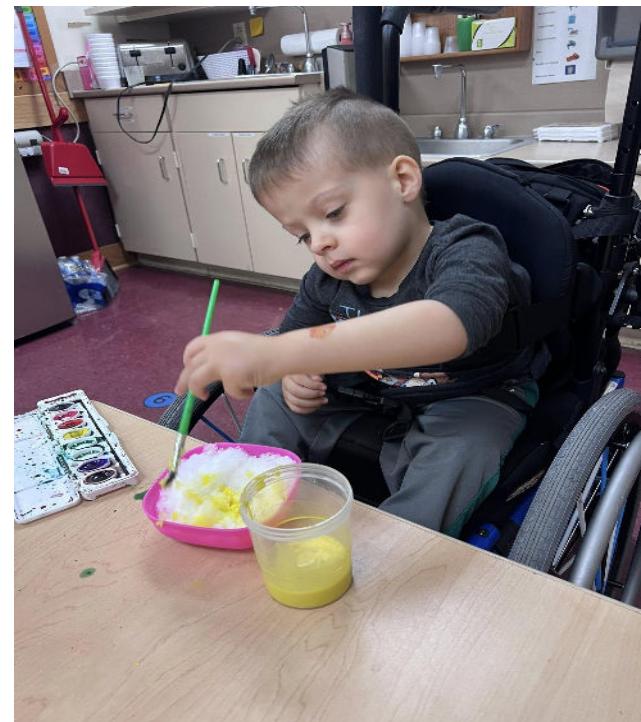
LIFE READINESS

- Financial Literacy
- Civic Engagement & Responsibility
- Social-Emotional & Problem-Solving Skills

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

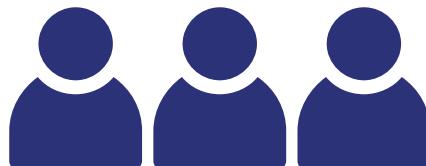


Local Salary Comparisons*

| 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



**20
Years
Ago**



**10 Years
Ago**



TODAY

**Current Job Openings : 28 Teaching Positions • 28 Support
Staff**

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



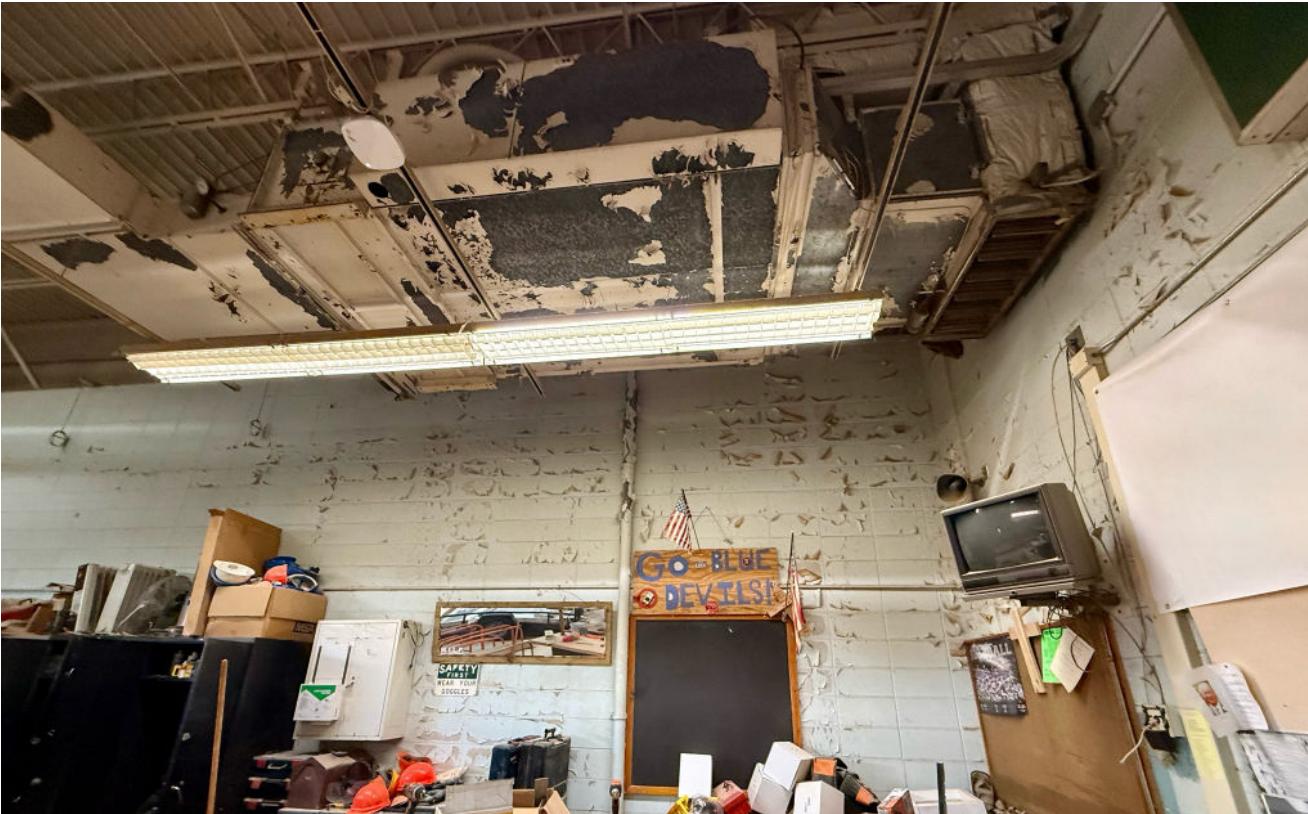
Maintaining Facilities



Maintaining Facilities

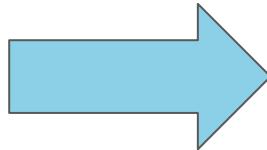


Maintaining Facilities



The Challenges Facing Quincy Public Schools

School Buildings & Facilities



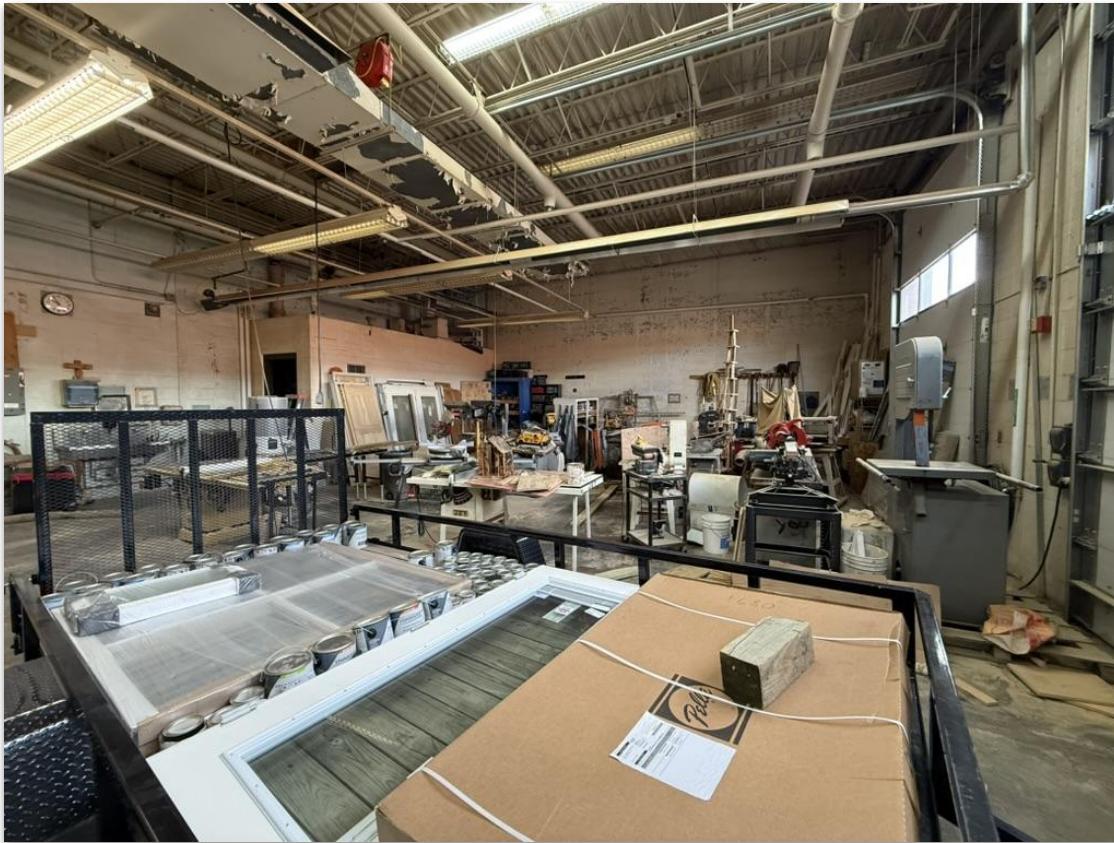
**Outdated, Aging
Facilities**

**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

Quincy Together Process

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Community Workshop #2

Feb. 24, 2026

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QHS

 quincytogether.org

 facebook.com/qps172

 instagram.com/qps172

