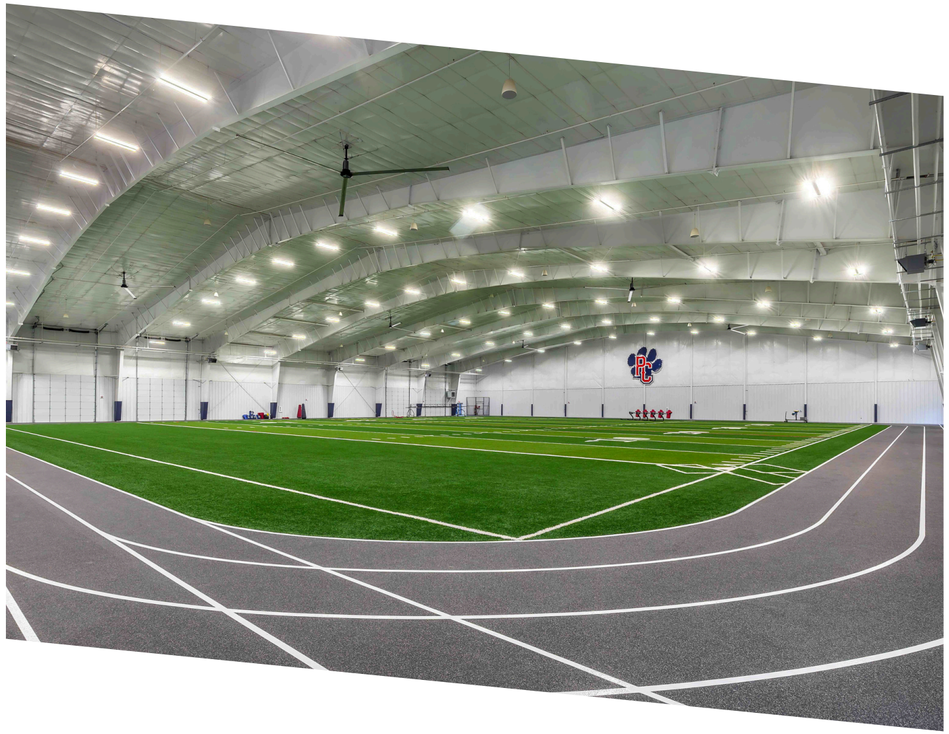


Ponca City Public Schools

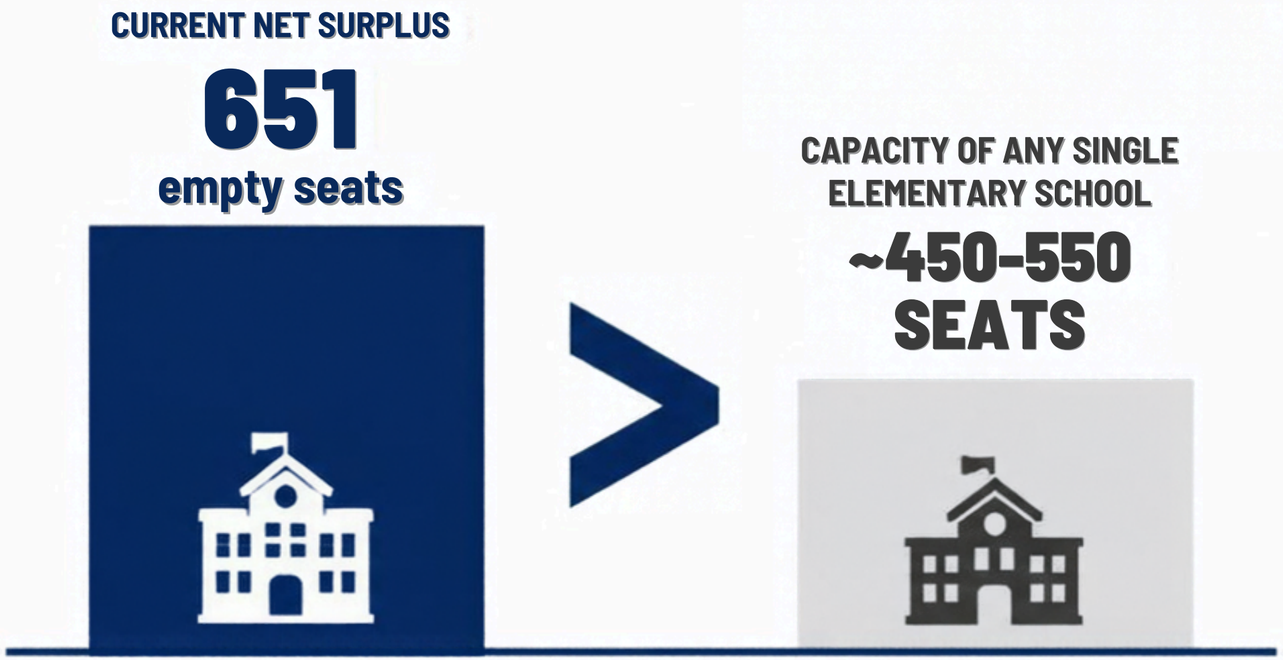
STRATEGIC & BOND PLANNING UPDATE

October 2026

ELEMENTARY
CAPACITY & ENROLLMENT
OUTLOOK

ELEMENTARY CAPACITY

Total elementary capacity:	**2,596** seats across 7 buildings
2025-26 enrollment:	**1,945** students
Overall utilization:	**74.9%**
Current net surplus:	**651** empty seats



THE CURRENT SURPLUS EXCEEDS THE CAPACITY OF ANY SINGLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ENROLLMENT DECLINE INCREASES SURPLUS CAPACITY

	2025-26 CURRENT	2030-31 FORECAST	2036-37 FORECAST
Enrollment	1,945	1,885 (-60 students)	1,880 (-65 students)
Available Surplus Seats	651	711	716
District Elementary Utilization	74.9%	72.6%	72.4%

enrollment is projected to decline and then plateau, not rebound.

THE OPERATIONAL TARGET

Operating at 80% - 85% capacity is the K-12 operational standard.
It maximizes per-pupil spending efficiency, eliminates empty-space utility waste, and maintains programmatic flexibility without overcrowding.

Staffing Efficiency

Fixed Overhead Allocation:
Baseline positions (Principal, Secretary, Counselor, Lead Custodian) cost the same whether a building is at 55% or 85% capacity.

Class Size & Ratios:
Under-enrolled buildings force inefficient staffing allocations and higher instructional costs per student.

Staff:
Right-sized to 80% allows specialized support staff (reading specialists, Title I, SPED) to serve full cohorts under one roof instead of traveling across sites.

Utility & Plant Overhead

Footprint vs. Headcount:
HVAC, lighting, and baseline water consumption depend on total square footage, not the number of students inside.

Idle Space Waste:
Heating and cooling empty classrooms diverts operational dollars away from classroom instruction.

Utility Cost Per Pupil:
Operating at 80% density minimizes utility spend per enrolled student while conditioning only active learning environments.

Capital & Operational Liability

Defered Maintenance Drag:
Every square foot kept open requires root maintenance, mechanical replacements, and exterior envelope upkeep regardless of use.

Diluted Bond Dollars:
Spreading sinking fund/capital bond dollars across surplus square footage delays critical repairs across healthy facilities.

Supervision & Safety:
Unoccupied wings, surplus exit doors, and underutilized corridors create unnecessary security monitoring liabilities.

THE FACILITY UTILIZATION SPECTRUM

< 70% Underutilized (Current State)	80%-85% Target Sweet Spot	> 95% Overcrowded

Underutilized

High cost per student; duplicated administrative overhead; utilities paid on empty rooms; diluted capital maintenance funds.

Target Sweet Spot

Peak operational efficiency: full programmatic offerings; dedicated space preserved for resource/SPED rooms; built-in buffer for cohort shifts.

Overcrowded

Loss of art/music spaces; scheduling bottlenecks; zero buffer for cohort growth; high wear-and-tear on cafeterias, gyms, and restrooms.

BONDING CAPACITY

SPRING 2027 BOND ISSUE OPTIONS

~$57,000,000

~$45,000,000

TRANSPORTATION
~$1,800,000



~$120,000,000

~$91,000,000

TRANSPORTATION
~$2,600,000



~$166,000,000

~$116,000,000

TRANSPORTATION
~$3,200,000



LISTENING SESSIONS

INTERNAL
LISTENING SESSIONS

Listening sessions are taking place now through October 29, 2026.

- **Every school site**
- **Operations Departments**
- **Athletics**

COMMUNITY
LISTENING SESSIONS



The Perk
October 22

7:30 Noon 4:30

THANK YOU