



Mergers



Merge Bolton with Harvey Rice

Recommendation: Merge Bolton with Harvey Rice

Overview of School Action



Merging Bolton with Harvey Rice will benefit both schools through a higher-quality student experience, including additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports

Bolton

- Bolton's enrollment is unsustainably low and declining in a poor condition building, limiting the school's ability to offer a robust student experience
- There are available seats in the region that are in good condition buildings and will allow for a higher-quality student experience
- Specifically, students will have a reserved seat at Harvey Rice, a school with a higher star rating (2 stars compared to Bolton's 1.5 stars) housed in a good condition building

Harvey Rice

- Harvey Rice is in a good condition building with a need for greater enrollment to sustainably offer more opportunities for students
- Harvey Rice will continue to serve students in its current location, welcoming students from Bolton

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Transitioning School Data: Bolton



Transitioning School Data: Bolton		How the data informed the recommendation
K-8 Enrollment (SY 24-25)	● 185	• Enrollment is very low compared to the 450-student target for K-8s • 450 is the level at which a school can sustainably offer more opportunities for students
Enrollment Trend (2019-2025)	● -30%	• Enrollment has fallen at a more significant rate than the district median (-12%)
Building Condition Score	● 58	• The building is in unsatisfactory condition and would need significant investments to stay open
Building Planning Capacity	715	• The building is large enough to hold 3 classes per grade • While the building is large enough to hold 3 classes per grade, enrollment is below the building's planning capacity, requiring resources that could otherwise be used for students and staff

K-8 Enrollment

- Strong (>450)
- Low (360-450)
- Very low (<360)

Enrollment Trend

- >0% growth
- 0-12% decline
- >12% decline

Building Condition Score

- Like New/Good >80
- Fair/Poor 60-80
- Unsatisfactory <60

Building Planning Capacity

- Below 450

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Welcoming School Data: Harvey Rice



Welcoming School Data: Harvey Rice		How the data informed the recommendation
K-8 Enrollment (SY 24-25)	● 430	- While stronger than many nearby schools, enrollment is still below the 450-student target for K-8s 450 is the level at which a school can sustainably offer more opportunities for students
Enrollment Trend (2019-2025)	● 1%	Enrollment has grown, outpacing the district median (-12%)
Building Condition Score	● 83	The building is in good condition and will continue to serve the community as a K-8 school
Building Planning Capacity	510	- The building is large enough to hold 2 classes per grade - Achieving strong enrollment will ensure this space is used most effectively for students

K-8 Enrollment

- Strong (>450)
- Low (360-450)
- Very low (<360)

Enrollment Trend

- >0% growth
- 0-12% decline
- >12% decline

Building Condition Score

- Like New/Good >80
- Fair/Poor 60-80
- Unsatisfactory <60

Building Planning Capacity

- Below 450

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Student Experience



Merging Bolton with Harvey Rice will **allow all students access to additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports**

	Bolton SY 2025-26	Harvey Rice SY 2025-26	Harvey Rice (merged) SY 2026-27	
 Course options	4	3	4 or more	} <i>Students will have more academic and extracurricular opportunities available to them</i>
 Sport options	4	5	5 or more	

Additionally, in school year 2026-27, Harvey Rice will offer:



More options and better participation in **clubs and extracurricular activities**



Continued student supports to meet academic, physical and mental health, and language needs



Space and support for students served in **self-contained special education and PreK classrooms**

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Map View



Students at **Bolton** have a **reserved seat at Harvey Rice**

Star rating ★★

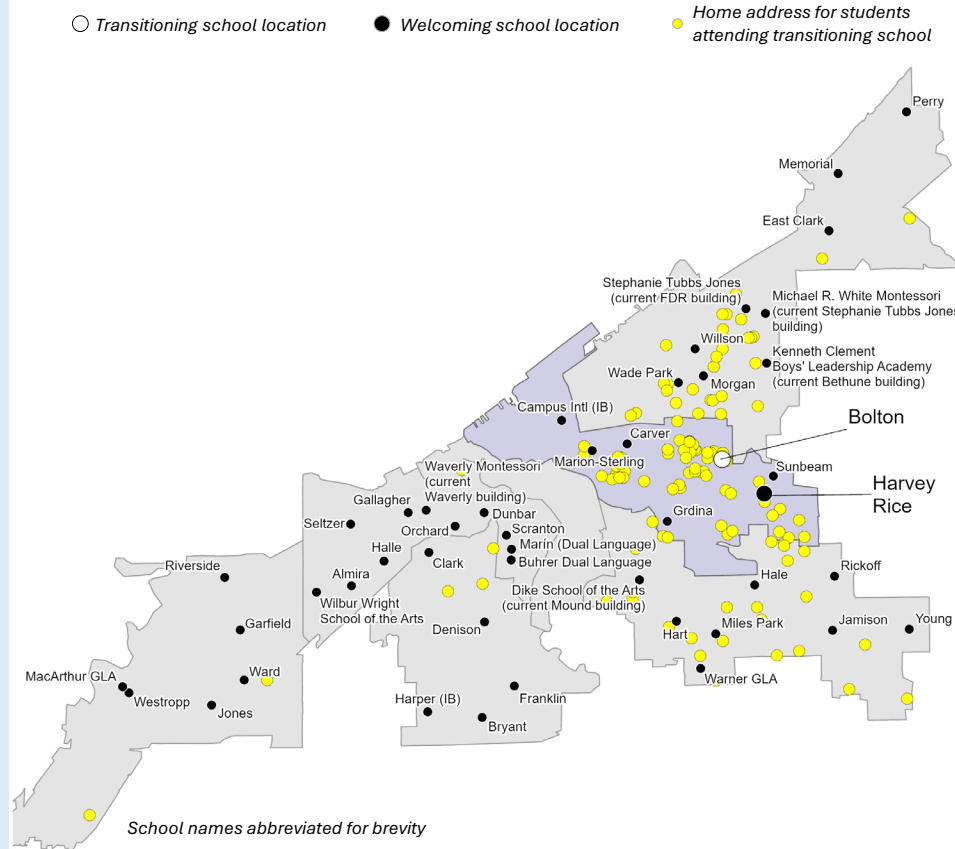
Building condition score 83

Address 2730 E 116th St

Distance between schools 1.8 miles

Transportation* Current Bolton students who accept this reserved seat and reside within 3 miles of Bolton and more than a mile from Harvey Rice are eligible for transportation to Harvey Rice for SY 26-27 and SY 27-28.

*All students with transportation-related accommodations on their IEP will continue to receive transportation, regardless of where they live.



If you would like to explore other options, students currently at Bolton will also receive first priority for *available seats at all schools they are eligible to attend* during the School Choice application process, which launches in January.

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Looking Ahead



Transitioning school

Bolton students in grades K-7 have a reserved seat at Harvey Rice and first priority for *available seats* at all other schools during the School Choice Process

Welcoming school

Harvey Rice students in grades K-7 do not need to participate in School Choice to remain at their current school

All current 8th graders across CMSD will continue to be supported in making a high school choice.

Special education single classrooms will still be offered at multiple schools in every region. Families whose children are in these specialized classrooms will get additional outreach and support to enroll.



School choice

Families can use the CMSD School Finder and School Choice Book to better understand their options starting in December.

School Choice will launch in January and run through the end of February.



Leadership

Principals for the 2026-27 school year will be appointed in December.



Staff

Staff assignments will be confirmed in Spring 2026, following the School Choice process.

School staff teams will be merged in alignment with our contractual obligations, enrollment, and the needs of the merged student community.



School community

Students, families, and staff will have opportunities to connect and collaborate around the future of the unified school community over the course of the spring and summer before the start of the 2026-27 school year.