



Mergers



Merge Charles A. Mooney with Denison

Recommendation: Merge Mooney with Denison

Overview of School Action



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

Charles A. Mooney (Mooney)

- Mooney'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 Denison, a school with a higher star rating (3.5 stars compared to Mooney's 2 stars) housed in a building with planned and in-progress investments that can support a higher-quality student experience

Denison

- Denison has strong academic outcomes for students (3.5 stars) and is in a building with in-progress and planned investments with a need for greater enrollment to sustainably offer more opportunities for students
- Denison will continue to serve students in its current location, welcoming students from Mooney

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Transitioning School Data: Mooney



Transitioning School Data: Charles Mooney		How the data informed the recommendation
K-8 Enrollment (SY 24-25)	● 282	- 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)	● -32%	Enrollment has fallen at a more significant rate than the district median (-12%)
Building Condition Score	● 60	The building is in poor condition, lacks full A/C, and would need significant investments to stay open
Building Planning Capacity	1,290*	- The building is large enough to hold 4 classes per grade - While the building is large enough to hold 4 classes per grade, enrollment is below the building's planning capacity, requiring resources that could otherwise be used for students and staff * <i>Charles Mooney K-8 currently shares space with Facing History New Tech HS</i>

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: Denison



Welcoming School Data: Denison		How the data informed the recommendation
K-8 Enrollment (SY 24-25)	● 248	- 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)	● -2%	- Enrollment has fallen, but at a less significant rate than the district median (-12%) - Continued enrollment decline threatens the ability to provide a robust student experience in the future
Building Condition Score	● 57	- The building condition score is low, but will continue to serve the community as a K-8 school with planned and in-progress investments, including a new roof and HVAC system - The investments will move the building condition score from Unsatisfactory to Good, allowing students to be served in an upgraded building
Building Planning Capacity	580	- The building is large enough to hold over 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 Mooney with Denison will **allow all students access to additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports**

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

Additionally, in school year 2026-27, Denison will offer:

-  More options and better participation in **clubs and extracurricular activities**
-  **Continued student supports** to meet the 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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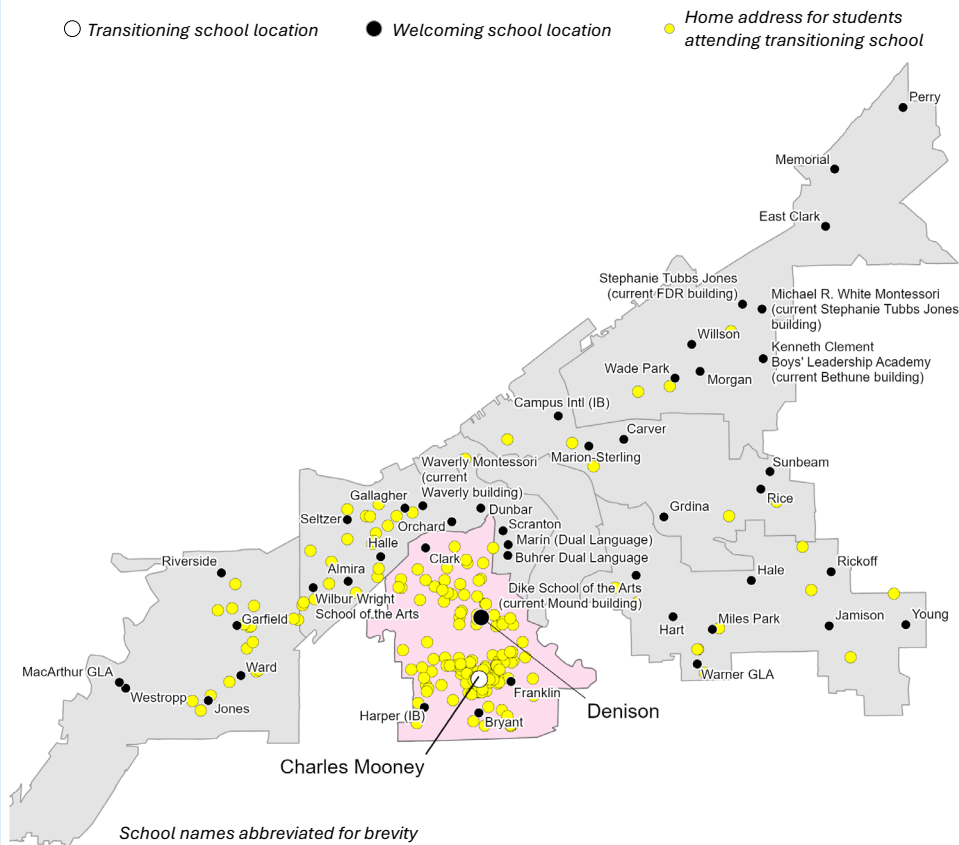
Map View



Students at **Mooney** have a **reserved seat at Denison**

Star rating	★★★½
Building condition score	57 (Planned and in-progress investments will improve the building condition score to >80)
Address	3799 W 33 rd St
Distance between schools	1.4 miles
Transportation*	Current Mooney students who accept this reserved seat and reside within 3 miles of Mooney and more than a mile from Denison are eligible for transportation to Denison 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 Mooney 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

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

Welcoming school

Denison 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.