



## Mergers



**Merge Mound with A.B. Hart**

# Recommendation: Merge Mound with A.B. Hart

## Overview of School Action



**Merging Mound with A.B. Hart will benefit both schools through a higher-quality student experience, including additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports**

### Mound

- Mound's enrollment is unsustainably low and declining, 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 A.B. Hart, a school with a higher star rating (3.5 stars compared to Mound's 2 stars) housed in a good condition building

### Albert Bushnell Hart (A.B. Hart)

- A.B. Hart has strong academic outcomes for students (3.5 stars) and is in a good condition building with a need for greater enrollment to sustainably offer more opportunities for students
- A.B. Hart will continue to serve students in its current location, welcoming students from Mound

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Transitioning School Data: Mound



| Transitioning School Data: Mound       |        | How the data informed the recommendation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>K-8 Enrollment</b><br>(SY 24-25)    | ● 315  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enrollment is <b>very low</b> compared to the 450-student target for K-8s</li><li>450 is the level at which a school can sustainably offer more opportunities for students</li></ul>                                                                                            |
| <b>Enrollment Trend</b><br>(2019-2025) | ● -18% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enrollment has <b>fallen at a more significant rate</b> than the district median (-12%)</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Building Condition Score</b>        | ● 88   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The building is in good condition and is an <b>ideal candidate for reuse as a CMSD specialty school</b>, given its location</li><li>This building will become <b>Dike School of the Arts</b>, which is a district-wide specialty school</li></ul>                               |
| <b>Building Planning Capacity</b>      | 500    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The building is <b>large enough to hold 2 classes per grade</b></li><li>While the building is large enough to hold 2 classes per grade, enrollment is below the building's planning capacity, requiring resources that could otherwise be used for students and staff</li></ul> |

## 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: A.B. Hart



| Welcoming School Data:<br>A.B. Hart |       | How the data informed the recommendation                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| K-8 Enrollment<br>(SY 24-25)        | ● 239 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Enrollment is very low</b> compared to the 450-student target for K-8s</li><li>• 450 is the level at which a school can sustainably offer more opportunities for students</li></ul> |
| Enrollment Trend<br>(2019-2025)     | ● 21% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Enrollment has grown</b>, outpacing the district median (-12%)</li></ul>                                                                                                            |
| Building Condition<br>Score         | ● 90  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>The building is in good condition</b> and will continue to serve the community as a K-8 school</li></ul>                                                                            |
| Building Planning<br>Capacity       | 490   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The building is <b>large enough to hold 2 classes per grade</b></li><li>• Achieving strong enrollment will ensure this space is used most effectively for students</li></ul>           |

## 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 Mound with A.B. Hart will **allow all students access to additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports**

|                                                                                                       | Mound<br><i>SY 2025-26</i> | A.B. Hart<br><i>SY 2025-26</i> | A.B. Hart (merged)<br><i>SY 2026-27</i> |                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>Course options</b> | 3                          | 3                              | 4 or more                               | } <i>Students will have <b>more academic and extracurricular opportunities</b> available to them</i> |
|  <b>Sport options</b>  | 6                          | 6                              | 6 or more                               |                                                                                                      |

Additionally, in school year 2026-27, A.B. Hart 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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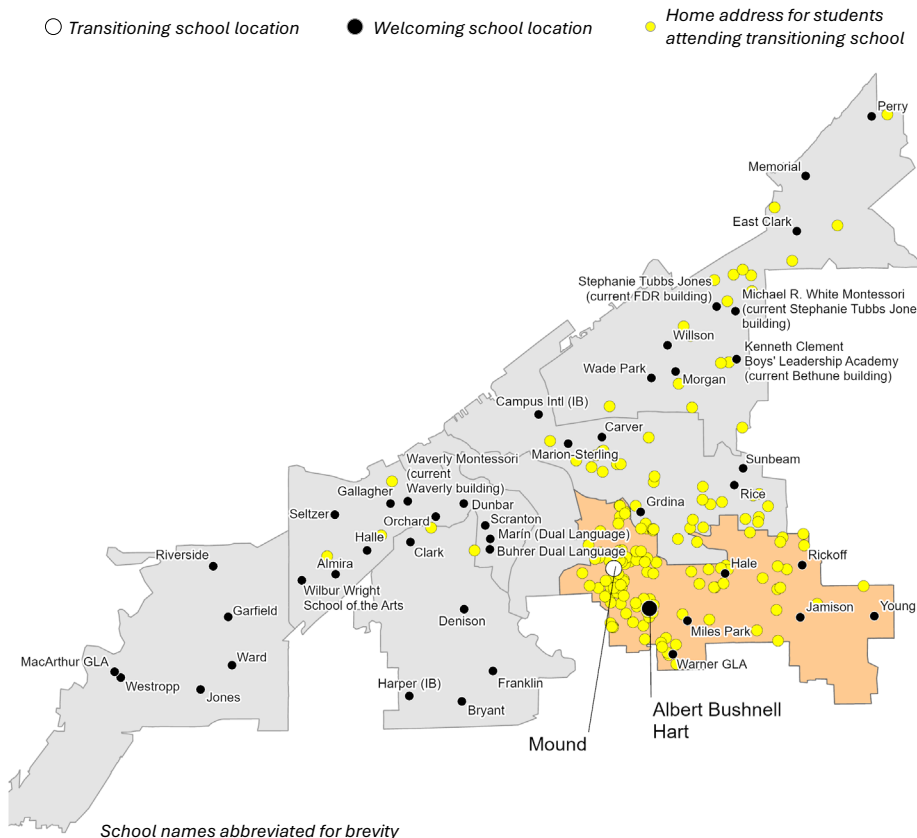
## Map View



Students at **Mound** have a **reserved seat at A.B. Hart**

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Star rating              | ★★★½                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Building condition score | 90                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Address                  | 3900 E 75 <sup>th</sup> St                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Distance between schools | 1.1 miles                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Transportation*          | Current Mound students who accept this reserved seat and reside within 3 miles of Mound and more than a mile from A.B. Hart are eligible for transportation to A.B. Hart 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 Mound will also receive first priority for *available seats at all schools they are eligible to attend* (including Dike School of the Arts that is relocating to the current Mound building) during the School Choice application process, which launches in January.

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## Looking Ahead



### Transitioning school

Mound students in grades K-7 have a reserved seat at A.B. Hart and first priority for *available seats* at all other schools during the School Choice Process (including Dike School of the Arts that is relocating to the current Mound building).

### Welcoming school

A.B. Hart 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.