



Ida B. Wells Modernization Project Update September 2025

Dear Ida B. Wells High School & Cluster families,

As the IBW Modernization project heads into a new school year we wanted to give you an update. PPS would like to thank the community members who supported the passage of the 2025 Bond. It provides funding for the construction of a new Ida B. Wells High School plus many other vital improvement projects across the district.

Latest Project Update

The Ida B. Wells Modernization Project Team is continuing schematic design for the new school building. This exciting project will include

- A 500-Seat Theater
- A Gymnasium AND an Auxiliary Gymnasium
- State-of-the-Art CTE Classrooms
- A Construction CTE Shop
- A Vibrant Commons Space

We are including a space for a new Student Based Health Center on the main floor. The existing Wells Pool owned by PP&R is not part of the work and is expected to remain open during the summers.

Site upgrades will include new turf athletic fields, tennis courts, accessible walking paths, SPED bus stops near the front door, and parking lot upgrades with new trees as required by code. The SE parking lot will be expanded so that the total number of parking spaces at the campus will remain about the same.

Engagement opportunities this fall

The citizen led Design Advisory Group (DAG) will continue to meet in the coming weeks to help the team refine elements of the design. There will also be additional Public Design Workshops with the next one taking place on October 22, 2025.

Construction Schedule

A construction schedule for Ida B. Wells is under development. More information will be

available in the coming months. During the construction period, Ida B. Wells students and staff will remain on campus while the new building is constructed.

Visit the website regularly for more information

The Ida B. Wells modernization website, <http://pps.net/IdaBWellsBond>, has the latest project developments, upcoming engagement opportunities, and previous meeting materials to view.

Thank you for helping us create a modernized Ida B. Wells High School.

Ida B. Wells Modernization Project Team