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Fact Sheet

The New HCLS Elkridge Branch + DIY Education Center

A 21ST CENTURY EDUCATION CENTER DELIVERING AN EXTRAORDINARY CURRICULUM TO THE ELKRIDGE COMMUNITY AND BEYOND.

Location:	6540 Washington Blvd Elkridge MD 21075
Architects:	Grimm + Parker Architects
Project Cost:	\$33.1M (funded by Howard County Government and grants from Maryland State Department of Education)

Imagining a 21st Century Education Center

Exciting times are on the horizon for Elkridge! In September 2014, community “dream” sessions offered HCLS and Grimm + Parker Architects a preliminary design vision as planning for the new HCLS Elkridge Branch got underway.

These initial community conversations started the process of imagining a 21st century education center that delivers an extraordinary curriculum to the Elkridge community and beyond.

Vision

The new HCLS Elkridge Branch + DIY Education Center will represent the future of public education.

The new building will match the caliber of the curriculum HCLS delivers under each of three pillars: Self-Directed Education, Research Assistance & Instruction, and Instructive & Enlightening Experiences.

A welcoming destination, the venue’s array of spaces are conducive to studying, reading, conducting research, attending classes and events, and enjoyment.



FAQs

What will the new HCLS Elkridge Branch include?

More than doubling in size, the new HCLS Elkridge Branch + DIY Education Center will strengthen the three pillars of HCLS' educational mission. For the:

Self-directed Education pillar, ample space is allocated for books, materials and 60 computers (a 50 percent increase) in the Children's, Teen and Adult collection areas, and a DIY collection in the DIY Education Center. Reading areas, quiet study rooms and a group study room will allow customers to focus on their research and work without distraction.

Research Assistance & Instruction pillar, Research and Customer Service desks have been located to deliver exceptional customer service and personalized research assistance. The new building includes a Children's classroom, an outdoor amphitheater, a HiTech classroom, and a Design Studio.

Instructive & Enlightening Experiences pillar, the building will feature a dual meeting room configuration that can host groups from 10 – 250 people, a conference room, and a café.

At a glance:

- Expanded collection
- 60 computers (50 percent increase)
- 6 quiet/group study rooms (new)
- 3 community meeting/conference rooms (triple)
- Design studio (new)
- Children's classroom (new)
- HiTech classroom (new)
- Plentiful study areas/soft seating
- Vending café (new)
- Business Center (new)
- DIY Education Center (new)

What is the DIY Education Center?

A signature component of the new branch, the DIY Education Center will feature a DIY Collection (e.g., tools for household repair, gardening, bicycle) available for borrowing, and Design Institute, a series of classes for children, teens, and adults, such as arts and crafts (e.g., Spectacular Sand Paintings, Duct Tape Wallets), small building projects (e.g., Building a Birdhouse), and home repairs (e.g., It's a Fine Line: Caulking 101; Wallpapering Basics).

Whether a child building a birdhouse with a grandparent, a homeowner borrowing tools to repair a leaky pipe, or an entrepreneur creating a widget on a 3D printer for a business venture, the DIY Education Center will optimize collaboration and creativity.

At a glance:

- DIY Collection: Small tools for home projects, bicycle repair kits, etc.
- Design Institute: A series of DIY classes for students of all ages
- Design Studio: A “mess-friendly” classroom and workspace





Classes for Adults



Classes for Children & Teens

How big will the new branch be? Will there be any more parking?

Currently **15,200** square feet, the new branch will expand to more than twice the current space, to **35,000** square feet.

The number of available parking spaces at the current branch is 108. This number will increase to **166** spaces— a 50 percent increase.

When will the current branch close and the new branch open? Will there be an interim space?

The current Elkridge Branch will close **June 1, 2016**. An interim “express” branch located near Elkridge Landing Middle School on Montgomery Road will open shortly thereafter.

The Grand Opening of the new HCLS Elkridge Branch + DIY Education Center is currently scheduled for **December 2017**.



May 2016