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FINAL

PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Officials lay out plan for closures

'Road map' provides details on savings, costs and academic impact on students

By Megan Tomasic
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh Public Schools leaders took a deep dive Thursday into how a controversial school closure and re-configuration plan could look city-wide if implemented in the coming years.

Superintendent Wayne Walters during a meeting in the district's Oakland administration building presented the Future-Ready Facilities Implementation Plan, which would guide a major overhaul of the district's footprint, currently made up of 54 schools.

"The implementation plan is more than a document," Mr. Walters said. "It is a road map for how we move

forward together as a district, as a community and most importantly for our students."

PPS is considering closing 12 schools, some of which would be re-opened as other schools. Those include Allegheny 6-8, Arsenal PreK-5, Fulton PreK-5, King PreK-8, Linden PreK-5, Manchester PreK-8, Miller PreK-5, Milliones 6-12, South Brook 6-8 South Hills 6-8, Spring Hill K-5 and Woolslair PreK-5.

Fulton and Manchester also are included on a list of school buildings that would permanently shutter. Others include Baxter (Student Achievement Center); Friendship (Montessori PreK-5); McKelvey

SEE **PLAN**, PAGE A-3



Justin Guido/Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent Wayne Walters presented the proposed Future-Ready Facilities Implementation Plan on Thursday, which is the next step the district is taking as it considers a plan to permanently shutter nine school buildings and change grade configurations at several others.

TRUMP HINTS AT NUCLEAR TESTING

U.S. hasn't detonated warheads since 1992

By Michelle L. Price
and Chris Megerian
Associated Press

BUSAN, South Korea — President Donald Trump appeared to suggest the U.S. will resume testing nuclear weapons for the first time in three decades, saying it would be on an "equal basis" with Russia and China.

The Kremlin pointed out that a global ban on nuclear tests has remained in place, but warned that if any country resumes nuclear testing Russia would follow suit.

There was no indication the U.S. would start detonating warheads, but Trump offered few details about what seemed to be a significant shift in U.S. policy.

He made the announcement on social media minutes before he met with Chinese leader Xi Jinping on Thursday in South Korea to discuss trade. He offered little clarity when he spoke to reporters later aboard Air Force One as he flew back to Washington.

The U.S. military already regularly tests its missiles that are capable of delivering a nuclear warhead, but it has not detonated the weapons since 1992. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which the U.S. signed but did not ratify, has been

SEE **WEAPONS**, PAGE A-6

SPECIAL TREATMENT



Sebastian Foltz/Post-Gazette

Avaya Collins, 7, of the North Side, gets a coloring book and candy from Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire instructor Lisa Epps-Cuda on Thursday during the city's Trick-or-Treat event at the City-County Building in Downtown.

Justices up for new term have made key rulings

By Benjamin Kail
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Democrats have held a majority on Pennsylvania's Supreme Court for 10 years, and this year's uniquely politicized and costly retention election gives voters the chance to keep that majority intact or potentially flip the court within a couple of years.

Democratic Justices Christine Donohue, Kevin Dougherty and

PA. SUPREME COURT

David Wecht face "yes" or "no" votes on their retention for another 10-year term. While there are no term limits for the court, there is an age limit, and Justice Donohue must retire in 2027 when she reaches the age of 75.

Only one justice has been tossed from the bench in more than 50 years.

But this year's contest has seen millions of dollars pour in from state and national conservative and progressive groups, with legal experts telling the Post-Gazette that state courts are increasingly enmeshed in high-profile political battles over contentious issues such as election law and abortion.

The nonpartisan Pennsylvania Bar Association praised all three Democratic justices and recom-

mended them for retention.

The state Republican Party and conservative groups have blasted the justices as leftist extremists, although the justices have not always sided with the majority or each other. Progressives pushing for retention argue the court is the last line of defense for abortion and voting rights, though the issue of mail voting regulations

SEE **JUSTICES**, PAGE A-2

New details emerge on fan's fall at arena

By King Jemison
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

As fans inside PPG Paints Arena celebrated a second Penguins goal, Abby Kendall was watching a nightmare unfold.

A man a couple of rows in front of her seat in Section 234 on Monday had attempted to jump sideways from one row to the next while moving toward the staircase separating sections 234 and 201, she said, rather than asking people between him and the stairs to stand.

He couldn't catch himself on the seats in the row in front of him, she said. Or the next. Or the next.

"He was always on his feet," Ms. Kendall told the Post-Gazette on Thursday, three days after the man was left in critical condition when he ultimately fell from the upper bowl into the walkway behind the lower bowl. "He just couldn't get his balance, couldn't get stopped."

His fall began about halfway up the section and carried him all the way over the railing in the front row headfirst, Ms.

SEE **FALL**, PAGE A-5



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Weather
Mostly cloudy with showers. Daytime high, 52; tonight's low, 38.
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