

**2011 - 2012 Facility Utilization Task Force
Elementary Options
January 12, 2012**

What Do You Believe Needs To Be Done?

Boundary shifts to facilitate more balanced enrollments.

Boundary shifts. Reconfigure boundaries shifting schools south. Expand South Mt.

Shift boundaries Stettin (around Menards) to either Jones or Rib Mt. - then move Rib. Mt. To South Mt.

Close Lincoln & Kiefer - shift boundaries to the south. Add onto Stettin and South Mt. Put 4K in elementary schools.

Revisions of actual boundaries so that student numbers are better at each building.

Maximize neighborhood schools (decrease busing if possible).

To find the most cost effective course of action (Top 30).

Include Montessori in elementary projections and planning.

Grade configuration 2: 5 -6 @ John Muir, 7-8 @ Horace Mann.

Eliminate 5-6 grade & 7-8 grade plan. Plan economically not feasible. Transportation costs.

Assume an equitable class size/room ratio district wide K-5, 6-8, 9-12.

Reconfigure spaces - with possible construction of a larger elementary or two with a focus

Reconfigure the buildings to best use the space. Fill the under-enrolled schools.

We need to relieve over enrolled schools and fill under enrolled schools.

Like the idea to combine 5th & 6th and 7th & 8th.

More cost effective to add space to 2 middle schools or highschoools than 14 elementary schools.

Grade level realigned. Explore configurations. Reconfigure grades.

Keep class sizes equitable across the district.

Close some elementary schools and increase sections to larger schools. 4-5 section elementary schools.

Look at closing older elementary schools that are costly to operate and replace with larger section capacity school.

Determine the value of repairing vs combining or closing.

Add wing to Stettin - it's the growing area, will become like Riverview - one large elementary on both sides of the river.

Close those that are in bad of shape and add more rooms to nearby buildings to accommodate the children from closed facilities.

Close some elementary schools & increase sections to larger schools.

Possibly build a large elementary school and close multiple small ones.

Add new addition to Stettin Elementary. Add needed classrooms to some schools.

Consider transportation costs.

Prefer moving grade 5 rather than bussing PK/EC/4K across town. Sage K, 1 at least.

Decentralize Pre-K to the Elementary Schools.

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Put Pre-K back to neighborhood schools and close Kiefer.
Utilize more multi-age methodology rather than straight grade levels.
Centralized Charters. Put them in one location/building.
Take into consideration the potential of additional Charter Schools.
We need to have site teams provide input or questions.
Can Virtual options free up space?
Reconfigure the daily/yearly schedule.
Re-examine what 21st Century learning spaces will look like and incorporate as best we can.
Expand distance learning options.
In all of educating differently - looping project based, shared spaces.
Take out #10 option as a possibility.
Keep in mind relationships with families while making decisions.
Look at the data. Analyze. Look at the research. Look at key interests...what we want. Which options best connect?

What Stands In Our Way?

Money/Finances - (10 responses)
Community support and understanding - (5 responses)
Emotions from community members.
Community thinks what we have now is just fine.
Community politics, history, sentiment (reference 1993-1994)
History & sentiment. Pride in local school.
"The way it's always been"
Neighborhood schools pride/cultures. City history. City "politics".
Change is hard. Fear of change.
If boundaries are changed, hard feelings. Fear/loss of "ownership".
Clear understanding by all.
Communication - to everyone. Give data and reasoning.
Feeling education already costs too much!
Philosophy
Failed referendums around us.

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People without children and older.

Need to examine transportation costs and time. (2 responses)

The river. (2 responses)

What Should Be Done EC/4K/PK?

(centralized, decentralized, both, other?)

Keep children at their area school, the one they will attend for kindergarten.

Send to home or neighborhood location. Would not want to bus them across town.

In schools - it is so beneficial for kids to be in the same school to learn the routines, expectations, etc.

Decentralize - put kids back in their home schools. (10 related responses)

Add Pre-K at elementaries that do not already offer Pre-K.

Decentralize - look at community sites, consider elementary placement 4K - grade 4.

Close Kiefer - look at 2 sites - north/south or east/west.

Perhaps 2 locations, east/west.

Specialize it.

Centralize. (2 responses)

Create arrangements where they loop and then their teacher follows them to kindergarten.

Looping of 4K/K.

We need to use all the research re. Pre-K delivery systems (central vs decentral).

Specialize at some elementaries, ex. Grant - 1 Reg Ed classroom, 1 DHH classroom.

Less transitions. Note: Special needs would then need to be staffed at home school as well.

Centralize the Charter schools in their own building.

Make a Charter school for all EC/4K/PK

What Is Your Solution?

Make all juniors and seniors take half of their courses or more on-line and not at school for most of the day due to virtual offerings. Then pull the 8th graders up to West and East. Make Muir and Mann 5,6,7. Then all elementary schools are PK-4.

Build a comprehensive plan - multi-year with an equal plan for community support. What the community is willing to support.

Do a cost benefit analysis regarding building needs and money to bring up to par.

Cost analysis, ed analysis, maintain vs new construction.

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We really need to articulate/illustrate etc. how we can no longer afford to operate the way we are today.

Need to patiently articulate the need for our community to see this process as a priority.

We need to create a safe schools committee to examine best practice.

We need to increase size of less than 900 sq. ft. classrooms.

We need to set the stage for a referendum.

We need to re-examine boundaries and modify.

Shift boundaries.

Boundaries first, then dollar of repairs and upgrades needed.

Look at boundaries and possible adjustments between South Mt., Rib Mt. And Stettin.

Move far west side boundaries. Shift Stettin students to Maine and Rib Mt. Students to South Mt.

Make elementary schools preK-4, Mann 5-6, Muir 7-8.

Reexamine policy on class size.

We need to decide which buildings require too much money to repair and close and sell.

Add on an addition (with a cafeteria) to South and move Montessori Charter School there.

Close Hewitt-Texas and build a new school in between (close prox to old)

Turn Grant into a Montessori Center and early childhood/4K. Close Kiefer.

Tear down Lincoln and build a new 2-story school.

Build an addition to elementary (ex: Stettin) and move it from a 2 sections to 3 section school.

Get WSD stake holders (total community) to buy into importance of education.

