

Information Regarding the Community Survey

Background

The School Board in the past has looked at the condition of our school buildings and has noted some concerns, but has not taken any action. The last study was completed about five years ago and since then there have been some significant changes. Currently the district serves about 785 children in three locations, Appleton, Madison and the high school with approximately 196, 135, and 454 children in each location, respectively. Information available to the School Board indicates that enrollment for at least the next five years is expected to continue to rise, thus increasing the problems to be addressed. The Appleton and Madison locations serve kindergarten through 4th grades. At present Appleton enrollment is approximately 20% above optimal level for the facility size while Madison is similarly below capacity. Both of these facilities are facing obsolescence issues with certain components of their plant or equipment and both have deficiencies regarding desirable amenities such as entrance security, air conditioning, public address systems, fire alarms, utility accessibility, and in the case of Madison a fire suppression sprinkler system. Additionally, both facilities have deficiencies regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) code requirements. Although these deficiencies are not currently mandated they must be addressed if we are to enter into any major construction or modification of the current facilities.

Alternatives

The School Board, in early 2018, began working toward a new assessment of these needs with the help of selected companies which have the expertise needed to assist in such an evaluation. The School Board examined several alternatives which included:

- Renovation of the elementary facilities to meet the identified needs;
- Consolidation of the elementary grade students at the high school location and corresponding construction;
- Redrawing the lines of the district to move more students from the Appleton area to Madison;
- Moving some portion of the grades, such as 3rd and 4th, to Madison from Appleton.

In each case there were significant concerns raised regarding economic costs for the School District as well as concerns about transportation effects on the children, economic effects to the communities, and concerns regarding open enrollment under each option. In the case of consolidation there is also the concern and cost associated with the to-be emptied facilities. In most rural areas a high proportion of such facilities are not able to be repurposed and thus eventually are abandoned usually at some significant cost to the district.

Conclusions

At the present time and based on the information presently available, the School Board feels options 1 or 2 above may be the most feasible alternatives. The Survey is intended to gather further input from the communities being served and not to promote one alternative over the

other. It is also not the intention of the School Board to exclude any possible unidentified alternative. The data outlined in the Survey is a summary of what the School Board feels may be acceptable alternatives and the associated capital costs for each. It must be noted that either option will have some attendant operating cost impacts which have, as yet, not been thoroughly determined. A further breakdown of the capital costs for each option is detailed below. As stated not all of the items for inclusion are required immediately by law or need, but were prudent to include as needs increase or support systems reach the end of their expected lives. The School Board desires to use the survey as a guide to further the study and determine what support each option may have. We are looking forward to your response and welcome any additional commentary from the public as we move toward this goal.

Thank you.

<u>Site</u>	<u>Square Feet</u>	<u>Estimated Cost of Projects</u>	<u>Cost per Square Foot</u>	<u>Notes</u>
A-M (Current)	30,660	7,130,000	232.55	Updating only
A-M w/additions*	20,500	6,170,000	300.98	New construction
A-M (Combined)	51,160	13,300,000	259.97	Updating & new construction
LqPV	196,000	6,460,000	32.96	Updating only
MMN	108,941	15,300,000	140.44	Updating only

<u>Total</u>	<u>Square Feet</u>	<u>Approximate Enrollment</u>	<u>Square Feet per Student</u>
LqPV Totals	334,601	785	427.52

Questions from April 1, 2019 Public Meeting

What is our breakdown of funding per student?

For each student that lives in our district boundaries, but does not attend one of our district schools, approximately \$8,570 leaves our school district to the other district.

How would a 5%, 10%,15%, and 20% enrollment loss affect funding?

Using a current enrollment figure of 785, here are some examples of the funding loss that would occur if the following percentages of students open-enrolled out of our district:

- 5% 39 students \$334,230
- 10% 79 students \$677,030
- 15% 118 students \$1,011,260

- 20% 157 students \$1,345,490

If the School District were to consolidate into one campus, what would be the future of the Madison-Marietta-Nassau and Appleton-Milan buildings?

No discussion has taken place at the School Board level regarding the future of the buildings should they be vacated at some point in the future. Options could include:

- *Partial use by the school district or other entity;*
- *Purchase by some other entity for reuse purposes;*
- *Demolition.*

If the campuses were consolidated, what would happen to Little Eagles Daycare in Madison?

If the campuses were consolidated, what would happen to preschool in Appleton and Madison?

If the campuses were consolidated, what would happen to Kids Time in Madison?

No decisions have been made regarding the future of Little Eagles Daycare, the collaborative preschool programs or Kids Time. Making sure these childcare options remain convenient for parents would be a primary consideration in any future planning.