

## Question Card Responses

### APRIL MEETING

Submitter: Paisley Sichone

What are the pros and cons of making Logan & Central 6-12 and closing Longfellow and Logan MS?

- Costs are prohibitive to make true separate middle and high schools in the same buildings. As an example, creating separate cafeterias or building new science rooms to keep students separate is a large expense. Portions of facilities are already stretched at each level including music rooms, cafeterias, and gymnasiums. This relates to more offerings over the years, while at the same time experiencing reductions in enrollment.
- The mixing of these two different development levels comes with some risks. No school district large enough to efficiently separate these groups of students typically does so in this way. K-8 buildings exist in a variety of districts (with their own issues), but 6-12 buildings in places where school districts have a choice do not generally exist.

Submitter: Tim Alberts

Are the actual middle school capacity numbers actual or capacity numbers that will be in the future?

- The listed capacity numbers are current and future capacity numbers. The listed enrollments are based on this year's enrollments.

Submitter: Anna Stindt

Are there innovative classroom models we want to strive for?

- We want our classrooms to incorporate the best practices identified for instruction. If we have funds to build new or renovate, there are features that are particularly helpful including visible breakout spaces for small group instruction, flexible seating options, and reasonably sized spaces for specialists.

What is all considered when looking at safety in a building?

- Safety incorporates a wide-range of features. The National Institute for Justice identifies three overarching components: physical safety, school climate, and student behavior. The elements of good physical safety include: an emergency operations plan and training and coordination with the community on an EOP; mechanisms for threat assessments; implementation of security technology (e.g., cameras, communication technology, access control, and identification technology); clearly delineated SRO duties and responsibilities; and important for school facilities work: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) when designing schools. CPTED principles include informal and formal means of access control; surveillance and the ability to be aware of one's entire surroundings; and territoriality, which is creating a sense of shared ownership and responsibility for a space.

Survey- Can we add a value scale to the survey? (Scale 1-10)

- We initially examined this possibility, but given the number of parameters, felt that it would create a significant barrier to completion of the survey and instead we presented a strategy that would allow prioritization through picking a limited number. This strategy will

not lead to individual rankings, but a composite ranking through the number of times a particular parameter is selected.

Submitter: Steve O'Malley

Can we consider different levels of consolidation to utilize capacity? Grades 7 & 8 in HS; Grades 4 & 5 in MS.

- Combining different levels is a possibility. A factor in that consideration is the instruction and environment that is appropriate for each developmental level. If separation of certain groups of students for different models is appropriate, then how do we accomplish that with the resources we have or what is the cost to do so?

What is the plan to fund Capital Improvements listed in the "no time frame" column (especially for two high schools)?

- We are hopeful that the committee will have time to get to long range capital improvement planning which could indicate when and how capital improvements could be accomplished. Most major or broad capital improvements are funded through referenda in the State of Wisconsin.

Submitter: Heidi Odegaard

Could the improvement of the school facilities increase the enrollment (from outside districts)?

- Improvement to school facilities could increase enrollment from outside the district. Improvements to school facilities could also impact individuals' decisions about where to settle in the region. Better facilities may attract people to live in La Crosse and attend La Crosse public schools.

Submitter: Tammy Gruen

I understand that this is about facilities but at some point maybe it would be good to get this group together to talk about how to grow La Crosse itself.

- Growing La Crosse is definitely something the school district would love to be a part of - whether it is this committee or another!

Submitter: Linda Hansen

Is there a balance of Open Enrollment into our District vs out of our District?

- Open enrollment is a wash for the school district. We have about 300 students that open enroll out and about 300 students that open enroll in. The School District's annual budget book tracks this balance annually and historically.

Submitter: Jed Olson

When faced with underutilized assets (buildings), many businesses would see it as an opportunity to utilize the asset for revenue generation.

- In some cases there are opportunities to use underutilized spaces for revenue generation. This would be particularly true if there were whole buildings or sequestered spaces that were available. Under our current operating environment, underutilized space comes in the form of partially used classrooms or fewer students in a classroom making it a challenge to repurpose these spaces for additional revenue generation.

Any recommendations of our group need to be based on outcomes. If we make recommendations of specific actions, we may not meet our objective.

- The outcomes aligned with the FAC Tasks are to:
  - Recommend potential elementary school arrangement
  - Recommend elementary facilities consolidation options
  - Recommend MS/HS facilities improvements that result in equal opportunities for students

Submitter: Deb Suchla

Survey- It is important to add an option on spaces in elementary schools for students that learn differently (mental health rooms, cool down rooms, sensory rooms, etc).

- Spaces for learning differently are an important consideration. As a modern instructional strategy, the school district has made every effort to add these spaces into existing elementary buildings and will be a prerequisite of future building design as long as they continue to be the best instructional practice.

Why is it important for middle and high school to have comparable opportunities but not a consideration for elementary schools?

- Providing comparable opportunities is just as important at the elementary level as it is at the secondary level. The core amenities found at the elementary level across buildings are far more similar than they are at the secondary level which has driven the inclusion of this task in the FAC process.

Submitter: Guest - Tamara Dickinson

Could you share original scribe writings to share with the work group?

- We will be sharing summaries of original scribe work.