

PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY PARTICIPANTS AT 2/28/18
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT

ANALYSIS OF PHYSICAL CONDITION OF EACH SCHOOL

- Actual analysis of physical condition of each school - oil tanks?
- What rehab has already been done?

CLASS SIZE

- Maintaining all school supports- class size, supports, school psych, spec ed
- Small class sizes, outdoor spaces - current strengths and quality of ed is upheld
- Maintaining the quality of socio-emotional development we have in elementary schools- to do this we must have small class sizes and should continue character building as part of curriculum
- maintaining small class size, community feel not lost
- Small class sizes, keep schools that can be community schools
- Keeping low class ratio
- Class size and collaborative space

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- BOE needs to express to older folks that strong schools support their property value, social support
- Think the BOE needs to do more education with parents about the impact of school size on students- both pro and con
- How do we engage the general population (no kids in school) in making the decision?

COSTS

- Fiscal responsibility and lower taxes
- Don't try to convince us to build new schools- provide clear cost estimates
- Why assume no state contribution for renovate elementary schools?
- Need to include cost of land and demolition
- Fiscal responsibility- keeping excellent academics advancing programs
- What is EO doing- another building we will be paying for?
- Further refine cost differences between 1 new school or 2 new schools
- Efficiency in use of resources (cost, worlds resources, people's time, land use minimized)
- Minimize overhead costs to maximize \$ toward spaces, teachers, STEM
- Impact on taxes and land use
- The cost presentation is not useful, is full of unfounded assumptions and creates a bias the may not be accurate
- Cost

MISCELLANEOUS

- Kelly Lyman - thank you for research on school size and formation on outcomes. What is the research about those factors on school climate outcomes or mental health outcomes?
- Keep process moving You're doing a great job- don't be delayed by any negativity

- Likelihood enrollment projections are accurate because of the foreign student enrollment at UCONN /Eastern varies based on national policy?
- How will we divide up the students?
- Where do the preschool children go? Preschoolers stay with the kindergarteners? How students are divided is my big concern.
- School choice for current students in elementary schools to move to a less crowded school if they have parent provide transportation.
- Will new schools attract more young families to town?

PHYSICAL BUILDING CONCERNS

- Best space for learning for kids now and in the future
- Updating spaces in k-4 schools
- Tradeoff between teaching and learning - space, flexible, 21st century learning education
- State of the art facilities
- Improve town branding, separate cafeteria and gym space, small, neighborhood feel
- Outfit schools with modern technology, computers
- Integration of schools into the future of the community (accessible geographically, used for multiple purposes, reflect our values, sustainability, well by all comm members)
- Safety in schools, architecturally building a school this is mindful of exits, entrances, lockdown plans. Etc.
- Better school facilities- which = better learning and teaching environment

PROGRAMMING

- Preparing our communities children to be successful in the post education world- the five C's
- My top priority is to have the new schools to make my children ready for the 21st century
- First priority is to build facilities that will support new educational goals
- I want to make sure we make decisions on buildings based on clear educational goals
- I also feel like the Board could remind homeowners how the values of the house improves with good schools
- Spaces that are conducive to children's learning and allow for responsiveness to various social, cultural, and learning needs
- Being able to maintain our school programs for the long haul
- Impact of programming being offered at elementary schools (in terms of number of schools and design of space) How can we maximize
- Maintain standards of education, programs staff regardless of infrastructure options.
- Make sound fiscal choices that still work for the students
- Being prepared for the 21st century learning. Technology up to date.
- Most important part of this process...we spend \$ ultimately end up with spaces that are most conducive to learning that is appropriate for all types of student needs (accessibility, sensory needs)
- Class size
- What is best for students and town as a whole
- Keep staffing - programming strong. Facilities are secondary to me.

- Renovation analysis/ recommendations by the state is critical. Can't truly consider options otherwise
- Maintain excellent district quality- retain teachers-
- Outcomes of education, cost to town and taxpayers
- Breadth of program, no loss of current frequency/choice of programs
- Maintaining and possibly expanding educational opportunities and small class sizes
- Science labs, physical ed, outdoor ed (land use) outdoor ed, cultural understanding
- Keep bus rides as short as possible
- we love the presence of the university but we worry that families may not stay in town if more affordable housing is in neighborhoods with many students renting
- Quality and scope of programs, ie arts, phys ed, enrichment, of course core educational needs
- Test scores to stay high
- Assess the people resources the townspeople and use them in the school programs
- We are losing 20th century skills-not all go to college. Trades are important

SMALL SCHOOL "FEEL"

- Priority is Community: the one that my kids thrive at in at Goodwin, where staff and parents know one another: where they know my kids; community that supports the teachers and staff (ie cost savings means people lose jobs) where school community and neighborhood are connected.
- Maintain small community feel with small class sizes
- Keeping elementary school separate from the middle no prek-8
- Don't want to lose feeling of small neighborhood school for elementary kids
- Instigating these projects by amassing sufficient political will through messaging/ PR campaigns
- Integrating 21st century skills into architectural design
- Maintain high quality level of education
- Maintain community/ family atmosphere of our students
- Climate and safe supporting atmosphere
- Community/ kids not being lost in large school

SUGGESTIONS FOR BUILD NEW OR RENOVATE

- My top priority if to consolidate the three 60+ year old elementary schools into a state-of-the art elementary school that is designed for 21st century education program and is energy efficient and is designed so that children feel "small school" atmosphere
- Not going to one big mega elementary school (support 2 elementary schools)
- Building a new schools that provide and updated elementary building (s) with good environmental space design meets new technology and learning needs
- The most important thing to me is....safe lots of light love and support happiness- I am supporting one elementary school direction
- I think it's important to put aside our loyalties to our elementary schools and look at how to optimally serve our kids - efficient use of resources, both staff and physical resources
- Since the Town of Mansfield will not receive any state reimbursement for renovation of our older schools, I am strongly leaning towards building two new elementary schools or one new

- It doesn't make financial sense to renovate 60+ year buildings and get 0 reimbursement from state
- Decision based on educational benefit rather than cost - in favor of new school (s)
- Is there a preference for new vs renovation?
- Better define costs for building
- Neighborhood feel, flexible space, 21st century learning, efficient / simple HVAC systems
- Update to meet instructional needs
- State evaluate for renovations
- I love the 3 small elem schools less students left out
- Are renovations possible
- It would be helpful to have an analysis done by external experts Harvard is next door
- Challenge with so many variables could 6 options be played out
- Single large elem school will be beneficial will help unity and community
- Bite the bullet and eliminate at least one elem school, rest of process will run smoothly don't know if 1 school or 2 makes more sense
- I suggest to have two schools due to declining enrollment but one central school will cause lots of transportation problems
- I suggest to renovate two schools
- Need to determine how feasible one vs two schools before moving forward
- Explore utilizing MMS as consolidated elem school and then relocate MMS / upgrade spaces, older students have less transportation issues
- Options other than the five are worth considering like multi schools in one building and a new middle school
- Not going to one big mega elem school support two elem schools
- Building a new school or 2 new schools that provide an updated elem building with good environmental space
- Finding the most beneficial solution for educating children of Mansfield
- Can we run 2 or more neighborhood schools in one building
- Given uncertainties about future which option gives us better flexibility
- -Reduce the impact of school changes to the current students
- Could 1 school be built to increase capacity and then one school be renovated to be cost effective and ease stress to current students
- few transitions so a smooth interim steps during construction

SUSTAINABILITY

- Sustainability of the buildings
- Sustainability, including energy efficiency and use of renewable energy. Costs should reflect 20 year operating costs long term building decision that meets needs over next 20 years
- Please consider siting with regard to access to natural resources - getting kids out into the woods is invaluable
- Environmentally efficient and built to engage families and community activities
- Highest quality education that is achieved with energy and cost efficiencies
- Flexibility of space

- Sustainability of buildings and health
- High quality schools sustainability sited, wrap around services
- Moving forward with renovations or building new schools, we must consider more sustainable energy use. We need to model for our children the process of weaning ourselves from burning fossil fuels. Burning methane is not sustainable for our children's future

TEACHER CONCERNS

- Fund excellent teachers at the expense of excellent facilities
- Teacher input- what do they want/need , cost effectiveness, increasing opportunities for student creativity, learning, exploration
- Future curriculum foci
- -teacher identified needs
- schools small enough to ensure sense of community
- A key piece that needs to be addressed is curriculum. What will teachers be expected to teach, which will dictate structured needs?
- Effective learning spaces are my top priority- this means input from teachers as well as careful consideration of the scholarly literature on this issue.
- My top priority would be to design a building based on educational desires of the teachers
- Would like to keep k-4 and 5-8
- Maintain rich curriculum and experienced staff, support teacher curriculum by creating personal intimate, settings, that promote connection and collaboration.
- I want my child to know he is safe in his learning environment
- Maintain high quality of teachers ...invest there. Facilities are a smaller part of the equation
- My priority is to ensure we don't lose talented teachers or staff in our schools. We have wonderful communities within the schools and I don't want that to be compromised. I is something unique. I never experienced in any of the schools that I attended
- Are you planning a similar session for the teachers in the schools- to give input on the curriculum and space needs for new construction?
- My top priority is the mental health of all the children. We need to get the teachers input in order to know how they feel to best meet the needs of the children. There are too many unknowns at this point for me to lean towards one option over another. Thank you for including the community in this very important decision.