



PLANNING *for* *our* FUTURE

**Neighborhood Outreach & Feedback
June 2, 2016**

www.msdt.k12.in.us

Agenda for the Community Meeting

Part 1: Review the most frequent questions and concerns raised on May 19th



Part 2: Share additional Master Facilities Committee and Administration considerations regarding John Strange and the total scope of the project
proposed

Part 3: At your tables share your additional questions.





Community Idea #1: *“Can’t we move Eastwood to the Wyandotte site and build the new elementary at the Eastwood site?”*

Review of Idea

- The Eastwood building is not conducive for transformation to an elementary facility and transformation would be costly.
- Constructing a new middle school at Wyandotte site would come at a significantly higher cost than an elementary (classroom spaces, labs, athletic spaces, locker rooms, etc.)
- For those concerned w/traffic at Wyandotte site, a MS would entail 800-1050 students vs. a 650-725 elementary school.



Community Idea #2:

“What about putting a two story elementary building on the existing John Strange site?”

Review of Idea

- Additional student population (up to 725) on this small site would result in even more traffic congestion in an already extremely difficult situation.
- Students could not attend John Strange during construction of this degree. Students could be displaced (possibly to the west side of the district) for multiple years during construction. This would add significantly to the disruption of families as well as transportation challenges.
- We would have a building on a site 1/3 the size of the possible Wyandotte site – and no solution to the traffic congestion.
- District wide elementary capacity issue would not be solved for up to 5 years due to project staging.
- Boy Scouts’ facility would need to be removed as we would have to utilize all available acreage.



Community Idea #3: *“Can we open Wyandotte as a Kindergarten Center?”*

Review of Community Idea

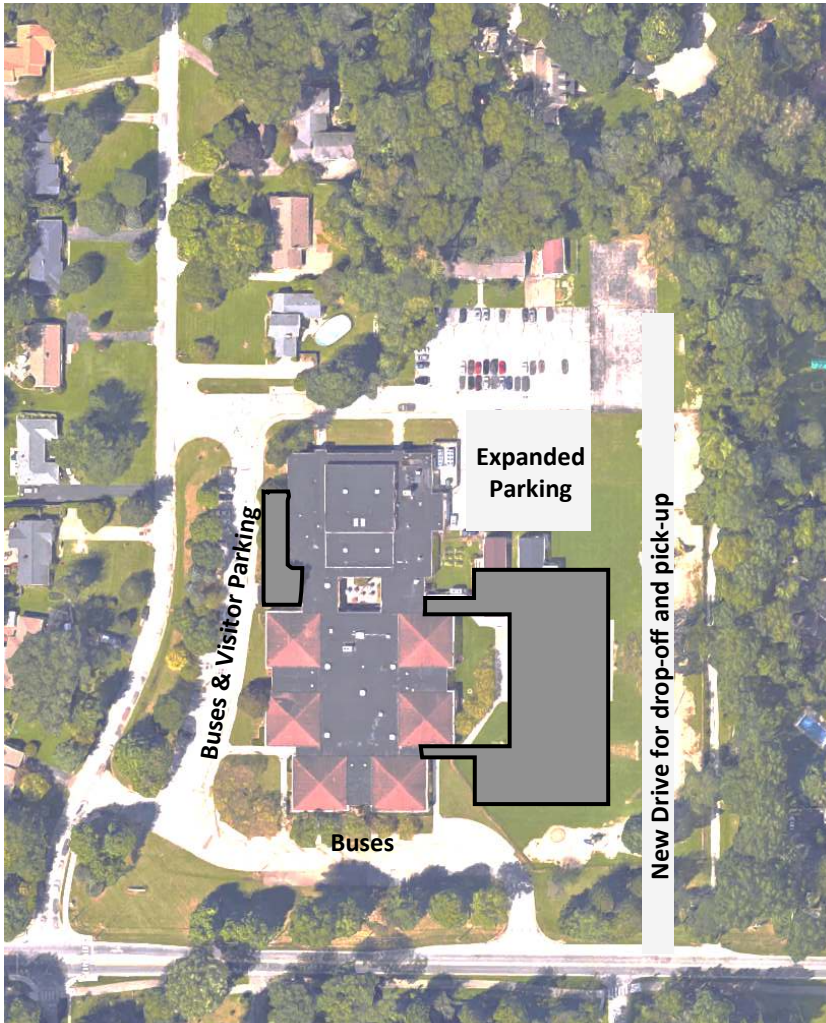
- This is *inconsistent* with our district’s Guiding Principles that were established at the beginning of this process.
- Strongly believe K-5 students should be in the same building.
- This approach requires many families to maintain enrollment of siblings in two separate buildings.
- This approach would cause an equity issue as there would be a K Center on only one side of the district.
- This approach would cost the district significantly more in operating costs. This could result in a much higher potential Operating Referendum request of the taxpayers or budget cuts elsewhere in the district. The cost of additional staff, utilities, etc. for a 9th facility/kg center would be significant.



Community Idea #4:

“Can we expand the current John Strange building and change the traffic pattern?”

- **Proceed to next slide**



LEGEND

■ New Building Addition

6/3/16

ISSUES:

- New drive entrance on 62nd street is too close to an existing drive to be allowed by the City
- Parent drop off is still on the wrong side of the car
- Buses and visitor's parking are still in same zone which continues an existing safety concern
- Buses and cars conflict with both exiting onto Olney Street using the same north-west exit
- The north east parking lot must be expanded into current green space to accommodate added staff at building. Another option is to remove the Boy Scouts building and wooded area behind it to allow expanded parking
- The major building addition, new drive and expanded parking lot take away all green space that could be used for a playground, hard surface play area and grass field area. Building cannot function without adequate play area
- Not enough site room left to accommodate surface storm water detention required by the new hard surface areas. Expensive underground storm water detention would have to be used instead.



Modified Proposal *Based on Community Feedback*

- Construct a new elementary school on the Wyandotte site.
- What are potential uses for the current John Strange building site?
 - Special Education Preschool
 - Possible Staff Childcare
 - Possible Community Preschool
 - Possible Professional Spaces (such as District Technology Support)
- The outdoor playground facilities would remain available to the community
- What is not being considered as a use for the current John Strange building site?
 - Adult Education
 - GED Classes





Additional Considerations & Questions

- If it is a preschool, how many students? How many buses?
 - 8 to 12 classrooms
 - Approximately 10 buses
(fewer than current 16 John Strange Buses)
 - Less car traffic than currently experiencing
- If a new elementary school opens on the Wyandotte site, will the current John Strange administration and staff still be there?
 - Yes. the current John Strange staff would be assigned to the new building subject, however, to normal annual staffing adjustments based on faculty turnover, enrollment numbers in each school, etc.





Additional Considerations & Questions

- Why does the Master Facility Committee believe that a new building would result in more equity among our elementary schools?
 - Because of the limitations of the site at John Strange, as well as the current condition of the building, the committee believes that the opportunity to provide the students a new facility would be more equitable when compared to the upgrades to facilities across the district.
- What does the district mean by the term “prototype” elementary school, and why would that result in a more cost effective solution?
 - The new school designed on the Wyandotte site could, for the most part, be replicated on the Harcourt site. This would save the taxpayers a significant amount of architectural and design costs.



Additional Considerations & Questions

- The Master Facility Committee, administration, and School Board must review the needs of the district in totality – all buildings need significant upgrades, additional learning spaces, and increased security features.
- We must also remember that support for this project results in upgraded and improved learning conditions for the John Strange students as they attend MS and HS.



Additional Considerations & Questions

The proposed construction referendum would positively impact students and families through their entire K-12 Washington Township experience.

Estimated Construction Referendum East Side Feeder School Improvements (including NCHS)

Allisonville	\$ 6,851,000
John Strange/	\$22,850,000
Wyandotte Replacement	
Eastwood	\$21,715,000
North Central HS	<u>\$32,231,000</u>
TOTAL – EAST SIDE	\$83,647,000



Additional Considerations & Questions

- The community did not respond favorably to the MFC Option #1 – *Enlarge Allisonville Elementary*
 - Our Guiding Principles included the operation of elementary schools with capacities of 650-725 students.
 - The additional enrollment and school additions on a site the size of Allisonville would result in ongoing and increased car traffic congestion issues .



Additional Considerations & Questions

- How will the district address the costs associated with continuing the use of the John Strange site as a preschool?
 - In the overall facilities plan, some funds were designated for use at the Hilltop location. These funds could be reallocated to address the needs of the John Strange building. The Hilltop site would likely be used for additional Career and Technical programming through the JELCC and could be modified as programming is determined.



Table Talk





Table Talk *Questions*

- What additional information do you need after reviewing tonight's information?

- What additional information do you believe your friends and neighbors will need?

- What additional information do you wish the School Board to consider when reviewing the Master Facilities Committee Recommendation?



Possible Project Scope for Construction Referendum

Estimated Tax Rate \$0.28 (per \$100) = \$185 million

Elementary – 8 Schools

Example Project Scope:

- Major renovation to 6 schools
- Brand new construction to 1 school
- Re-open 1 school as new construction
- All Buildings (8) – Secure entry and administration area
- All Buildings (8) – New fire alarm & PA system
- All Buildings (8) – ADA improvements
- Renovate academic spaces as needed (5 Buildings)
- Renovate wall and floor finishes (5 Buildings)
- Replace/upgrade mechanical, plumbing & electrical (5 Buildings)
- Create small group spaces (2 Buildings)
- Replace folding walls (2 Buildings)
- Replace roofs (2 Buildings)
- Add fire sprinkler system (2 Buildings)
- Redesign traffic pattern (2 Buildings)
- Replace exterior windows (1 Building)
- Add public restrooms (1 Building)
- Expand Cafeteria & gym (1 Building)
- Fence playground (1 Building)
- Add outdoor storage (1 Building)
- Add new control access doors – as needed

Middle School – 3 Schools

Example Project Scope:

- All Buildings – Secure entry and administration area
- All Buildings – New fire alarm and PA system
- All Buildings – Add fire sprinkler system
- All Buildings – Replace/upgrade mechanical plumbing & electrical
- All Buildings – Renovate wall and floor finishes
- All Buildings – Replace gym bleachers
- Add classrooms (2 Buildings)
- Expand Cafeteria (2 Buildings)
- Redesign traffic pattern (2 Buildings)
- Add ramp to gym stage (1 Building)
- Replace exterior lighting (1 Building)

High School – 1 School

Example Project Scope:

- Secure entry and administration area
- Improve and expand current security camera system
- Convert offices to classrooms
- Renovate Science labs
- Create second floor Learning Commons
- Renovate Information Center
- Expand Cafeteria
- Expand Dean's Office
- Replace corridor carpeting and remove wall carpet
- Replace four (4) boilers
- Demolish 1605 building and add parking
- Renovate Auditorium and Performing Arts spaces



Possible Scope of Operating Referendum
Estimated Tax Rate \$0.11 (per \$100) = \$6.5 Million

Current Staff

- Maintain all current staff
- Current community supported referendum of \$4 million per year (voted on in 2010) ends in 2017 and pays for staff at all levels

New Elementary Staff

- Reduce overcrowding in current 7 elementary schools
- Allow staffing of the 8th elementary school
 - Administration
 - Office Staff
 - Support Staff
 - Custodial Staff
 - Special Area Teachers

New Support Staff

- Add a few teachers and support positions to address current needs in the district



District implications if the community doesn't support the referenda:

No Operating Referendum Implications District-Wide:

- Significant increase in class size
- Unable to staff an 8th elementary school
- Reduction of staff at all schools
- Termination of academic and support programs
- Decrease in ability to recruit and retain outstanding staff & new families
- Negative impact to home sales in Washington Township

6/3/16

No Construction Referendum Implications District-Wide:

- Overcrowding continues in schools
- Increase in trailers at all schools
- Deteriorating school facilities
- Continued failing systems
- Safety & security concerns
- Negative impact to property values and unable to protect community investment
- Unable to open 8th elementary school