

What considerations have been made for alternative plans for the 3rd and 6th grade transition other than the original item proposed.

A - The two options presented are based on the exhaustive study done through NESDEC. The options are based on our existing facility and low (almost no) cost options. Option one is to leave the district as is, with no changes. The second option is to move grade 6 to the middle school (at the High School Facility) and Grade 3 to the Memorial School.

What surveys to property have been conducted since the reorganization and what surveys have been conducted to support alternative considerations for the current discussions.

A - We have done extensive research on our existing property via the NESDEC study. This is why and how the reorganization happened.

What alternatives to current class set ups have been discussed? Like moving one grade and not the other.

A - We can't fit 3rd grade into Memorial with 6th grade there as well. There is not enough room. Memorial would be housing 360 students with grade three, the building is full at 260 students.

Has the consideration of potentially re: organizing the lower grades back to K-5 in each town been discussed. And weighed against the current proposal.

A - This would cost approximately \$1.5-2 million (staffing changes due to inefficiencies created by running duplicate K-5 schools), It would have to be passed as a warrant. We would have to hire staff, moving costs, etc.

What are the pros and cons of each plan discussed.... assuming there is more than one that should be discussed.

A - The pros and cons of the two options have been discussed at a public meeting. You may view that meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhvJ1jLwU9E> the slides from that meeting are available here: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vSoF_JDBDq-ObTvF4mwMKpxlfMwwQjRSpOxxDZDUYSU/edit?usp=sharing

What is the size capacity of each building and what are current and anticipated enrollment rates?

A - Bakie is at 400 students and is just about at capacity, the Memorial School is currently at 260 and is just about at capacity, the high school was built for approximately 1100 students and currently houses 775

As we all know there is no real way to project K enrollment so how is any of the proposed plans accounting for that?

A - It is incredibly difficult to accurately project K enrollment. Our enrollment has been steady and our preK numbers have also been steady so we have no evidence of a decline, in fact, we have seen a stabilization of pk-3 enrollments since the pandemic (the enrollments were predicted to decline)

What other impacts will the proposed change have on other items, such as bussing, lunch times, drop off and pick up times, sports and anything else that can and will come into play.

A - Bussing and pick up times would stay the same. The music and sports offerings would be a real benefit for the 6th grade students. Athletically, they would be able to participate and stay in the current league and the start times for practices and games would be greatly improved. Currently the middle school students would have to wait to practice until after 3:00 if the sixth grade joins them for sports. The MS/HS Campus would have increased traffic, reduced parking, reduced classroom availability, and there are potential staffing needs as the buildings share staff for specials (Art, music, PE, tech, Library, etc)

Space/ capacity: Is there really enough space to move sixth grade to the high school facility? Just because the building was built to hold X number of students - can it be run efficiently and effectively? Have you talked to not only the administration but also the teachers in both MS/ HS?

A -Yes, there is space per the square footage and number of classrooms in the buildings. Of course, the scheduling will be tighter for both buildings and space will be less "comfortable". We are in the process of adopting the new master schedule for the building and will need to plan accordingly if sixth grade is included. Additional teachers may have to share teaching spaces. This means that they would teach in multiple classrooms during the day.

When is the Fremont decision going to occur? I would believe if they left the district, then yes this is a much easier decision to make.

A- We are hoping Fremont will make a decision in the next year but they technically have a few more years under the current contract.

Are the kids ready or are they at a disadvantage staying in elementary that extra year? Have you talked to the teachers in 6th grade and 7th grade that were there at the old MS and now in the new format? What are their thoughts on the maturity level of students being in elementary an extra year vs moving up? Are they seeing things differently this year with the current 7th grade group (the first to be in 6th grade in elementary school)? Please talk to those that work with the kids on a daily basis - the teachers, not just the administration.

A-6th grade staff have shared their perspective and the opinions vary as greatly as the opinions of parents. In general, staff would like 6, 7, and 8th grades together. The variance of opinion is more in the location than the grade spans. Some teachers would like to have them together but only if they were at a stand alone middle school, others are fine with moving the sixth grade to the high school facility.

Really understand the interactions between MS and HS kids. While my girls have not had any negative interactions/ issues, I have heard from parents that others have - some very recently - what are the issues and how are they prevented in the future? There is a difference between 11 year olds and 14-18 yr olds. I'm comfortable now that we've been through it but many are scared for their kids safety and growing up too fast. My 7th grader said she is all over the building (she said primarily with the unified arts) and when I ask if she sees any HS kids, she does (and that's ok in the situations she's mentioned).

A-This is an issue we are actively working on at all times. If the sixth grade is moved to the HS campus we would add an assistant principal (reallocating funds from the Bakie School) and another guidance counselor. These positions would help the situation significantly for all grades. We also hope that the intervention paras will be filled if the proposed contract for the support staff passes. We have the positions to help with this issue, unfortunately we can't fill them.

Have you considered reopening the middle school?

A-The middle school has been rented and renovated. It would be cost prohibitive to change that at this time (Matt answer - at least \$2 million in contract damages, legal fees, staffing time, etc. just to evict SLC from the building. Then, we would have to pay an additional \$1M - \$1.5M to restore the building back to our needs.) We believe this estimate to be low because there will also need to be HVAC upgrades to bring the building back into use.

Have you considered adding portables to Bakie?

We have discussed this internally, and we don't recommend portables. Portables are expensive, poorly constructed, and we don't need them if we move the two grades for next fall. We don't want to end up in the same position we are at Memorial School: portables that are past end of life and need to be replaced (From Matt Angell: Portables cost an estimate of \$200,000 each so four at the Bakie school would cost \$800,000. One of the last portables we purchased was about \$50,000, used condition, in 1999.)