



Community Facility Advisory Committee | Table Discussion Themes November 15, 2017

What are you hearing?

- Not much
- “If it’s not a High School solution, I’m not voting for it.” “If it’s not an Elementary School solution, I’m not voting for it.”

What are your questions about capacity?

- What/who determines how large a classroom or school should be? Are there resources that are used?
- According to the math for the Middle School capacity numbers, if you added in the 55 Middle School students that go to the High School at any given point during the day to the Middle School enrollment, the Middle School would be significantly over capacity
- Elementary School capacities do not reflect the students that travel to the High School for gym
 - Half of the students to go the HS
 - Loss of 45 minutes of instruction time each week
- Does the Department of Public Instruction say anything about recommended class square footage?
 - No, the DPI does not take a stance one way or the other

What are your biggest takeaways after touring the Elementary and Middle Schools?

Lack of space

- Lack of dedicated OT/PT and Special Education spaces
- Using hallways as collaboration spaces is not ideal
- Lack of STE(A)M spaces is terrible
- Lack of cohesive grade groupings
- Lack of storage areas
- Lack of collaborative spaces/working space
- Learning about inadequate spaces
- Not enough storage space
- Lack of OT/PT space (dedicated)

- Middle Schoolers share lockers
- One High School tech ed class comes to the Middle School
- Choir and general music go to the High School, as well as Spanish, 6th Grade coding, Agriculture, Lunch
- Lack of space
 - Two classes with one room (2nd and 5th grade Special Ed)
- Classes are way too small for students
- Hallways are tight
- Need better Special Education breakout for EBD kids - not joint space with all special ed kids
- Totally lacking spaces for IMC, Tech Ed/STE(A)M, and performance
- Second graders should not have to walk to the High School for gym
- No storage
- Smaller classrooms
- Facilities in PES/PMS do not meet the needs for instruction. Shared spaces look like it's a challenge for both schools
- Lack of STEM/STEAM spaces
- No PT/OT/Speech/Reading spaces
- IMC way too small; not separated for ages
- Lack of storage
- Lack of OT/PT spaces
- Poor to no storage
- Some spaces obviously too small
- Lack of STEM equipment and space
- Tech ed - bad, small, not enough equipment
- Congestion of common areas
- Using hallways and common areas as work areas
- Elementary School rooms generally small/lack airflow
- Volume of trips between Middle School to High School

Lack of natural light

- Lack of natural light in classrooms
- Not enough exposure to natural sunlight
- Lack of windows and natural light
- Exposure to sunlight is limited
- Classrooms need windows
- Children and adults absolutely need exposure to the natural world - at the very least a window! Not a healthy learning environment
- Middle School science classroom with no windows?!

Safety and security

- Traffic and safety are issues
 - Students going to HS

- Safety for kids walking to the High School
- Are kids walking to class during lunch time when High School students are leaving over lunch?
- Are kids walking to class when High School kids are leaving for home (after school)?
- Not on tour, but parking lot is too dangerous

Building systems

- Ventilation upgrades and more consistent heating are needed
- Air vs. no air
- Ventilation upgrades are needed (humidity issues)
- No AC/humidity
- HVAC issues (poor air circulation, no A/C)
- Need for ventilation (A/C) updates in classrooms and gym

Loss of instructional/learning time and added disruptions

- Inefficiencies with schedule while the students go back and forth to the HS
- Elementary students come in later which can be disruptive/loud hallways
- Lost instructional time traveling to High School
- ES/MS scheduling → distraction
- Lost instructional time and safety concerns with travel between buildings
- Lunch room, passing Middle School students while Elementary students are learning. Must be loud.

Inefficient layout - classrooms and bathrooms

- Proximity of bathrooms to classrooms is inefficient and not appropriate
- Accessibility or proximity of bathrooms to students (especially those with disabilities)
- Room layout not ideal
- Grade levels are not nearby each other
- Building is hodge podge of spaces after multiple builds
- Poor layout how things relate to one another
- Grade level classrooms not together, spread out
- No separation between MS/ES
- Middle School layout of classrooms is spread out
- Attempt at “pod” approach grouping classes together, but resources for a lot of disruption missing classes

Miscellaneous

- Although the MS capacity on paper looks like we’re under capacity, it doesn’t tell the complete story with the number of MS students going to the HS for classes, lunch, etc.

- It needs to be conveyed to the public the enrollment and capacity at the Middle School if they stayed in the MS .Due to the fact we're over capacity the district needs to utilize the High School for Middle School students
- Good use of old office space for calming rooms
- Challenges noted on the tour and in the Facility Assessment are not new
- Tired of compromises → multiple additions and past referenda were all compromises
- Changing rooms in the 1954 section are underutilized
- In order to work and collaborate (team with others), we need to update learning spaces
- Outside use: Boy Schools, after care
- What will stay the same?
- Deteriorating ceiling tiles everywhere
- Administration and staff are making the most of what they have (A++)
- Good use of special education with OT/PT
- Good use of Zen rooms off special ed
- Not convinced there is a lack of storage
- Unused middle school locker rooms/changing rooms

What questions might you have about school finance and debt history?

- What are the pros/cons to having debt to State financing?
 - State aid would not be negatively impacted in Poynette if new debt were added
- If new facilities are built, then we could see a productivity increase and more efficient spaces
- How does the community service fund work if you built out a fitness center and the community could use it?
- Just wish people would stop blaming board members for budget issues. It is all about the kids and what do we want? The best for our kids. My boys have been through Poynette and I see this as a better opportunity for the future of the kids. The town, village all need to understand we need to grow and change with the future. We don't live in the past! They turn down referendums but yet don't come to meeting to understand or ask questions!
- Since 2010, 85% of schools have gone to referendum for maintenance - no school can afford doing big maintenance with their budget
- Need clear responses to explain to a farmer how will they be taxed
- Agricultural land?
- How would you speed up payment of that debt?
- What has our historical mill rate debt only - assuming current is \$1.37 - how long has it been that?
- Are there any concerns with Poynette being able to receive the low interest rate mentioned in the Baird presentation?