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# Community Forum

April 11, 2016





# Agenda

- A. Purpose - Square Footage
    - a. Strategic Plan
    - b. “What we have learned”  
(April 2013, November 2014)
    - c. Where we are now?
  - B. Primary Elementary School Case Study
  - C. Background Data
    - a. Enrollment History & Projections
    - b. Master Building Plan and Building Capacity
    - c. Identified Capital Needs
  - D. Middle School Case Study
  - E. Grade Configuration
    - a. Research
    - b. Options
    - c. Findings
  - F. Early Childhood Center Case Study
  - G. Group Breakout
    - a. Activity
    - b. Questions
  - H. Wrap Up / What’s Next
  - I. Adjourn
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# Strategic Plan

## Strategy 5

*Establish a premier learning environment through fiscal responsiveness and responsibility that support a capital improvement plan which accommodates the ever-changing needs of our student population.*

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# List of Bad Ideas

- Art on a cart
  - Music on a cart
  - Computer lab on a cart
  - Specials in the cafeteria
  - Teacher on a cart
    - High School 7+/- teachers
    - Middle school 4+/- teachers
  - Satellite specials (i.e. Quest, Speech, OT/PT)
  - Increase class size to reduce sections
  - Mobile classrooms
    - Middle School - Band, Health, and Speech/Drama
    - High School - SILC
    - Primary Elementary School - 2016-2017 2nd Grade
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# Smithville Primary Elementary





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# Smithville Primary Elementary





# Smithville Middle School







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# Grade Configuration: Research

- Comprised of a team of 21 community members, staff (all Smithville residents), and administrators
  - Met for over 20 hours from September to December 2015
  - Analyzed peer reviewed research on Grade Configuration, Right-Sized Schools, Building Transitions, School Safety
  - Analyzed enrollment projections, current building layouts/capacities, feedback from unsuccessful levy issues
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# Grade Configuration: Options Considered

Any option that a committee member had heard discussed in the community was evaluated based upon the **research findings, failed levy feedback, and longevity of the plan.**

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# Grade Configuration: Findings

## Primary Priorities:

1. establish a plan with fewer building transitions for our students
2. determine a grade configuration that promotes connectedness with peers and school staff

## Secondary Priorities:

1. determine the best grade configuration for our community (what works elsewhere may not be what we need)
  2. maintain a unified district (we're all Warriors - let's keep it that way)
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# Grade Configuration: Recommendations

- Two K-4 and two 5-8 buildings
    - Minimizes building transitions which is supported by research
    - Gives students 4 or 5 years in each building which facilitates the development of strong school-home relationships
    - Longevity = beyond the 2025-2016 school year before an additional building is needed (would require an addition to the new building)
  - Three K-6 and one 7-8 building
    - Minimizes building transitions which is supported by research
    - Longevity = beyond the 2025-2016 school year before an additional building is needed (would require an addition to the new building)
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Building Option	Number of Students	Acreage Required (minimum)	Square Footage Required (minimum)	Estimated Cost	Levy Increase Required (Bldg. Only)
<b>New High School (9-12)</b>	1200	60	210,000	\$71,880,000 (w/o) outdoor athletic facilities	\$2.1564
<b>New Middle School (6-8)</b>	800	30	120,000	\$39,810,000 (w/o) outdoor athletic facilities	\$1.194
<b>New K-4 Elementary*</b>	450	10	58,500	\$18,886,500 + \$3,000,000 (renovate current elementary to 5-8)	\$0.6566
<b>New K-6 Elementary*</b>	450	10	63,245	\$20,175,155	\$0.6052

\* Supports research by minimizing building transitions.

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# Grade Configuration: Academic Programs

## K-6 / 7-8 Academic Program

- K-4 schedule would be similar to current schedule with art, music, PE and computers and additional time for interventions
- 5-6 would have core subjects departmentalized
  - Average class size approximately 25
  - 5th & 6th grade would have art, music, PE and computers and additional time for interventions
  - 6th grade would have band but no foreign language, FACS or Speech/Drama
- 7-8 would have the same academic offerings as we currently have using the same schedule structure with an average class size of approximately 25

Staffing Considerations: two elementary teachers would travel and at least 4 additional teachers would need to be hired

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# Grade Configuration: Academic Programs

## K-4 / 5-8 Academic Programs

- K-4 schedule would be similar to current schedule with art, music, PE and computers plus additional time for interventions
- Grade 5 schedule would be similar to current schedule with art, music, PE and computers blocked/rotated plus additional time for interventions
- 6-8 would have the same academic offerings as we currently have using the same schedule structure with an average class size of approximately 22

Staffing Considerations: sharing teachers between buildings is difficult in this scenario due to travel time/extra plan time; at least 8 additional teachers would need to be hired

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# Early Childhood Center





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# Group Discussion

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