Strategic Reorganization

December 2019



Recommendation Timeline Overview

	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023
Bond Campaign	X		
K-8 Reorganization	Building Modifications	Х	
Elem. School Boundaries	X Partial Initiation	X Full Implementation	
DLECC Program Eval	Evaluate Programming (Y5 Placement)	Implementation of Recommendations	
Gifted & Talented/ Accelerated Program	GT Planning Committee & Possible Pilots	Х	
Expand STEM Program	Initiated Fall 19 Expand	Expand	Expand
Unify School Calendars	Х		
Convert to Semesters	Evaluate for possible conversion to Semester	Х	

Strategic Plan Recommendations Overview

- 1. Engage in forward thinking Bond Campaign to support district strategic vision
- 2. K-8 Reorganization
- 3. Establish Elementary School & Transportation Boundaries
- 4. Examine Early Childhood Programming
- 5. Establish Gifted & Talented/Accelerated Academic Programming
- 6. Expand STEM Programming
- 7. Unify School Calendars

Bond Campaign Spring 2020

- Falls within financial best practices in the strategic plan.
- If the bond is successful, this allows renovation/construction work to happen prior to the restructure the following year.
- If unsuccessful we can try again and also can use Public Improvement Fund to make some of the renovations needed for the modest restructuring (not optimal).

School Reorganization Fall 2021

Opportunities:

- Gives staff time to develop optimal schedules, transition plans and instructional changes.
- Gives families time to adjust and plan.
- Allows large bubble group (current 7th graders) to move to H.S.
- Allows time for building modifications to accommodate new structure
- Creates more space for elementary growth in each building

Challenges:

- Extends anxiety of change for some
- More traffic in town with additional 5th grade population

Elementary School Boundaries Fall 2020 & 2021

Opportunities:

- Fall 2020 Kindergarten & new Elementary students placed by boundaries
- Fewer students are impacted grades 2-4
- Gives families time to adjust, plan and seek transfers where space is available
- Creates more space for elementary growth in each building
- Eliminates needs for bus transfer and reduce ride time in grades K-5

Challenges:

- 5th graders now on secondary type schedule
- Larger band of students/parents in morning/afternoon town traffic

Examine Early Childhood Programming (Fall 2020 - Implement recommendations Fall 2021)

Opportunities: (Moving Y5 to Elem. Buildings)

- Recognition of Y5 as Kindergarten program/ Curriculum and Instructional collaboration with Kdg teachers
- Eliminates need and costs for bus transfers for young students (*if we have Y5 in all/most buildings*)
- Reduces transportation ride time
- Allows students longer duration in same building (reduces building transitions)
- Creates additional available classrooms at ECC for preschool

Challenges: (Moving Y5 to Elem. Buildings)

- Young Fives would not be with all other Early Childhood programs
- Taking up additional growth space for K-4th grade classrooms

Examine Early Childhood Programming (Cont.) (Fall 2020 - Implement recommendations Fall 2021)

Opportunities: (Keeping Y5 in DLECC)

• Young Fives would be with all other Early Childhood programs

Challenges: (Keeping Y5 in DLECC)

- Maintain need for bus transfer system for Y5 students
- Continues longer ride times and increase expense
- Maintains classroom spacing challenges, limits taking on additional ECC classes/students

Gifted & Talented/Accelerated Academic Programming Fall 2021

- Allows planning time to implement a successful program models.
- Allows time for restructuring changes to occur that will support coordinated academic programming for 5th 8th
- Allows time to identify staffing PD needs to begin programming

Expand STEM Programming (Fall 2020 & Fall 2021)

- Allows STEM teachers additional year to work through curriculum implementation and course sequencing.
- Allows for seamless transition of 5th grade students into STEM class offerings when reorganization occurs.
- Provides more time for thoughtful transitioning into various HS course and into elementary schools.

Semester Schedule Fall 2021

Opportunities:

- Deepen student/teacher relationships by having classes with teachers longer
- Saves money in staffing
- More instructional time in core content
- Potentially increase state test scores
- Less time between strands of courses (ex. Algebra 1 and 2)

Challenges:

- CTE fund loss (verify)
- Decrease in elective options
- Eliminates flexibility in planning an intervention block(?)
- Limits Special Education options

Unification of Calendars Fall 2020

- Aligning to one district calendar brings cohesion to:
 - Professional Development opportunities;
 - Transportation;
 - Tech support and implementation;
 - Food service, etc.
- Student achievement data does not support the effectiveness of this model.
- Waitlist exacerbated at other schools as many new families turn down available seating choices due to schedule
- Allows all families with children at varying grade levels same calendar schedule
- Movement consistent with two week movement of regular calendar schools over the past two years.