

# LAMPETER-STRASBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Feasibility Study Recommendations

### Executive Summary

During the summer of 2018, the Lampeter-Strasburg School District initiated a Feasibility Study. The Study analyzed all District properties and buildings, while also thoroughly reviewing each facility's ability to meet the current and future instructional needs of all students. Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates (CRA) were selected to complete the Study. CRA conducted focus groups with students, staff, and administrators. Building walk-throughs and numerous status update meetings were held with the Core Team, which consisted of administrators and related Board Committee Chairs. The team developed five guiding principles to use in evaluating possible options:

- Safety and security of all students, staff and community
- Fiscally responsible to our students, community, and key stakeholders
- Alignment with Building Goals as outlined in the District's Comprehensive Plan, Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Shared Values
- Support 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners with appropriate tools, resources, and learning environments
- Equity across all buildings and students - today, tomorrow and into the future given growth projections
- Code compliance (i.e. ADA, Building Codes)

CRA presented an update to the Buildings and Grounds Committee during a public meeting on October 21, 2019. The Administration and Core Team were then tasked with making recommendations from the results of the Study. Recommendations were brought to the Buildings and Grounds Committee during a public meeting on January 21, 2020. After reviewing the recommendations and Study, the Buildings and Grounds Committee approved the Study and moved it out of Committee to the full Board. The Board requested community feedback and input regarding the recommendations and scheduled Community Engagement nights on March 31, and April 1, 2020. Unfortunately, these public presentations were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic that mandated school closures for all schools across the State. Community feedback and input is an essential component of the Study process. For this reason, a recorded presentation is published on the District website ([www.L-Spioneers.org](http://www.L-Spioneers.org)) and feedback is requested electronically or on the hard copy form and returned to the Lampeter-Strasburg School District Administrative Building by May 14, 2020.

Due to effective long-range planning and budgeting of the School Board and Administration over the past several years, the District has the ability to implement all of the recommendations included in the Feasibility Study Presentation in a fiscally responsible manner. All recommendations, as proposed, are able to be implemented without impacting the District's existing millage rate for the purpose of any building renovations or projects.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

While reviewing safety and security needs on campus, student drop-off and pick-up times were immediately identified as a concern. Many options were reviewed and considered, but a relatively inexpensive option is being recommended for the 2020-2021 school year to evaluate whether or not more costly measures are required. This involves making part of the drive (Rosier Way) from the field house to the southwest corner of the high school one way.

Addressing current capacity concerns at Lampeter Elementary is high on the priority list. Due to space constraints, enrollment, and educational needs, it is recommended to design and construct a new Early Childhood/Kindergarten Center on campus. While Lampeter Elementary School is the newest school building, it is currently operating at 131% of its current capacity. There are many contributing factors for the current capacity concern. A major factor highlighted in the presentation is a significant increase (240%) in our identified student population within the last three years. The majority of the instruction required for newly identified students mandates small group or individualized instruction. Lampeter Elementary does not have ample small group areas to meet this educational need for students. In an effort to take advantage of potential economies of scale, it is recommended to also design a new Stadium Field House at the same time to be considered as an alternate bid item. The current field house has significant needs, as highlighted in the presentation (masonry cracking, plumbing needs, restroom facilities do not meet current stadium capacity, concession area in need of upgrades, and team areas are unable to meet the increased use on the recently installed multi-use fields).

All school buildings on campus have instructional needs such as program space and collaborative/flex spaces. Hans Herr Elementary School and Martin Meylin Middle School have rapidly aging equipment in need of extensive upgrades in the next two to five years. The High School and Lampeter Elementary also have specific needs in the coming years. It is recommended that all buildings be addressed for both educational and mechanical needs at the same time. Our belief, in alignment with the guiding principles, is that this process will be less costly and provide less disruption of the educational process for our students and families we serve.

Several potential uses for Strasburg Elementary have been identified, but all options would require extensive renovations. Further review of options is required. Walnut Run School also requires extensive work in order to maintain the building in its current state, and substantial improvements would be required to allow all students access to visit the school. Your input on this school is requested as part of the feedback document.

Please review the Community Engagement video and provide your feedback. It is important to include your contact information so that we are able to respond appropriately to any questions or concerns.