

Educational Programming Advisory Committee Report
May 3, 2023

Reconfiguration Options

	Create a grade 7-8 Junior High at ASA. The elementary schools would become K-6. Two buildings would be eliminated in total. (Provided by CSD)	Consolidate Grades 6-8 into a Middle School at one existing middle school building. Both elementary buildings would become K-5. CASH and ASA would remain as-is. (Provided by CSD)	All buildings remain as-is with yearly tax increases. (Provided by CSD)
PROS	• Could potentially rebrand the whole school by bringing in students / student council over a summer to help repaint, decorate, etc. Students would have a stake / claim in making the school feel like "theirs" • More even distribution of services / classes / students • Can close two buildings • Eventual reduction in staff • Continuity for 7-8th grade in curriculum • More students on one campus • Increase of sections for core subjects per grade • Parents would only potentially have kids on two campuses • Grade level team planning	• Curriculum consistency would be the same across the board • Potentially offer more electives / time for electives ◦ Year round electives • Benefits of fifth grade at the elementary level ◦ More individualized development ◦ Scores will hopefully improve ◦ Difference in maturity levels - still kids ◦ More flexibility in instructional minutes in elementary school to spend	• Few changes, very little work or effort on our part

	Administration would have back up/shared responsibilities with admin on campus	- on core content areas - Greater offerings in athletics - More assistance for those who need it in smaller sections - More opportunities to excel in different sections - Reduction to staffing by potentially 10 staff - One school mentality instead of us/them - Consistency in club/activity offerings - Maintains curriculum offerings and allows for growth at the middle school and high school levels - Outside services won't need to travel between buildings / to other attendance areas (eliminates travel time) - One less building for specialists to move across - PSSA testing grades will be spread across the buildings more equitably - More availability for blended students (cyber / in person) at the middle school level - More opportunity for cyber learning - Could potentially	
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			rebrand the whole school by bringing in students / student council over a summer to help repaint, decorate, etc. Students would have a stake / claim in making the school feel like "theirs" • Reduction of supplemental cyber pay over time • Professional development much easier to deliver • Gifted education much easier to offer	
CONS	• Resource issues in ASA middle school option—no science labs, lockers, small hallways. Increase in spending to retro-fit classrooms, hallways, etc. OR opportunity for students to use high school science classrooms at the CASH building • ASA is the least-updated building. The middle and elementary schools are in much better shape and more welcoming overall • Restricts both the curriculum offerings of the middle school and the curriculum offerings of the	• Busing would be longer for one population / not a central location • Duplicates in specialist areas may mean reduction in staff / job losses: two tech ed teachers, multiple gym teachers, etc • 5th graders would not be receiving any instruction in the electives • Elementary kids getting off the bus without an older sibling to supervise • "Loss of identity" within the community from downsizing a school • Loss of an attendance area cyber lounge (one at each middle school currently)	• Kicks the can down the road - we may have to revisit this again in just a few short years anyway • Potentially angry taxpayers; people may move out of district if the cost of living is too high? • We can raise the taxes the maximum amount and still not meet the deficit (3 mils / year over 5 years, likely longer than 5 years) • TASK: What is the median household / increase?	

	high school • Share gyms and athletics spaces with the high school • We would still have to pay on CLMS we'd lose \$235,000 a year • No gymnasium, science labs, family and consumer science, or shops • Storage in ASA - where does it go? • Admin would have to find a new location • Library would need re-outfitted • Kitchen would need re-outfitted • Would have to cut curriculum at the high school (21%) to fit ASA classes into HS • Tech department would have to relocate • No room for growth in classes offered • Widen hallways to fit lockers - would it narrow the hallways terribly?			
DISCUSSION	• Could we move elementary up to middle schools and sell/close the elementary schools (more marketable) • Where does the pre-k	• Considerations about specials / specialists, staffing • Emphasize district offerings and options → move here instead of here	• DISCUSS: "Selling" our Cyber academy vs. packaged cyber programs • DISCUSS: Holding onto early graduates through dual-enrollment (cost	

	- program go? Discussion as to what happens with 5 and 6 at the elementary level - staffing, student needs, etc. - Effect on specials / specialists	- Marketing: tell our own story (succinct campaign, showcase positive programs) - Reach out to realtors, visitor bureau to showcase our schools	savings to them...), dual enrollment grants & co-ops - Should our focus switch from AP classes to dual enrollment? - How do our PSSA proficiencies drive our decisions? Can we offer more academic enrichment/reading programs? “30 & out” option for early-retiring teachers?? Temporary health care option? - Consider this to be the “last” option? OPTION: Small tax increase on top of other changes as decided moving forward
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If we go to Valley Middle as the High School, we lose 28% of the offerings at the high school level

Meeting Dates

February 27, March 6, March 13, April 25