What data do we need to provide to make an informed decision on a potential school

consolidation? When gathering data to help a community decide on school closures or consolidations, it's important to provide a comprehensive view of the factors involved. Here are some ideas to start your table discussion:

1. Enrollment Trends:

- Historical and projected enrollment data for the schools in question.
- Demographic changes in the community (e.g., birth rates, housing developments, migration patterns).
- Enrollment capacity vs. actual attendance in each school.

2. Financial Data:

- The operating costs of each school (e.g., staffing, utilities, maintenance).
- Potential savings from consolidating or closing schools.
- Impact of state and federal funding tied to student enrollment (per-pupil funding).

3. Building Conditions:

- Physical condition of each school building (age, required renovations, safety compliance).
- Costs associated with maintaining or upgrading facilities.
- Capacity to accommodate additional students if schools are consolidated.

4. Academic Performance:

- Student achievement data, such as standardized test scores and graduation rates, for the schools in question.
- The potential impact on student outcomes if schools are consolidated (e.g., access to better resources or specialized programs).

5. Transportation and Accessibility:

- Distance and travel time for students to attend a new school if closures occur.
- Transportation costs and logistical issues (e.g., bus routes).
- Impact on families, particularly for those with limited transportation options.

6. Community Impact:

- How school closures or consolidations would affect the local community (e.g., economic impact, loss of a community hub).
- Feedback from community surveys, focus groups, or public meetings.
- Input from key stakeholders such as parents, teachers, and local businesses.

7. Alternative Options:

- Other possible solutions to address enrollment declines or financial challenges (e.g., repurposing buildings, sharing services with nearby districts).
- Impact on class sizes and teacher-to-student ratios.

Other ideas:

- 1. How far will my student need to travel boundaries for new schools.
- 2. How much will we save by consolidating, what expenses are eliminated and what stays.
- 3. What will we do with the building? Will we have a cost to maintain the empty buildings, what is that cost?

Gathering data from these areas may provide a clear picture of the potential impact of closures or consolidations and help the community make an informed decision. Please list below what other additional data or what data from above would you need to make an informed decision.

Additional Ideas Gathered From Each Table:

- 1. Any property & real estate that can be liquidated without having to close a school.
- 2. Area maps to determine school locations and average distance traveled by families to get to their school.
- 3. Attendance for students who are transported to other schools.
- 4. Birth rates for Yakima (actual #'s)
- 5. CFAC summary to show why their choices were made and clarification on how debatable the findings are or recommendations were made.
- 6. Middle/High School Level- How are we having middle/high school softball/fastpitch now?
- 7. What other areas have we cut back on already in order to address our financial challenges?
- 8. What achievement outcomes have we not addressed?
- 9. What kind of tax revenue comes from school zones?
- 10. Why are some schools at capacity and others aren't?