



Reinventing Page USD

Frequently Asked Questions

How will reimagining our current reality better serve our children?

Reimagining would reduce the number of transitions our students make on their journey from Preschool to Graduation. Currently, students transition from preschool to kindergarten, from 2nd grade to 3rd grade, from 5th grade to 6th grade, and from 8th grade to 9th grade. In the redesign, students would transition from kindergarten to 1st grade and from 6th grade to 7th grade. By having grades 1 through 6 into the same building there are opportunities for collaboration and professional learning communities that do not currently exist; allowing the district to maximize its greatest asset ~ human capital. The same goes for grades 7 through 12 where certification requirements would allow content areas (i.e.: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, PE, etc.) to collaborate and engage in professional learning that does not currently exist. The redesign would allow the district to offer additional specials at the elementary level and additional electives at the 7th and 8th grade level. This configuration would allow the district to expand preschool options for our community which is currently restricted by its available space. As a district we are funded based upon enrollment and the operation and maintenance of additional square footage requires dollars be spent on facilities rather than go directly to supporting our classrooms across the district.

How did the district determine which school building would be closed?

- When evaluating building usage, the Middle School campus was initially looked at as the location of the grade 1-6 elementary school. When looking at the site plan it became very apparent that the space and configuration did not lend itself as an elementary school. For a grade 1-6 school, a minimum of 36 general education classrooms, classrooms for supporting students served by an individual education plan (IEP), specials, counseling, and behavioral interventions were not available at the middle school site.
- Lake View campus has the necessary physical space and is significantly larger than both the Page Middle School campus and Desert View Intermediate campus.
- Desert View campus currently has 26 classrooms which does not include spaces that support student specials or pull-out programs. As we look to the future, it is important that the district position itself to expand preschool services. To retain teachers in our district and to provide support for expectant mothers served by our district who may have a need to complete their educational journey, it will be important for us to design and implement an infant and toddler program that will also serve to support student internships in our Early Childhood Learning Career and Technical Education Program. The Desert View campus allows for us to expand our current preschool program, which has a significant waiting list, to grow from its current seven classrooms to as many as 12 classrooms. Kindergarten will be allocated eight classrooms which is currently the number of classrooms used at the Lake View campus.

How will you address my concern about 7th and 8th grade students being on the same campus with freshmen through seniors?

In reorganizing, the design of the high school would centralize a majority of 7th and 8th grade classes in a single building on campus (A or D building as an example). 7th and 8th grade students would access the gymnasium for physical education classes, the Cultural Arts Building (CAB) for music classes, etc.

What will lunch look like at the high school in a 7-12 design?

There would be two separate lunch times at the high school. One lunch would serve students in grades 7, 8, and 9 and the other lunch would serve students in 10, 11, and 12. The lunch for students in grades 7, 8, and 9 would be a closed campus lunch that would require students to remain on campus for lunch. The lunch for students in 10, 11, and 12 would be an open campus lunch allowing students to leave campus for lunch. The district strongly encourages all students to take advantage of the no cost lunch offered on campus and has made tremendous strides in significantly improving food quality and variety to meet student tastes.

What is the impact on Middle School Athletics?

As we look to innovate, an athletic performance academy will be investigated which would provide 7th and 8th grade students an opportunity to begin athletic practice during seventh hour allowing practices to conclude at a time to get our 7th and 8th grade athletes transported home on the tutoring bus.

What will the school mascots be?

The mascot for students in grades 7-12 (high school) would be the Sand Devils. The mascot for students in grades PK-6 would be the Dust Devils.

Will the name of the school's change?

There will need to be a change to the names of our primary and intermediate schools. The recommendation for changes are Desert View to Page Early Childhood Learning Center and Lake View Primary to Page Elementary School. Page High School and Manson Mesa High School would retain their current names.

How will this affect certified staffing / class size?

The district currently uses a ratio to guide staffing at each grade level for PK through grades 6 as well as by sections for grades 7 through 12. As a result, staffing is currently appropriate given our student enrollment. The district will work, through the redesign process, to ensure that certified staff are highly qualified and properly certified in teaching assignments appropriate to meeting the needs of students.

Will there be changes to district transportation (routes, times, etc.)?

Student transportation will remain unchanged in terms of current pickup and drop off times. The district will continue to run the after-school buses, tutoring buses, and athletic buses. The district will investigate and if feasible, implement three new routes to serve students in Page to alleviate the challenges related to parent drop off and pick up at the elementary school. Route information and bus pick up/drop off information will be made available during the registration process prior to the start of school on August 4.

Will the redesign change school start and end times?

A redesign will allow for the possibility, if deemed of value, to have different start and end times at the elementary and high school. A different start and end time may serve to make the transportation of students more efficient and support less wait time for students who make use of district transportation services.

What will athletics look like for students in grades 4, 5, and 6?

Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will have the opportunity to participate in an intramural athletic program to support age-appropriate development of skills, coordination, and endurance. As this is designed, information will be shared with all families to maximize participation.

What will the financial impact of reconfiguring be on the district?

There will be savings to the district because of not operating the middle school facility as it is now. Utilities to operate the middle school on an annual basis is approximately \$305,000. There will be costs associated to bring existing facilities up to standard that have been neglected due to the space not being needed or used.

Will students in grades 7 and 8 be junior high or high school students?

Students in Grades 7 and 8 will be Page High School students. Beginning with 9th grade, students will begin earning credits toward graduation and any grades earned will be part of the calculation for grade point average and class rank. It is critical for students in 7th and 8th grade to develop academic, behavior and attendance habits that support maximizing the high school experience for educational and career pathways to be available upon receiving a diploma.

What will happen to the middle school?

There are three options the district has related to the middle school. Our options are to sell the property, rent/lease out the property, or demolish the property. This recommendation would be developed and proposed after the decision for reinventing has been made.