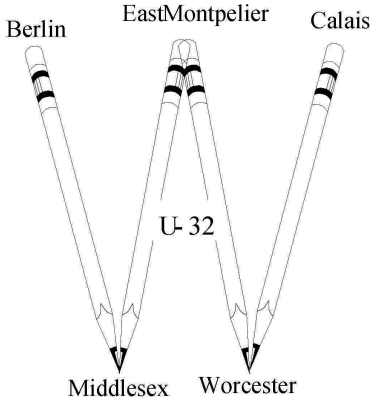
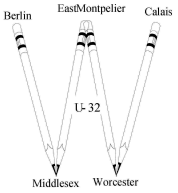
WCUUSD Educational and Programmatic Configuration

Benchmarks and Recommendations

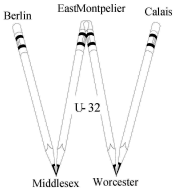


Purpose and Alignment



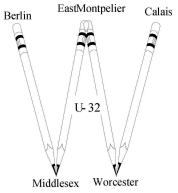
- Ensure equity, consistency, and sustainability in programming
- Programming drives structural decisions
- Alignment with Strategic Plan priorities
  - Equity of Access
  - Student-centered learning
  - Sustainability of resources

Class Size & Configuration



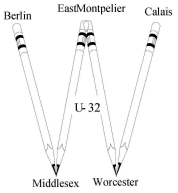
- Follow policy and administrative recommendations (keep Act 73 in mind)
- Optimal Class Sizes:
  - Pre-K less than or equal to 20
  - K-3: 13-20
  - 4-6: 15-25
  - 7-12: 17-25
- Proactive Multi-Grade groupings: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Transportation & Access



- Travel time limits:
  - Elementary less than 45 minutes
  - Middle/High less than 60 minutes
- Family travel: 80% within 7 miles/15 minutes
- Before/Aftercare
  - Universal Access at Elem
  - Thirdspace developed at Middle/High

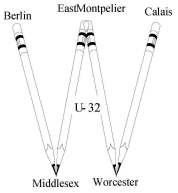
Developmentally Appropriate Environments



- Separate Pre-K and K
- No K/1 multi-grade combinations
- Elementary groupings: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6
- Middle School: 7-8 model

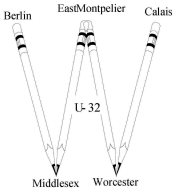
Ensures healthy developmental progression and smooth transitions

Consistent Programming Access



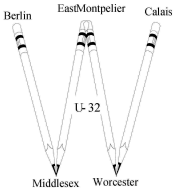
- Elementary: Literacy, Math, SEL, Science/Global Citizenship, Art, Music, PE/Health, Library
- Middle: Core Academics, World Languages, Arts, PE/Health
- High School: Maintain broad access and Flexible Pathways

Health, Wellness, & Equity



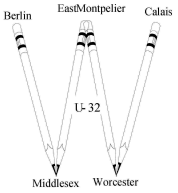
- Staffing to Vermont EQS guidelines:
  - 1 nurse/500 students
  - 1 school counselor/300 students
- Equitable Pre-K access in each school where enrollment meets standards
- Special education staffing: 1:70 students (elem), 1:65 students (secondary)

Compensation & Staffing



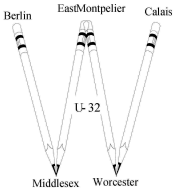
- Competitive compensation to attract and retain talent
- Aim for full-time roles (limit shared positions)

Financial Considerations



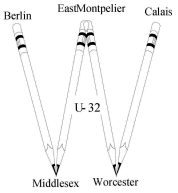
- Act 73 impacts: Per-pupil funding with small school challenges
- Schools of less than 150 students face increased financial pressure
- Budget implications for transportation and staffing

Community & Governance



- Community input essential in school configuration
- Consider impact on property values and enrollment
- Guided by the Articles of Agreement and Board processes

Next Steps



- Continue Board and community discussions
- Monitor Act 73 implementation
- Refine benchmarks and update recommendations
- Stay aligned with Strategic Plan goals