

# 1 | Executive Summary

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## Forward

Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates is pleased to present this Facilities Study Report to the Montoursville Area School District. This report has been developed to assist the School District Board of Directors, staff and community in the decision-making process regarding the utilization and disposition of its educational facilities.

This study is designed to be utilized as a comprehensive planning tool for school boards and administrators. The study provides decision makers with comprehensive analysis and information which they can use to make operational, financial, and most importantly educational decisions related to facilities.

The primary goal is to help the district best assure that their buildings and grounds are a physical representation of a district's educational vision, a reflection of what is best about the community they serve and are a sound investment for taxpayers. In pursuit of this goal this study documents existing conditions and pertinent information, analyzes the data and information, establishes needs within the district facilities, and generates options to meet those needs. The components of the study are as follows:

- General overview of the district
- Overview of the Educational Program
- Analysis of each facilities ability to adequately accommodate the educational program, functional operations, and student enrollment
- Analysis of the anticipated growth/decline in enrollment in the district and at each school and its impact to each facility
- Analysis of the existing conditions of the buildings and grounds for each facility
- Cost to upgrade each facility to current standards
- Analysis of construction options to meet the established need

This study includes all of the elements required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to meet the criteria established in the PlanCon district-wide facility study guidelines. Adhering to these guidelines is necessary for submittal to PDE if the district is pursuing reimbursement from the Commonwealth. The full requirements to meet PlanCon district-wide facility study guidelines is found in *Appendix A: Department of Education Requirements* at the end of the study.

## Goals and Objectives

Goals for the study describe the Montoursville Area School District vision for its buildings and grounds. They describe what the Montoursville Area School District requires and aspires their schools be. The following goals were established for this study:

- Provide equity among elementary grade students.
- Improve the existing facility infrastructure at Loyalsock Valley Elementary School and Lyter Elementary School.
- Improve the efficiency and consistency of resources and continuity of educational delivery.
- Provide 21<sup>st</sup> Century educational spaces and experiences at the Middle School and Elementary Schools that reflect the curriculum.
- Address safety and security concerns at Loyalsock Valley Elementary School
- Provide air conditioning at all schools.
- Develop fiscally responsible solutions that address costs of capital projects, transportation, staffing, and operations.

## **Wilson School District Guiding Principles**

The Wilson School District's Guiding Principles collectively describe the district's vision for its buildings and grounds. They are broad statements of purpose and function that explain how schools and campuses should support students, faculty, staff, families and the community. Further, they describe what the district requires and aspires their schools, libraries, classrooms, play areas, athletic fields, gymnasiums, creative and digital/vocational spaces, performing areas, technology and campuses to do, how they should "feel", and what is needed of them to support all stakeholders, most importantly students. In support of this, a visioning exercise occurred with the school district and administration to assist in establishing these principles.

Operationally, the district strives to assure that our **buildings and grounds:**

- Are as safe as they can be.
- Are maintained as part of an ongoing, multi-year master plan that considers immediate, short and long-term goals appropriate for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of students, faculty, staff and the community.
- Are maintained as part of an ongoing, multi-year master plan that considers immediate, short and long-term goals appropriate for ensuring the board-adopted curriculum, co-curricular and extra-curricular programs can be delivered effectively and efficiently.
- Are individually and collectively cost efficient to operate and staff.
- Have the capacity to meet current and projected enrollments.
- Allow equal access and opportunities for all students, faculty, staff and community.
- Reflect the values of our community and the on-going investments made by taxpayers.

Educationally, the district strives to ensure that schools, classrooms, libraries, play areas, athletic fields, gymnasiums, creative/digital/vocational spaces, performance spaces, technology and campuses provide our **students, faculty and staff:**

- Equitable opportunity to develop, deliver and participate in the board-adopted curriculum, co-curricular and extra-curricular programs.
- A nurturing environment, infused with technology, that supports purposeful efforts to help all students develop a life-long love of learning, a sense of identity and community, and to be good citizens.

- The ability to grow as critical problem solvers, creative thinkers, collaborators, and to communicate their ideas and solutions through a variety of traditional means and digital media.
- Opportunities to teach and study in developmentally-appropriate spaces that reflect where students will work and learn after graduation.
- The tools to utilize traditional, blended and fully online instructional strategies to deliver the educational program, help our students develop appropriate social skills, become college and career ready, and understand the world in which they live.
- The ability to advance through the curriculum based on readiness and not access to physical spaces, the location of resources, or traditional school day/calendar.
- To ensure equity and developmental opportunities to explore the visual and performing arts, languages and cultures other than their own, technology, and family and consumer science.

## 5.2 Study Goals

Goals were gathered from the Board of Education Utilization Committee, staff and community workshop attendees. These were used to generate criteria to measure the relative strengths and weaknesses of each option as they were developed. The Options Matrix (later in this chapter) contains these criteria in the “Considerations” column, grouped into four main categories: cost, construction issues, educational results, and project results.

### OPTIONS MATRIX

**Date:** 4/8/2014

<b>Considerations</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C1</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>C3</b>	<b>C4</b>	<b>C4.1</b>	<b>C5</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>1. COST</b>									
Overall Cost	5	2	3	4	3	3	3	4	4
Probable Reimbursement	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Net Cost to RSD 13	5	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3
Cost Predictability	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5
<b>2. CONSTRUCTION ISSUES</b>									
Technology Upgrades	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Phasing	1	5	4	2	2	3	4	2	1
Disruption to Existing Programs	1	4	4	2	2	3	4	2	1
Site	1	5	4	2	2	3	4	3	2
<b>3. EDUCATIONAL RESULTS</b>									
Program Fit	1	3	2	4	3	5	3	1	5
Flexibility	4	5	4	3	3	3	4	4	3
Transitions Between Buildings	2	2	3	4	4	3	3	3	5

Considerations	A	B	C1	C2	C3	C4	C4.1	C5	D
<b>4. PROJECT RESULTS</b>									
Community Improvements	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4
Safety	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Traffic	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Accessibility	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>

#### Legend & Notes

- **Option A:** "Do Nothing"
- **Option B:** Maintain all schools & Demo
- **Option C1:** Close a school, grade reconfig.
- **Option C2:** Close two schools & add/demo, grade reconfig.
- **Option C3:** Close two schools & add, grade reconfig.
- **Option C4:** Close a school, repurpose Korn to ECC, demo, grade reconfig.
- **Option C4.1:** Close a school, repurpose Lyman to ECC, demo, grade reconfig.
- **Option C5:** Close two schools, grade reconfig.
- **Option D:** New buildings, grade reconfig.

#### Matrix Scoring:

- **5:** Most Advantageous
- **3:** Mixed Adv./Disadv.
- **1:** Least Advantageous

\***Cost Notes:** All costs are reported in 2014 dollars.