STEVENS POINT AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Point Proud Schools 2040
Facility Option Criteria and Metrics

The School District is engaging in a process that will result in a plan informing short-term (1-4 years), mid-term (5-9 years), and long-term (10+ years) District decisions related to its school buildings. The community will guide the plan, primarily through the large and diverse citizen Point Proud Schools 2040 Task Force.

The School Board has charged this Task Force with developing and evaluating a range of different long-range options (with phasing) related to the utilization of the District's school buildings. These options are to be developed and evaluated with reference to the District's Strategic Plan 2022-2027, and option evaluation criteria approved by the School Board. Using the same pre-set criteria will ensure a fair, objective, and thorough evaluation and comparison of different options and ultimately a recommended plan that reflects School Board priorities.

The Board has endorsed the following criteria for the Task Force to use in fulfilling this charge. Each criterion has equal weight. Together, they cover the pillars in the District's Strategic Plan. The goal is for facility options to satisfy as many criteria as possible, but it will be unlikely that any option will excel against all of the criteria. The potential metrics below may be modified based on Task Force input, and are not intended to include all of the factors that may be used to evaluate how well each facility option meets the criterion.

Criterion 1—Maintained or Enhanced Student Opportunities

- Provide a full and equal range of educational and co-curricular services and offerings at all schools serving similar grades.
- Support adequate staffing, reasonable scheduling, and safe and modern learning environments.
- Maintain or enhance athletic, educational, and co-curricular offerings.
- Optimize grade groupings with educational programming, athletic, co-curricular opportunities, and social development.
- Potential metrics for evaluating each facility option against this criterion may include:
  (a) Suitability for modern learning (may be on scale—"suitable", "more suitable", etc.)
  (b) Building characteristics, such as age, site area, separate gym and cafeteria or not, air conditioning or not.
  (c) Site area for outdoor learning and recreation
  (d) Co-curricular and athletic facility presence and convenience

Criterion 2—Manageable Student and Family Impacts

- Maintain or enhance student and family engagement, growth, learning, welfare, and sense of belonging.
- Minimize number of students affected by changes to the degree possible.
- If/where students change schools, make changes in appropriate groups, considering factors like the number of students changing (not too small of groups) and neighborhoods where they reside (keeping communities of interest together).
- Include logical transitions from elementary to junior high/middle school.

- School buildings close or at least easily accessible to students and families.
- Potential metrics for evaluating each facility option against this criterion may include:
  (a) Attendance areas that keep communities of interest together
  (b) If applicable, the number of students changing attendance areas
  (c) If applicable, the smallest number of students moving from any one school
  (d) If applicable, the percentage of students from one elementary school who would attend different junior high/middle schools
  (e) Percentages of students living within ½ mile (i.e., comfortable walk), 1 mile, and 2 miles (legal bussing threshold) from the assigned school
  (f) Longest anticipated travel time to school
  (g) Number of students in the walking zone of one school attending a different school where they would be bused

Criterion 3—Fiscal Responsibility

- Consider building improvements, staffing requirements, and capital and operational costs relative to District financial constraints.
- Minimize solutions that would result in major capital expenses and major transportation or other operational cost increases.
- Potential metrics for evaluating each facility option against this criterion may include:
  (a) Likely capital cost changes (in round numbers or by scale)
  (b) Likely operating cost changes (in round numbers or by scale)
  (c) Deferred maintenance costs avoided, if any
  (d) Number of bus routes (may be on scale—e.g., “more”, “fewer”, or “similar”)
  (e) If applicable, opportunity for repurposing or sale of buildings or sites

Criterion 4—Efficient Building Utilization

- Reasonably balance enrollment among schools serving similar grades.
- Plan for enrollment to not be substantially below, and not above, working building capacities.
- Do not assume changes in the District’s current class size policy.
- Consider projected enrollment, but not too far into the future.
- Potential metrics for evaluating each facility option against this criterion may include:
  (a) Projected enrollment to working building capacity, year 2027
  (b) Projected enrollment to working building capacity, year 2035
  (c) Schools with projected enrollment above their working capacity
  (d) Schools with projected enrollment <70% of their working capacity