



**To:** Attendees  
**From:** Sean W. Kelly | SK  
**Date:** April 22, 2021  
**Comm. No:** 9999

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**Subject:** Independent School District #756  
Long Range Planning Committee Meeting #2  
April 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Discussion Topics:**

- A. Thoughts Since Last Meeting:
  - 1. Long Range Planning:
    - a. Look beyond the immediate need (LTFM).
    - b. Enrollment and District growth will be a significant part of options development.
  - 2. Flexibility to absorb bubbles:
    - a. Enrolment projections are coming by the end of April 2021.
    - b. Enrolment projections are great for looking ten years out, but not necessarily beyond.
      - 1) First five years based on current populations.
      - 2) Second five years based on projections.
  - 3. Industrial Tech should be addressed through this process.
    - a. High School students should be prepped for tech/trade schools.
    - b. How do high school industrial tech and tech school industrial tech dovetail to ensure the curriculum is sequential and not-repetitive?
    - c. Just started a partnership with "Riverland" to begin these discussions. With COVID, progress with this partnership has been slower than expected.
    - d. Is there a way to get information from students who have graduated one or two years prior to understand what is working and what is not from a preparation standpoint? Exit interviews?
  - 4. Expansion and Renovation Thoughts:
    - a. Can rooftop solar be considered?
      - 1) Return on Investment is approximately seven to ten years.
      - 2) Should be discussed parallel with roof warranties and replacement plans.
      - 3) Structural considerations of existing buildings would need to be considered.
- B. Recap From Previous Meeting and Clarifications:
  - 1. Clocks – The clock systems are consistent between the High School and Elementary buildings.
  - 2. Lighting Controls – The lights have been converted to LED, however, lighting controls have not been updated. No dimming, day light sensors, occupancy sensors, etc.



3. Open enrollment is 15% for Preschool through Twelfth Grade.
  - a. What is the draw for parents to open enroll their kids to BP. The message from parents is often “for the smaller, more intimate feel”.
  - b. Elementary enrollment is increasing and the elementary is full.
- C. Example Projects:
  1. Personalized / Flexible Learning Examples were Presented:
    - a. Carve out spaces in existing buildings for flexible and individualized learning.
    - b. Support digital learning with the Architecture.
    - c. Flexible furniture allows to transform the function of a space depending on the learning initiative.
    - d. Supervision becomes an issue with individual learning outside of the classroom, but can be dealt with through strategic transparencies.
  2. Media Centers and Maker Spaces Examples and Ideas:
    - a. The shift has been from data retrieval to data creation.
    - b. Media center “lock down” zone has been pulled back and greater access to the media center can be given. Flexibility.
    - c. Book storage has become much more densely stored or distributed through the building versus in traditional stacks.
    - d. Integration of labs, maker spaces, “messy” spaces with media spaces.
    - e. Connected shops with classroom spaces. Securable, but able to move back and forth. Middle School Example.
    - f. Clean versus Dirty fabrication spaces.
    - g. What spaces are appropriate for the student’s interest and how are the students engaging in the spaces.
    - h. Partnerships with local businesses – difficult process but certainly can be done and provides strong community relationships.
- D. Developing Criteria – Draft criteria were presented.
  1. Physical Conditions.
  2. Capacity versus Enrollment.
  3. Safety and Security.
  4. Programming and Functionality.
  5. Extra-Curricular and Community.
- E. Grad Structure Was Discussed:
  1. Option: Preschool through Kindergarten or Preschool through First Grade independent space/building or addition would be ideal.
    - a. Would help with pick up/drop off safety concerns if isolated building.
    - b. This would imply a First or Second through Sixth Grade and Seventh through Twelfth Grade structure.
    - c. What are the deal breakers for this?
      - 1) Would need own pick up and drop off.
      - 2) Would need on entrance and exit.
      - 3) Should have their own place to eat lunch. Could use same kitchen likely.



- 4) Should have dedicated media center/ flex / outside the classroom space.
- 5) Should have dedicated outdoor space / playground.
2. Option: Fifth and Sixth Grade move to High School.
  - a. School patrol would be moved to Fourth Grade, is this feasible?
  - b. Drop off anxiety for Fifth and Sixth Grade at High School building.
  - c. If at the High School, Fifth and Sixth Grade would likely need to be separated from High School students.
  - d. Can they use the same cafeteria if not eating together with Seventh through Twelfth Grade? Is that okay? This should be an okay model.
3. Option: Move Sixth Grade to High School and pull Preschool out of Elementary.
  - a. Fifth and Sixth Grade typically keep the "homeroom" model versus adapting the High School model.
4. Option: Plan for Ninth through Twelfth Grade building, existing High School would be master planned for Middle School? Heavily dependent on demographic/enrollment projections.
  - a. Ninth through Twelfth Grade option could be addition master planned to existing building.
5. This conversation will be driven by the forthcoming enrollment projections.
  - a. What are the growth scenarios and how will the architecture respond?
    - 1) Need to write a criteria around keeping flexibility with new addition or building.
6. Is a two building model important to the Blooming Prairie experience? This may become a criteria depending on enrollment projections.
- F. Post COVID student enrollment was discussed.
  1. How do other Districts look at distance learning moving forward?
    - a. Most see the need for in building learning for labs, social development, FACS, etc. The spaces to accommodate students in the building may evolve (more flex spaces), but there does not appear to be a push to keep kids learning via distance models.
- G. Next Steps:
  1. Tour the High School at the next meeting.
    - a. Meet at 5:45 p.m. to tour the building ahead of the April 27, 2021 Meeting.
  2. The May 4, 2021 meeting will be cancelled.

cc: Joe Patton, Wold

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