

East Pennsboro Area School District  
District Feasibility Study Steering Committee

Administration Center

August 1, 2017

**Members Present:** Andrew Cecere, Kristen Danner, Steven Heiser, Corey Groff, Glenn Gurchick, Clint Heckman, Harold Hinton, Mike Jones, Dawn Kepler, Kathy Kramer, Jeffery Lynch, Greg Milbrand, Sarah Miller, Jason Oyler, Sharon Sybrandt

**Community Members Present:** Rich Kreiger, Rebecca Oyler

Mr. Milbrand began the meeting by reviewing the guiding principles for the feasibility study that had been previously established. The committee will add moving 5th grade out of the middle school building and back to the elementary buildings as a new guiding principle. Mr. Milbrand also shared with the committee the plan for this evening's meeting, which includes a presentation from the architects, an opportunity to ask the architects questions, and time during the last half hour of the meeting for discussion amongst the committee about the information presented by the architects. He also indicated that our next meeting will focus on discussing the various grade-level configuration options.

Three representatives from Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates presented options 8, 8a, 9, and 9a to the committee. Option 8 creates a K-2 building at EPE, a 3-5 building at WCH, completely renovates the middle school for grades 6-8 and adds the District Administration Center to EPE. Option 8a is identical to option 8 except that the District Administration Center would be added to the Middle School instead of EPE. The committee discussed if it makes more sense to make WCH the K-2 building since it is off campus. Then students would come to the main campus in 3rd grade and remain there until graduation. The architects indicated that it really makes no difference which grade-level band goes in which building. That decision can be made at a later date.

Option 9 creates a K-5 building at both EPE and WCH, a completely renovated Middle School, and the District Administration Center added to EPE. Option 9a is identical to option 9 except that the District Administration Center would be added to the Middle School instead of EPE. The estimated cost for each option is as follows:

- Option 8 - \$33.2 million
- Option 8a - \$30.9 million
- Option 9 - \$34.9 million
- Option 9a - \$32.6 million

It was noted that none of the options included MEP upgrades to EPE or WCH. If those costs were added to the estimates, a K-2, 3-5 configuration would be estimated at \$47.5 million and a K-5 configuration would be estimated at \$49.3 million.

A committee member asked for clarification as to how the grade-level reconfiguration would impact class sizes. Mr. Milbrand referred the committee to a previous handout that outlined how class sizes would be impacted by the grade-level reconfigurations. The committee then discussed the pace of decision-making process of the committee, considering that there will be several new board members elected in November and also considering a change in leadership at the superintendent level. Discussion centered around slowing down and waiting for those transitions to occur versus making our recommendations regardless of the anticipated changes. There seemed to be some consensus that we should keep the momentum of the committee going and outline our recommendations as soon as we are able. That led to a discussion of future meeting dates and the topics to be discussed at those meetings.

August 8, 2017 - 5:30-7:30 pm (Administration Center) - Begin the meeting with finalizing a recommendation on keeping West Creek Hills open or closing the building. Discussion of the grade level configuration options will occur with whatever time remains.

August 15, 2017 - 5:30-7:30 (Administration Center) - Finalize the pros and cons of the various grade-level configurations and create a recommendation to present to the board of school directors at the August 16, 2017 public meeting.

No additional meeting dates and times were set.