

Notice: These minutes are in D R A F T format, and shall remain as such as the legal record in compliance with RSA 91:A in their written archival form. They are likely to contain errors and may be in need of correction which can only be done in public in a properly-posted, subsequent meeting of the School Board. Accordingly, you are referred to the minutes of a subsequent (i.e. future -- but not necessarily the next sequential) meeting of the Board to identify what may have been changed as an approved and properly modified record in compliance with law.

NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**School Board Minutes**  
 Monday, September 14, 2015  
 Location: LMC- Newfound Regional High School

- I. Call to Order by Jeff Levesque at 6:32PM.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Record Roll:
  - Sue Cheney, Alexandria - Present
  - Vincent Paul Migliore, Bridgewater - Present
  - Benjamin LaRoche, Bristol - Present
  - Jeff Levesque, Groton - Present
  - Don Franklin, Hebron - Present
  - Christine Davol, New Hampton - Present
  - Sharon Klapyk, Danbury - Present
- IV. Approval or Modification of Agenda (Note this is a modified format)  
 Item IX – A and B under New business tabled until the first meeting in October.
- V. Approval of Minutes
  - a. August 10, 2015
    - Page 4 – At the bottom the last paragraph after residence add; “registration information to included immunizations and birth certificate”.
    - Page 8 – In the roll call section Don Franklin is in twice replace one with Sharon Klapyk.
- VI. Public Comment
  - John Sellers (Bristol) – Commented on the “Community and Consequences” video.
  - Susan Colby (Bristol) – Shared that school is off to a great start. She has been in NMMS and BES and said all the updates are setting a good tone for the school year.
  - Terry Murphy (Bridgewater) shared that he reviewed the data from the Demographic study. The report was excellent. He said the towns use to receive a list of students grade K-12. Towns would use the list to verify residence. They are no longer getting them.
- VII. Announcements and Recognition
  - a. Staff Liaison Report – Megan Guldner has accepted the position as staff liaison.
  - b. Student Liaison Report – Absent

- c. Superintendent Report – Stacy Buckley shared that the school year is off to a great beginning. Some specifics that she noted:
  - Open houses are as follows: NMMS is September 17, DES and NRHS September 22, BES is September 30 and BHVS October 1.
  - She also shared that the administration is already working on the budget for next year.
  - The business office has hired a new staff member who will start October 5. A request from parents was received to look at having an all girls soccer team. Currently the team is coed. She is working with the Athletic Directors, Pete Cofran and Shane Tucker, to explore the possibility.
  - Full day Kindergarten has gone off great and the kids are transitioning well.
  - Next School Board Meeting is on September 28 will be a Planning and Dialogue meeting. The Facilities Committee will be presenting an overview of the work that they have been doing.
- d. Other - Vincent Paul Migliore asked if there were any requests for half day kindergarten. Stacy Buckley said she hadn't received any requests however at BES there was one and they are accommodating the request.

#### VIII. New Business

- a. Approval to transfer “up to the sum of \$60,000” into the expendable trust fund: building maintenance – *Tabled until October School Board meeting.*
- b. Approval to transfer “up to 2 ½ %” into the retained fund balance – *Tabled until October School Board meeting.*
- c. Acceptance of School District Clerk Resignation – Jeff Levesque thanked Leah McDevitt on behalf of the School Board for her services as School Board clerk.
- d. Confirmation of Teacher Hires – Stacy Buckley shared that Ethan Brown was hired as the Elementary Music Teacher. She also brought forward Ruth Whittier who applied for the School Board clerk position. She asked the board to appoint Ruth Whittier as School Board clerk for the year.
- e. New Hampshire School Board Association resolution request - Vincent Paul Migliore said the Board has the opportunity to present a resolution to the Association by October 23, 2015.
- f. Scheduling of Deliberative Session – Stacy shared that the meeting has to be scheduled between the first and second Saturday following the last Monday in January. The dates would be between Saturday, January 30 and Saturday, February 6. All School Board members agreed on Saturday, January 30 at 10AM with a snow day of Monday, February 1 at 6:30PM.

- IX. Public Comment (on agenda items discussed to this point only, 5 minute limit. Time will be provided separately before a vote on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade item.)  
None

#### X. Motion on Individual Agenda Items

- Jeff Levesque made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and seconded by Christine Davol.  
Vote 6-0-1-0 (Christine Davol abstained) ***Motion Passed***

Don Franklin made a motion to accept Leah McDevitt's resignation as clerk and seconded by Ben LaRoche.

Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Christine Davol made a motion to confirm Ethan Brown as Elementary Music teacher and seconded by Sharon Klapyk.

Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Jeff Levesque made a motion to appoint Ruth Whittier as School District clerk and seconded by Don Franklin.

Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

- XI. Financial
- a. Approval of Manifest(s)  
None

- XII. Other Business

*Jeff Levesque called for a 5 minute recess at 7:17PM.*

*Meeting was called back to order by Jeff Levesque at 7:26PM.*

- XIII. Old Business
- a. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade move to Elementary Schools: The Plan (Presentation by Superintendent, Stacy Buckley). .

Stacy Buckley began the presentation stating she was given the directive from the School Board to come up with the plan on "The Transition of 6<sup>th</sup> Grader to the Elementary Schools". Her slide show included historical information, enrollment, results of faculty and staff surveys, and public comments from previous School Board Meetings. She noted possible staffing changes and recommendations in all the Elementary schools and the middle school. She included special education and space impact. She discussed curriculum needs, the impact on athletics at the middle school and high school and discussed both the positive and negative aspects of the model.

*A copy of the full presentation is located at the end of the minutes*

- b. Determination of Plan for 6<sup>th</sup> grade by Board – Jeff Levesque asked for the board members to provide input and thoughts:
  - Christine Davol thanked Stacy for her work on the plan. She is worried about the elementary busting at the seams if the move would happen and it doesn't seem that the educational needs are being considered.
  - Ben LaRoche noted that he appreciated the presentation. He felt that there was a lot of information to digest. He feels he has more questions, such as what are the needs of the district, considering all elements such as educationally, financially and facilities. What would be the best plan?
  - Vincent Paul Migliore stated that he feels there is capacity at each of the schools to do this change. He based this on the capacity information.

Stacy explained the difference between enrollment and capacity. Based on enrollment, each classroom space is utilized. The excess capacity comes from the fact that each classroom may not be at capacity. Don Franklin said each room had to be at capacity to reach the maximum number.

- Jeff Levesque said the only way to maximize on capacity is to bus students around the district to meet room capacity.
- Vincent Paul Migliore feels we just need to stay ahead of the declining enrollment problem.
- Sue Cheney noted that when she first started talking about this it was about the students. This is a very dreary picture with more negatives than positives.
- Stacy Buckley added that a decision needs to be made shortly so that there is time for budget preparation if the board goes forward with the model. There is a short time line with the budget starting in October.
- Sharon Klapyk sees more negatives than positives. She does not support the plan.
- Don Franklin noted that there are more negatives than positives in bringing 6<sup>th</sup> grade down to the elementary level. As chair of the facilities committee he sees the needs of the elementary schools. It's been proven that the middle school model does work for this district. He is not in favor of this model.
- Jeff Levesque stated that he has two responsibilities. One is to represent the voters of the district. The second is his obligation to the students. The voters in this district have made it quite clear time and time again that they are not in support of closing the middle school or moving the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to the elementary level.
- Christine Davol says she is vested as a parent and a tax payer. She has seen many changes and positive growth in the district.

*Jeff Levesque called for a 5 minute recess at 8:45 PM.*

*Meeting was called back to order by Jeff Levesque at 8:52 PM.*

#### XIV. Public Comment on 6<sup>th</sup> Grade item only

- Susan Colby (Bristol) – She thinks many of the members echo the feelings of the audience. She was concerned with the fact that DES doesn't have a Library. This should be a concern to focus on. She does not support moving 6<sup>th</sup> grade to the elementary schools.
- Jamie Sullivan (Alexandria) – He feels the biggest thing to consider is education and money and this proposal does not support either. He said the decline of population is a fact, but there is still enough time to decide. Our biggest thought should be keeping up standards of education and work on the buildings that are in disrepair.
- Crystal Lewis (Bristol) – She feels this would not help kids with special education accommodations.
- Ken Braley (Alexandria) – He echoes what has been said and is looking at what his children would be losing if this goes through. He does not support the plan. .

XV. Motion on 6<sup>th</sup> Grade item

Jeff Levesque made a motion to affirm the K-5, 6-8, 9-12, model and end any further discussion or actions towards a change for the 2016 – 2017 school year and seconded by Sharon Klapyk.

Vincent Paul Migliore said he will vote against the motion because it is inevitable that we will be dealing with excess facilities.

Vote 6-1-0-0 (Vincent Paul Migliore voted no) ***Motion Passed***

XVI. Motion to adjourn at 9:08 PM made by Jeff Levesque and seconded by Sue Cheney

Respectfully submitted by Sue Cross

**Staff Members Present:** Dottie Caristi, Bristol; Sarah Rollins, Principal, BES; Heather Gosson, Bristol; Rebecca Taylor, Bristol; Thomas Donahue, Bristol; Trish Lewis, Assistance Principal and Guidance, NMMS; Eric Chase, Principal, NMMS; Leslie McGowan, Alexandria; Coleen Symonds, Bristol; Pam Plankey, Alexandria; Susan Peterson, Bristol; Carol Jewel, Alexandria; Justine Kimball, Bristol;

**Public Present:** Steve and Mary Walker, New Hampton; Brenda and Jamie Sullivan, Alexandria; Christina Lewis, Bristol; Eric Goucher, New Hampton; Kevin Glidden, Bristol; Robin Camire, Bristol; Nifty Broome, Alexandria; Susan Colby, Bristol; Annie Learned, Bristol; Jennifer Simon, Bristol; Tammy Glidden, Bristol; Deb Blouin, Hebron; Jessica Hatch, Danbury; Michelle Costigan, Bristol; John Jenness, New Hampton; Christina Reynolds, Bridgewater; Tom Caldwell, Bristol; Christen Dolloff, Bristol; Deanne Sanschagrin, Bristol; April Nguyer, Alexandria; Bob Brooks, Hebron; Donna Sellers, Bristol; John Sellers, Bristol; Kristine Braman, New Hampton; Jefferson Braman, New Hampton; Martha Porfido, Bristol; Kenneth Braley II, Alexandria; Elizabeth Sargent, Alexandria; Megan Magrath, New Hampton

# The Transition of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade to the Elementary Schools: The Plan

Presented by Stacy Buckley, Superintendent of Schools  
Monday, September 14, 2015

## The Historical Perspective: Where did we start and how did we get here?

Year 2000: NASD vote – opinion poll regarding moving BHVS to  
K-8 school (754 yes, 1064 no)

Year 2002: School Space Needs Committee report and  
recommendations.

Year 2003: Warrant article for 9.295M for expansion and  
renovation of 4 schools. Article Failed

Year 2012: Warrant article to study the feasibility of changing  
the district to 4 local districts providing a k-8 education and a  
cooperative district to provide a 9-12 education (by petition)  
Vote: 939 yes; 1031 no

- Year 2012: Warrant article to study the feasibility of adding a junior high wing to the high school and establishing a k-6 elementary school (by petition) Vote: 936 yes, 1118 no
- 2013-2014: Board discussion regarding K-6, K-8, closure of a school. Report presented by Superintendent of Schools
- 2014-2015: (September 8 and September 22, 2014) Board public hearing on moving 6<sup>th</sup> grade to elementary schools.

- September 22, 2014: Board motion “to direct the Superintendent to look at how we could move to K-6 for the 2016-2017 school year and what it would cost”.
  - Vote: 4-3-0 (Yes: Sue Cheney, Vincent Paul Migliore, Benjamin Laroche, Ruby Hill; No: Jeff Levesque, Don Franklin, Christine Davol)

## Data for this report gathered by:

- Reviewing enrollment numbers
- Speaking with Administration
- Two Forums were held for any faculty or staff member who wanted to provide input, information, or ideas
- Faculty and Staff survey
- Attendance at NRHS Student/Staff Senate to discuss change (this was done at their request)
- Review of data available regarding certifications, enrollment, NH State Standard requirements, class size, faculty and staff positions
- Input from public hearings held by school board (9/22/14 and 9/28/14)
- Review of space in our schools
- Projections forward for space and building needs

## Enrollment (15-16) by school and projected enrollment (16-17) with 6<sup>th</sup> grade at elementary schools

Note: Kindergarten enrollment for 16-17 was calculated using the average for the 6 years of enrollment currently in the school

## Bridgewater Hebron Village School

Grade	2015-2016	2016-2017
Pre-K	24	24
K	18	18
1	18	18
2	13	18
3	22	13
4	18	22
5	20	18
6	0	20
Totals:	133	151
Actual Usage Capacity: 220		

## Bristol Elementary School

Grade	2015-2016	2016-2017
K	34 (35)	36
1	40	35
2	29	40
3	34	29
4	41 (40)	34
5	37 (38)	40
6	0	38
Totals:	215 (216)	252
Actual Usage Capacity: 295		

## Danbury Elementary School

Grade	2015-2016	2016-2017
K	8	11
1	12	8
2	8 (7)	12
3	8	7
4	13	8
5	14	13
6	0	14
<b>Total:</b>	<b>63 (62)</b>	<b>73</b>
Actual Usage Capacity: 90		

## New Hampton Community School

Grade	2015-2016	2016-2017	2016-2017
K	20 (22)	K	21
1	15	1	22
2	17 (16)	2	15
3	21 (24)	3	16
4	13	4	24
4	15	5	13
5	23	5	15
6	0	6	23
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>124 (128)</b>		<b>149</b>
Actual Usage Capacity: 155			

## Newfound Memorial Middle School

Grade	2015-2016	2016-2017
6	97 (96)	0
7	93 (92)	96
8	111	92
Totals:	301 (299)	188
Actual Usage Capacity: 424		

## Faculty and Staff Survey

“Based on information that I am aware of, I support the 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving from NMMS to the elementary schools.”

- 147 Responses
  - No: 131 (89.12%)
  - Yes: 16 (10.88%)

## A qualitative look at public comments:

Summary Comment	Number of respondents
I support K-6	2
I do not support closing NMMS	6
I do not support 7-12	8
We need to stabilize	6
Don't change anything	4
I support moving the MS to HS	1
I don't support K-8	1

“Many comments have been made about your financial responsibility to the taxpayers, paramount to that is your responsibility to the students.”

## Staffing changes and recommendations:

## Newfound Memorial Middle School

- Teaching Staff: We currently have 10 teachers certified in Elementary Education (K-8). In a survey, not one teacher would voluntarily move to the elementary school to teach a self-contained classroom of all 4 subject areas.
- Of the 10 teachers, only 1 teacher has ever taught all 4 subject areas in a self-contained classroom model.
- This would require significant Professional Development time to ensure that they are fluent with the curriculum. The goal being that students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2016-2017 would not all experience "1<sup>st</sup> year" teachers.
- Cost for PD: 5 teachers X 160 hours (1 week for each content area) X \$31.00 per hour= \$24,800
- Teachers would be chosen based on certification area, experience, grades and subjects taught, and ensuring those left at NMMS could teach the content areas needed.

- Eliminate Part time Assistant Principal/Part time Guidance Position (reduction of approximately \$75,000)
- Reduce all Allied Arts Positions to 50% (approximate reduction of 6 teachers X \$30,000= \$180,000)
- Eliminate Special Education Teacher (reduction of approximately \$65,000)
- Eliminate Guidance Secretary/Special Ed Secretary Position (reduction of approximately \$25,000)
- Reduce Food Service Staff (cost?)
- Reduce teacher staff by 1 position (specialist) (reduction of approximately \$65,000)

## Danbury Elementary School

- Increase Principal Position to Full Time (increase of approximately \$80,000 + benefits)
- Increase food service time (cost?)
- Increase guidance time from 2 days per week to 3 days per week (increase of approximately \$20,000)
- Eliminate stipend for Assistant Principal (reduction of \$3,000)
- Eliminate School Secretary position (Principal/Nurse to fill this role) (reduction of approximately \$23,000)

## New Hampton Community School

- Increase Principal to Full time (no cost for salary as position already exists, reduction of \$5,000 stipend for covering 2 buildings)
- Increase in Food Service staff (cost?)
- Elimination of stipend for Assistant Principal (reduction of \$3,000)
- Decrease guidance from full time to 3 days per week (reduction of approximately \$35,000)

## Bridgewater-Hebron Village School

- Increase food service staff (cost?)

## Bristol Elementary School

- Increase in food service staff- would the increase in student population then support the need for a full kitchen at BES?

## District:

- Would need to assess Allied Arts at the elementary levels:  
Can the current structure support the additional classes for Allied Arts without impacting the work that we just did in ensuring consistency across the district without impacting instruction?

## Special Education Impact:

2016-2017: Number of identified students and staffing impact:

- Estimating that on average there would be 3 special education students coming into 2016-2017 school year for each 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom
- Would need to keep case loads low due to expanse of grade level coverage.
- **BHVS:** 40 students (including preschool)  
23 students (without preschool)  
Currently have 1 special education teacher (for non preschool)  
Add an additional special education teacher (approximate increase of \$65,000)
- **BES:** 30 students  
Currently 2 special education teachers  
No additional staffing needed unless numbers rise

- **DES:** 12 students  
Currently .5 special education teacher  
Move part time special education teacher to full time position  
(approximately \$30,000 increase)
- **NHCS:** 21 students  
Currently 2 special education teachers  
No additional staffing needed unless numbers rise

## Space Impact and Use:

- **DES:**
  - We are currently using every available space. Having an available classroom is based on the future Kindergarten enrollment numbers.
  - Our current enrollment for 2015-2016 is at 8 Kindergarteners. So, if we have less than 9 students the following year, we could combine K/1 and have a space available. However, if the class is larger and we need to keep separate K and 1 classrooms, there is no space for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - We currently do not have a space for Art, Music, or library. The library is currently stored on carts in the café or the side of a classroom.
  - Current class used for 1<sup>st</sup> grade is an undersized classroom- the class would need to be small to use this space. Thus, what happens when the larger classes of students come along?

## Space cont...

- **BHVS:**
  - We would have space for one class of 6<sup>th</sup> grade
  - We just moved OT/PT into the one classroom that was made available by moving to only 1 fifth grade class. The office space that OT/PT was in is now a conference room. We would lose the conference room and revert back to the previous model, or
  - We would move our specialists into a regular education classroom and use that space. This would mean that specialists would no longer have their own space to work in small groups or individually.

## Space Cont...

- **NHCS:**
  - There is no current space available for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - There could be space available in 3 years when the current 4<sup>th</sup> grade class leaves NHCS (class size: 26)
  - We currently have 20 Kindergartners enrolled for 2015-2016- will that number increase requiring two classes?
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade would need to be housed in the Little Red School House. Impact on this would be:
    - Detached from the regular school- is this the goal of moving 6<sup>th</sup> grade to the elementary schools?
    - Those who use that location would move to a cart: Art, Music, special education specialists such as OT. (approximately cost of \$5,000 to purchase materials for transportation of equipment and supplies)
    - We already have a huge disruption to the day to provide Gym- will this be more? (Did you know it costs us over \$10,000 a year to transport NHCS children to New Hampton School for PE?)
    - Could the bathroom in Little red school house manage the consistent use of a classroom?

## Space, cont...

- **BES:**
  - There would be two available classrooms for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. This would require the consolidation of a few specialists (Title 1, special education, OT, etc..) spaces.
  
- **Furniture Needs for all schools:**
  - Replacement or new furniture for 6<sup>th</sup> grade in each building: estimated at \$4,000 per building or \$16,000 altogether

## Space, Cont..

- **NMMS:**
  - This would leave 5 empty classrooms at NMMS.
  - These classes are not suitable to move all Allied Arts classrooms upstairs.
  - Possibly moving technology from the SAU to NMMS thus providing a little more breathing room at the SAU.
  - Would require EXTENSIVE renovations to move Tech to NMMS
  - There would not be enough space to move the entire SAU office to NMMS and this would also require EXTENSIVE renovations to make this happen.
  - If you closed NMMS and added a wing to NRHS for 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade are we just transferring costs? Is it really a good strategy to have 6<sup>th</sup> grade go to elementary for that elementary experience and then the next step would be high school?

## Curriculum needs

- Math is currently being aligned with Common Core. We would need math resources for each school. (estimated cost: \$20,000 or \$5,000 for each school)
- ELA would go to Reading Streets for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. (estimated cost: \$40,000 or \$10,00 for each school)
- Science and Social Studies would require the purchase of materials for 3 of the schools. The current sets of materials could be used for one school. (estimated at \$30,000)
- Libraries would need material appropriate for 6<sup>th</sup> grade (estimated cost \$20,000: or \$5,000 for each school)
- Playground equipment would need to be secured for 6<sup>th</sup> graders (estimated cost \$8,000: or \$2,000 for each school)
- Technology needs for each school (estimated at \$10,000 each school for a total estimate of \$40,000) (\$400 for a chromebook X 20 for each school)

## Impact on Athletics

- For the 2014-2015 school year we had the following number of students playing a sport:
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 49 students
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade: 56 students
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: 86 students
- This would mean that approximately 49 students would not have access to school athletics until 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
- What impact would this move have on being able to support all of our teams that we currently have?
- How will this impact being a feeder program to NRHS?

## What are the impacts to the education of our students?

## What are the positive aspects of this model?

- Recess
- Another year of known supports
- PE every week, all year
- Students don't have to adapt to varying teacher's styles
- Schedules don't change- you have only one teacher
- A perceived more nurturing environment
- Relationships have been developed over time
- Parent – teacher relationships may be stronger as you only have one teacher to work with
- More parent involvement (DES- 885 hours; NHCS- 1,410 hours; BHVS- 950 hours; NMMS- 450 hours)
- Ability to focus on academics before they have more choices
- A continued peer group (could be negative as well)

- Easier for individual instruction- self contained classes
- One more year of physical maturation
- Confidence- they will be the oldest group
- Ability to mentor younger students (although could impact 5<sup>th</sup> graders who may do this now)
- Keeps students away from perceived notion of drugs, etc..
- Less accountability to multiple teachers
- Is has been successful in other districts, so it could be here too!

## What are the negative aspects or concerns with this model:

- Per pupil cost for NMMS will skyrocket
- Common Core State Standards/Smarter Balance are better aligned to our current model (3-5, 6-8, and 9-12)
- 6<sup>th</sup> graders are “ready” to go the middle school
- Teacher team conversations around students (at elementary you only have one teacher per grade level so there is no opportunity to brainstorm what might or might not work with a student)
- Do we really want a mature 6<sup>th</sup> grader at the elementary school?

- Moving many staff to Part-time will increase the rate of turnover of staff- is this working to attract and retain the best faculty?
- Lack of faculty/staff support of the model
- Lack of community support- would this impact the community morale
- Lack of ability to make friends in other communities and expand their reach- they will be going to a small school with the same students for 7 years!
- The level of knowledge of a teacher who only teaches one content area is stronger than one who needs to teach 4!

- When students begin to mature physically- they are all doing it together at NMMS
- It is easier for students to deal with those “embarrassing” moments, because they are all going through it together
- Lack of variety of educational offerings due to small size
- Transition year- are we just putting it off another year
- Is 3 years at the middle school better than 2? We would be adding a very short transition period between MS and HS. (ie: too many transitions in too short of a period of time)
- Short period of attendance at NMMS could translate to a lack of buy in or sense of community.

- In MS, students learn strategies for working with different teachers and styles
- There are less resources at the elementary schools due to their size
- Going to the middle school is often a fresh start for some of our students
- Student exposure to other students
- Scaffolding responsibility over 3 years
- Yearbook
- Math team

- The Middle School experience
- Loss of Health, Family and Consumer Science, Technology Education
- Lack of ability to offer full science labs
- Consistency of 6-8 programs
- Chorus – how would this impact the program?
- Band (would also lose for 5<sup>th</sup> graders)- How would this impact the program?
- Drama- How would this impact the program?
- Student Council
- Athletics- How would this impact the program?

- Social activities to include: Dances, Team spirit activities, Winter Carnival, Summerfest, Midstep
- Independence of using a locker
- Educational Talent Search would start later
- Geography Bee/National History Bee
- Honor Roll and Ceremonies
- Field trips may not involve the same experiences across all elementary schools
- Strong curriculum understanding- teachers teach to their specialty areas
- Core + remediation and enrichment- across grade level access
- Exposure to older role models
- Only 2 years to prepare for high school

- It should be a “healthy fear” of moving to the middle school
- Morale in elementary schools may be lowered due to overcrowding
- Students get a false sense of being the “best” in a small school.
- What would happen if we didn’t have enough space and needed it? Would we need to go to portable classrooms if we needed more space in the elementary schools?
- We would need to add technology resources to the elementary schools
- Demographics of Staff- students would have less access to male teachers as role models
- Does this create a middle school that is now “too small”?

## If we really wanted to move to K-8 and were really thinking about the taxpayer:

- Why not build one K-8 school in a central location?
- Cost savings of running 5 buildings could basically pay for the bond cost of a new school
- You would have a brand new, state of the art, high efficiency school that would house approximately 800 students. While this seems large, if done right it would provide outstanding opportunities for our students.
- Current buildings could be utilized as community centers, libraries, etc...