



## Cedar Rapids Community School District Facility Master Plan Process *High School Feedback*

### Committee High Schools Discussion

Committee Meeting #5 was held on February 7, 2017. At this meeting, they were asked to write down their initial thoughts about what viable High School solutions should be considered to know what the committee members might be thinking about High School solutions. Shown below and on this page are the general conclusions the RSP surmised from the committee comments (many different perspectives, which we tried to provide a summation).

### High School Options Summary:

#### 1. Communication

- Consistency in programming is critical to keep kids in District

#### 2. Finances

- Do PPEL only
- Try to reduce costs/operations, maintenance
- Focus money on area in most need – ES not HS

#### 3. Spaces

- Flexible, conducive to 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning
- Collaborative and technology
- Secure
- Fully staffed

#### 4. Data

- Prepare all for college and/or career
- Accommodate different learning styles & post-secondary destinations
- Increase opportunities for students to learn career and technical skills
- Graduate career readiness
- Access to instructive technology
- Provide community involvement/job shadowing/career counseling

## 5. Renovate

- Improve fitness facilities/locker rooms
- Kennedy has most needs

### **Closing/Renovating/Repurposing Summary:**

#### 1. Close/Consolidate/Build New

- Upgrades to appearance (i.e. lunchrooms at JHS & WHS)
- Modernized spaces (pools, locker rooms, technology, classrooms, flex-spaces)
- Renovate/remodel rather than replace
- Reconfigure Grades (9<sup>th</sup> grade center)

#### 2. Innovative or Unique Idea

- Magnet schools with special programs (STEAM, Arts, Leadership, Business)
- Adjust boundaries
- Expanded Tech Ed and other programs for career readiness
- Partner with community colleges/businesses
- More flexible project based learning
- Incorporate creative ideas (BIG, career certification, etc.)

#### 3. Data

- Redraw boundaries to equalize numbers/SES/Diversity
- Determine ideal HS size
- Look at new feeder options

#### 4. Communicate clearly any changes

- The community responds to the look/feel/quality of building; influences decisions to enroll or not

**ALL OF THE COMMITTEE COMMENTS ARE LISTED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES**

## High School Solutions: General

- High Schools need to have technology that meets the needs now and have the ability to grow for the future
- Look at magnet schools however the all have STEAM, Arts, Leadership, Business
- Fix the locker rooms at the HS & improve fitness facilities
- Learning spaces that are conducive to collaboration
- Access to up to date technology tools and devices
- Areas for ICN or distance learning (for college courses)
- Consistency in programming is critical to keep parents from moving/open enrolling into the “school of choice”
- Upgrades to appearance (i.e. lunchrooms at JHS & WHS)
- Upgrades to program offerings (i.e. Kirkwood classes) to keep kids at schools (not permitting out)
- People need to make choices based on how the schools look. They come to sporting events and see their run down, dirty, cockroach infested facilities. They do not want to send their kids to those buildings
- Spaces like pools & locker rooms need to be torn down and rebuilt – modernized
- Do not tear down entire buildings. Renovate – open up and modernize
- To ensure 21<sup>st</sup> century learning at the HS they need to be remodeled to create those spaces – open, technology enriched new spaces
- HS should be remodeled or new to create environments that students would want to learn in that would include open spaces and technologies/modern or updated classrooms
- Adjust boundaries based on current capacity /many HS building already have been upgraded
- Expanded counseling services
- Redraw boundaries to equalize numbers
- Health clinic
- Prepare those who choose for college
- Pool
- Partner with community colleges on site
- Reinstigate the use of shops – growing needs in business – plumbing, electrical, contractors, redesigning out of date IMC’s
- More flexible project based learning
- Diverse learning pathways that accommodate different learning styles & post-secondary destinations
- What is ideal HS size? IS 1650 the right target?
- Do larger schools allow for more instructional options?
- Would smaller schools provide benefits?
- Remodel existing HS – much has already been done to extend the life of these 3 buildings – cost continue to expand maybe more than PPEL
- Do PPEL only – at most expand Kennedy cafeteria and kitchen
- Create facilities and structures the blur the lines of school and community.
- Increase opportunities for students to learn career and technical skills
- More avenues for students to graduate with a certification or 1 year of community college
- Flexibly learning spaces in libraries rather than just a place to house books

- Secure entrances
- Spaces updates; flexible glass walls for supervision, etc....to allow for blended learning
- Keep existing 3 HS (4 w/metro special case) framework
- Allow for individualization of instruction – not all students will go to college
- Additions to Kennedy
- Move Metro to Wilson Buildings
- Kennedy – 9<sup>th</sup> grade academy
- JHS/WHS – 10-12 comprehensive
- Balance SES demography for HS as much as possible
- Additional spaces at HS (flexible spaces for safety and students)
- Bring back classrooms that teach in more real world environments – science labs, Voc. Ed., culinary arts
- Create spaces for fluid collaboration infused with appropriate technology
- CTE access
- Wireless capabilities
- Open space
- Focused on competency
- Remodel – meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs facilities
- College ready & trade skills
- STEM
- Workplace learning
- Build new as needed for growth & program – remodel as needed to accommodate existing building /site needs
- Look at ways to reduce costs/operations, maintenance
- TBD
- 1:1 plan for students
- Library (staffed)
- Larger community spaces (lunch, stage, gym)
- Ample parking or mandatory bussing
- 25-28:1 class ratios
- Do more creative approaches like “BIG”
- Be conscious of diversity
- Provide space that are collaboration break out areas for project based learning
- Insure kids have access for instructive technology
- Provide community involvement/job shadowing/career counseling
- Remodel at Kennedy – bigger cafeteria, increase common learning spaces
- Just remodeled WHS and JHS
- Expanded cafeteria and Kennedy
- More magnet style curriculum/class options for business, college, fast track so kids can train for career fitting their interests
- Offer more tech learning
- KHS becomes 9<sup>th</sup> grade center (K-4 ES = 12, 5-8 MS = 6, 9=1, 10-12 = 3)
- KHS needs modernization – lunchroom, ADA, etc.

- I believe too much money has been focused on renovation of the high schools. We need to look at using funding to remodel, etc. the elementary schools that are in worse shape
- Feeders:

4 (600 K-5) ES	to 2 (750 6-8) MS	to 1 (1600 9-12) HS
(2400)	(1500)	(1600)
12 ES	6 MS	3 HS