

May 15th Bond Meeting Recap

This is our first edition of bond Meeting recap newsletter. We would love to grow our email list, please encourage folks to sign up.

On Monday, May 15th the board met to start working on a path forward for our school bond. We had presentations on different construction options, staff projections, maintenance needs of current schools, and transportation. We created a pro/con list for each of the different construction options. **At the end of the meeting we decided that new community schools for Driggs and Victor was the best fit for our community.**

Our next bond meeting is Monday June 19th. We are going to decide:

- Grade level Configuration
- Possible update options for Tetonia, RUES, middle, and high school
- Location for Basin
- What percentage of growth do we aim to project
- Impact on taxes

Meeting Details

Bond cost models

<https://docs.google.com/a/d401.k12.id.us/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZDQwMS5rMTIuaWQudXN8dGV0b24tc2Nob29sLWRpc3RyaWN0LTQwMXxneDplM2JiM2YwNmY0MWE1YjM>.

Staffing needs

<https://docs.google.com/a/d401.k12.id.us/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZDQwMS5rMTIuaWQudXN8dGV0b24tc2Nob29sLWRpc3RyaWN0LTQwMXxneDo1NzcxNTg5YmM3MDk2NjYx>

Garrett Chadwick, the district architect, presented four options.

Model 1: renovate/ update all schools \$25.6 million

Model 2: New Driggs K-3, New Victor K-3, update all other schools \$37.3 million

Model 3: New Central Elementary K-5, update all other schools \$39.6 million

Model 4: New Central Elementary K-3, update all other schools \$33.9 million

Monte presented staffing and transportation data. Staffing would not change. We have the same number of students and aim to keep our current ratios of students to staff.

Transportation to a central school we require adding two bus routes and drivers.

Cody Kunz, facilities director, presented on current maintenance needs of our schools. All the elementary schools have old pipes which causes plumbing issues and all have roofing needs as well. The high school is in the last phase of upgrading the heating system. The middle school has no major needs, it is our newest building at 10 years old.

After the presentations we created a pro/con list for renovate, new construction, new central school.

Renovate

Pros

- Less Expensive
- History is kept
- More gym space vs central school
- Can defer maintenance costs

Cons

- Ongoing maintenance
- Unknown costs (for example we don't know what materials were used)
- School is in session while renovating
- Not a lot of growth expansion
- Wasted money on logistics (for example setting up walls to prevent students from entering the construction zone)
- Keep small classrooms
- Loss of playground space at Victor
- Harder to hire subcontractors (prefer new projects)

New Construction in Driggs and Victor (no specific configuration)

Pro

- Increase functionality and structural needs
- Less disruption to current learning
- Safe buildings, improved security
- Less maintenance for 10-20 years
- Healthier better air quality (updated HVAC)
- Staff retention
- Create adequate playgrounds
- Transportation

- Design optimized for student achievement
- Each community keeps its school
- All classrooms have windows

Con

- Higher Cost
- Loss of history
- Possible no vote due to cost

Central School

Pro

- Logistics, everything would be under one roof
- Cost of maintenance
- Teacher collaboration
- Teaming, special courses (PE, Music, Art)
- Closer to central safety services (first responder, law enforcement)
- Always a school administrator on-site

Con

- Number of students 1,000+
- Little overall cost savings, 2 sets of cafeterias, gyms, etc
- Loss of community schools
- Traffic congestion in Driggs
- Loss of economic benefit for Tetonia and Victor
- Less parent involvement
- Loss of close interactions students and staff large school
- Logistics of school wide programs such as assemblies, programs, Winter Sports, and Field Days.