



# **West Prairie CUSD 103**

## **Report to the Board of Education**

**May 17, 2018**

**6:00 pm**

# **WEST PRAIRIE CUSD 103**

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION CHARGE**

The West Prairie Board of Education hereby directs the administrative staff to form a broad-based committee of community members and staff.

# CHARGE CONTINUED....

---

The broad-based committee was asked to do the following...

- Study and understand the challenges facing West Prairie 103.
- Present proposals and potential solutions regarding these challenges.

# THANK YOU FROM WEST PRAIRIE 103

---

Rod Wright

Dave Leggans

Kevin Heid



## FACILITATING TEAM

Brett Powell

Cinda Rhoads

Sue Danner

Shane Long

Jennifer Edholm

Jessica Branch

Gretchen Sullivan

Lee Moore

Doug Fisher

Drew Snyder

Toni Baxter

Scott Sullivan

Scott Vogler

Sandi Teel

Dawn Torrance

Lisa Davison

Caitlin Watson

Corinne Biswell

Jeff Butler

Michael Hofmeister

Roger Hodges

Crista Rigg

Jolyn Whitmam

Melissa Peterson

# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO CO-CHAIRS

---

Kara Hunt  
Matt Reynolds

# PURPOSE

---

- Enhance **communication** and **collaboration** within the community.
- Assist community in understanding **current challenges** facing our district.
- Hear community **beliefs, aspirations,** and **desires** regarding WP 103 schools.
- Solicit community input on **long term planning** for **facilities** and **educational** programming
- Report findings to the Board of Education

# HOW THE CHARGE WAS ORGANIZED....

---

Three areas of emphasis in the study....

**Demographics**

**Finances**

**Facilities**



# CONVERSATION STARTERS.....

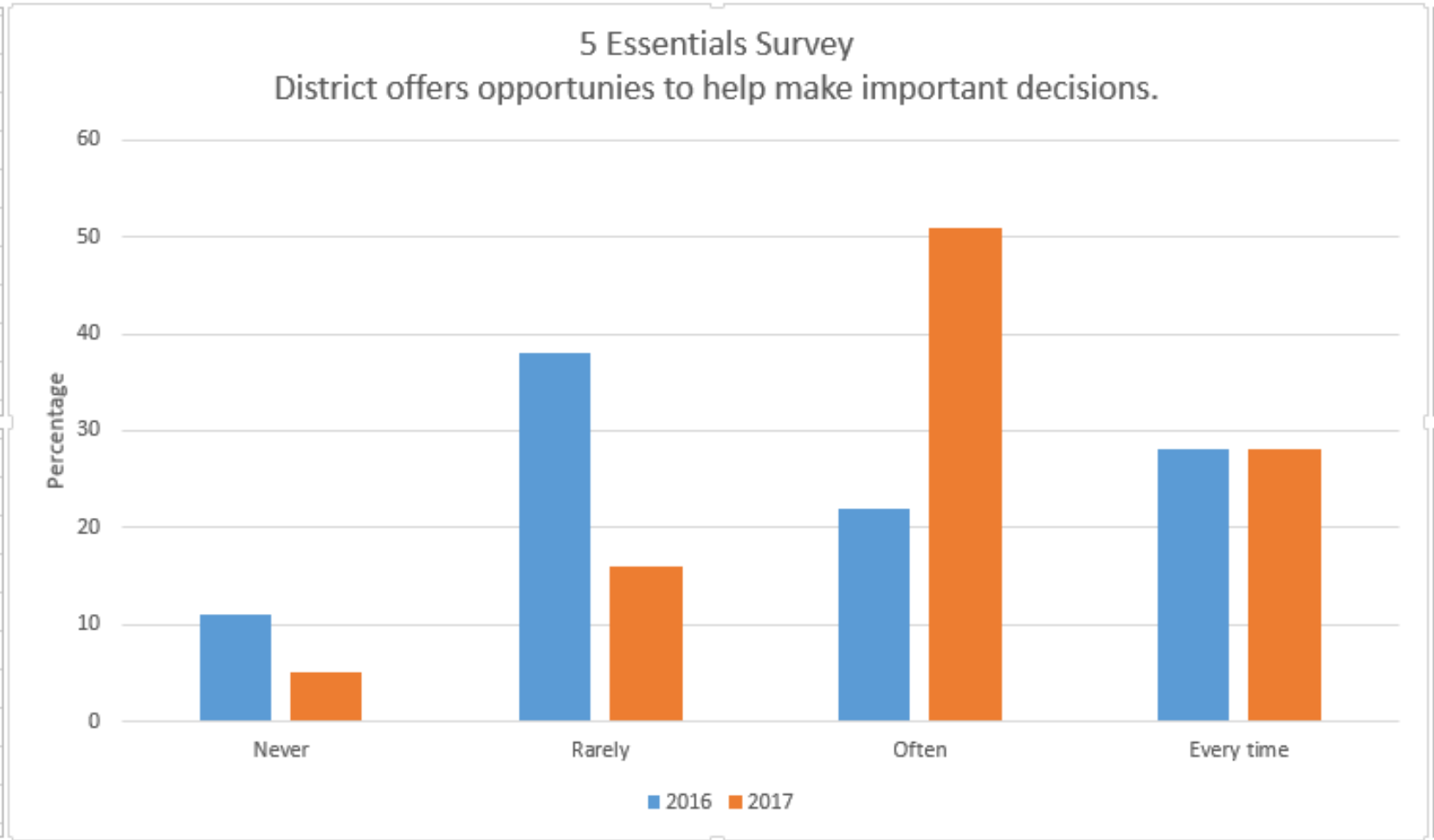
---

- Participants- Mailings, Emails, Press Releases, Social Media, Personal Invitations
- Total attendance for all meetings-406 people
  - Perception of the Board and IMPACT 103 Facilitating team:

A cross-sectional of the community was well represented during the five sessions.



# 5 ESSENTIALS SURVEY- PARENT RESPONSES



# MEETING CALENDAR AND TOPICS

---

Meeting	Topic
October	<b>State of the District</b>
November	<b>Facilities</b>
January	<b>Finances</b>
February	<b>Campus Configurations</b>
March	<b>Facilities Deeper Look</b>

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION

---

## SESSION DOCUMENTATION

DATA / INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

GROUP WORK ACTIVITY

VERBATIM RESPONSES

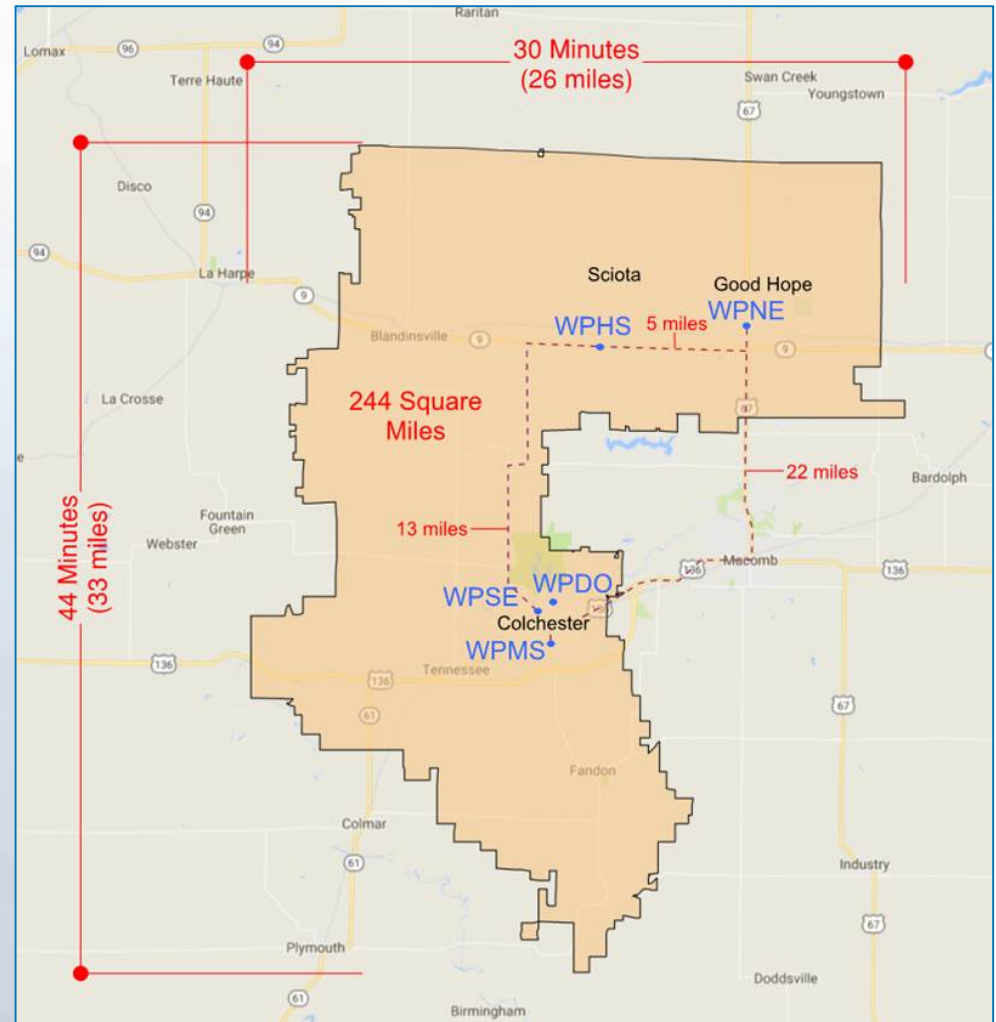
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CONSENSUS  
POINTS

COLLECTIVE DECISIONS USED IN  
FORMATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

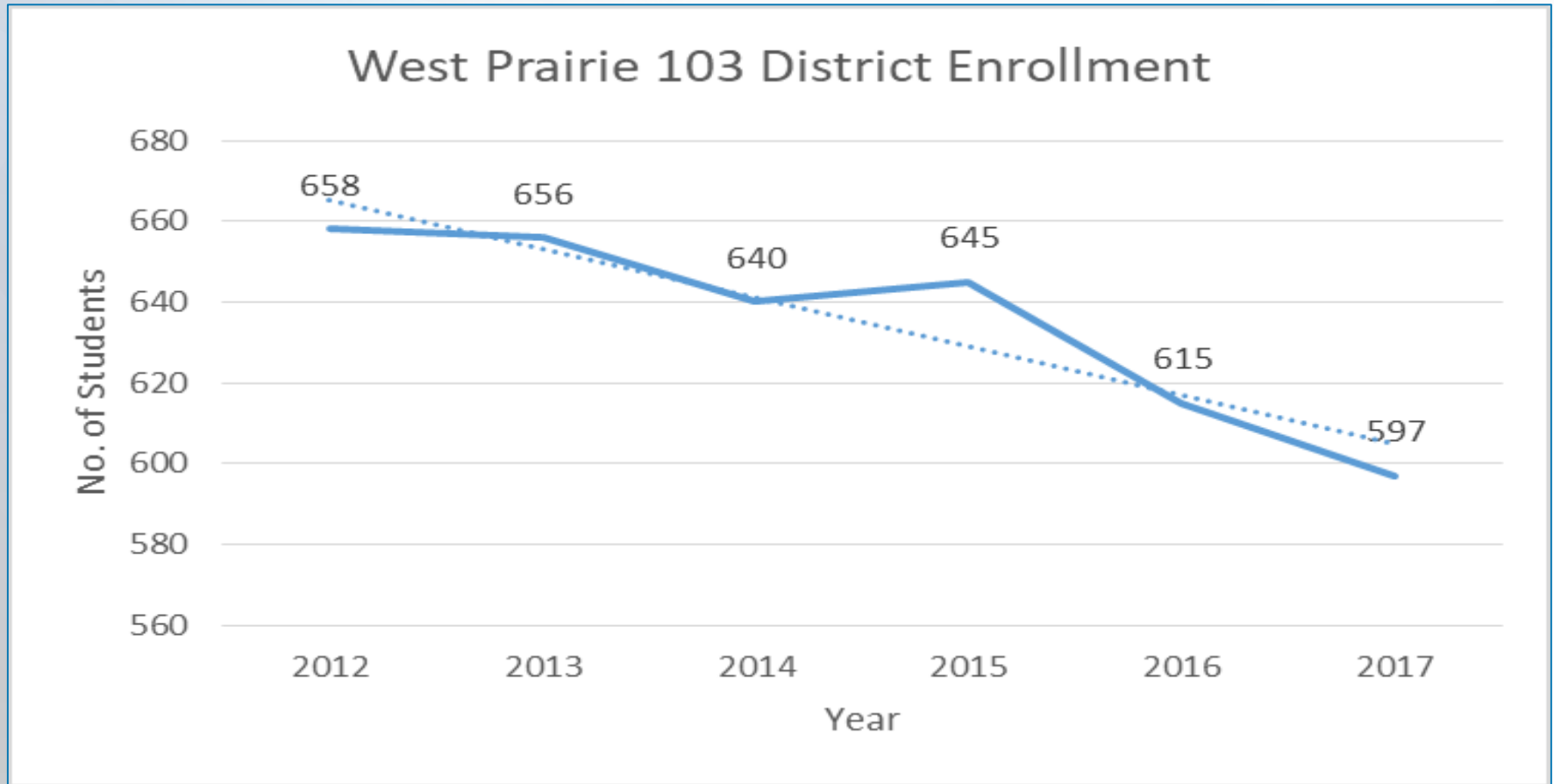
# THIS IS US.....

- 4 CAMPUS SOLUTION
- 244 SQUARE MILES
- 597 Students
- 100 Employees
- Nearly 5,000 Community Members





# DEMOGRAPHICS – ENROLLMENT TREND



# CES #1- STATE OF THE DISTRICT

---

## Surprises

- Impact of School Funding
- Parent perceptions of high school/course offerings
- Declining enrollment
- Math

## Concerns

- Finances
- Transportation
- Impact on tax payer
- Facilities & Maintenance
- Course Offerings & Curriculum



# CES #2- FACILITIES



## Facility Priorities

- Roofs
- Exterior Walls
- Windows
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Heating and Cooling
- Exiting
- Alarms
- Safety/Security

## Additional Information

- School closure
- School consolidation
- Grade level configurations
- Maintenance
- Financial Costs
- Transportation

## Long-term Planning

- Closing schools
- Grade level considerations
- Unit Office
- Cost savings of restructuring
- Cost for a new facility

# CES #3- FINANCES

## Surprises/Concerns

- Transportation funding
- Impact of tax levy
- Reserve stability
- Borrowing power
- Age of Bus Fleet
- Administrative and teacher salaries

## Future Questions

- What happens if a building fails?
- How do you determine which building to close?
- How will campus solutions impact transportation?
- What happens to empty buildings?

## Educational Programming Priorities

- Physical Education
- Counseling Services
- STEM Classes
- Math- 90 minutes
- Title I Support
- Reading- 90 minutes
- Health Courses
- Pre-Kindergarten
- Driver Education
- Foreign Language, Gifted Education and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Sports



# CES #4- CAMPUS CONFIGURATIONS

---

## Task #1

Review the eleven campus scenarios. Determine which options should be set-aside and which should be studied further.



## Task #2

Generate additional pros and cons of each option selected for further study. Provide suggestions to enhance the selected options.



# CES #4- CAMPUS CONFIGURATIONS

## Task #1

- 3 Campus Scenario was most supported.
- 2 Campus Scenario generated the most savings.
- The 3 Community Scenario surfaced during this session.

## Task #2

Additional Considerations for.....

- Transportation
- Gym Space
- Outdoor athletic fields
- Cost of renovations

# CES #5- CAMPUS CONFIGURATIONS

## Task #1

Four campus configurations were presented. Rank them from most favored to least favored.

Configuration	Description	Location
2B	PreK- 6 <sup>th</sup> –South 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> - WPHS	Colchester Sciota
3C*	PreK-6 <sup>th</sup> -North PreK-6 <sup>th</sup> -South 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> -WPHS	Good Hope Colchester Sciota
3A	PreK-6 <sup>th</sup> - North PreK-8 <sup>th</sup> -South 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> -WPHS	Good Hope Colchester Sciota
3-Community*	PreK-6 <sup>th</sup> -North PreK-6 <sup>th</sup> -South 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> -WPMS	Good Hope Colchester Colchester

# CES #5- CAMPUS CONFIGURATIONS

---

Option Total Points Total Most Preferred

Configuration	Total Points	Most Preferred
3-Community	36.5	7.5
3C	36.5	3.5
3A	19.0	0
2B	18.0	0

# CES #5- TASK # 2 DATA

Other considerations for campus consolidation.

Adequate gym space/Athletic Fields	Safety
Cafeteria space	Preventive Maintenance Cycle
Middle School Concept	Considerations for empty classrooms.
Always keep the transition to a 2 campus solution and county-wide school on the horizon.	Renovated middle school, providing adequate space: theater/stage space, shop, collaborative classrooms, and storage
Parking	Restrooms
Unit Office	Travel

# FINDINGS

---

While a 2 Campus Scenario began to show stronger financial savings, the community shared the greatest consensus around a 3 Campus Scenario.



# FINDINGS

---

In looking to a 3 Campus Scenario, the community consensus supported the maintaining of two elementary schools and a combination of middle/high school students.

# FINDINGS

---

In looking to a 3 campus scenario and the blending of grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> .....

community consensus focused on the renovation of the high school or middle school to house this student population. Priorities for this renovation can be found back on slide 15 of this presentation and in the facility executive summary.

# FINDINGS

---

While opinions differed on the “blending” of younger students with older students, the community shared the greatest consensus around the combination of grades 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>.

This would allow elementary schools to serve grades PreK-6<sup>th</sup>.

# FINDINGS

---

While opinions differed on the option of 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, the community consensus supported the preservation of the Middle School Concept.

Students in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> should be provided an educational experience supportive of their developmental needs.

# FINDINGS

---

Community input  
revealed strong support  
for the future of West  
Prairie.



# FINDINGS

---

Community members repeatedly made statements and asked questions about a county-wide school system.

These statements and questions centered on the importance of West Prairie buildings/facilities being ready to play a role in a county-wide school system.

# FINDINGS

---

While the community was beginning to understand the challenges facing the Transportation Department,

community consensus focused on ensuring travel for elementary students was minimized daily.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

---

To strengthen the identity of West Prairie as a unit school district the IMPACT 103 Facilitating Team makes the following recommendations.....

# RECOMMENDATIONS....

---

- “Do Nothing Is Not An Option”
- Consider the identity of each community
- Move from reactive to proactive
- Clear, timely communications of the Board’s study of options.
- Host additional Community Engagement Sessions as information becomes available on decisions.
- “Responsive to the present....planning for the future”
- Action sooner vs. later

# IMPACT 103

**Thank You for this  
opportunity!**

**Questions?**