MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our proposal addresses remodeling/reconfiguring the space to address critical needs, including ADA compliance, increasing student enrollment, safety concerns, collaborative learning environments and 21st century infrastructure.

Smart Schools 2020

A systemwide initiative to develop schools that work smarter for our students.

21ST CENTURY NEEDS

Built in 1951, Washington Middle School was originally designed as a first through eighth grade building. It later became the home to approximately 600 middle school students. Overcrowded conditions today and increased enrollment projections create a critical need for additional learning space. The main entrance structure does not support the needs and safety of our students, staff, parents and visitors. Our current facility does not adequately support 21st century technology. These problems are impacting student achievement, learning environments and safety.

In order to address these key issues, Washington plans to reconfigure and add additional spaces to improve the learning environments. Creating an obvious main entry and secure waiting area with the ability to observe visitors approaching the building will be crucial to the consolidation.

EXPANDING WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our proposed option to consolidate Washington will allow staff to better meet the needs of all students as we move into the future. The plan focuses on improving safety within the building, creating an infrastructure that supports increased technology usage, implementing 21st century learning environments, and accommodating future enrollment. Washington Middle School will benefit from this smarter school plan in the following ways:

- Secure front entrance, waiting area, and the ability to observe visitors approaching the building.
- ADA compliance throughout the building.
- Technology infrastructure improvements to support 21st century learners.
- Collaborative areas for students and teachers.
- 21st century library, music and exploratory spaces.
- Reconfigured multipurpose dining area that provides additional seating to accommodate students' nutritional and emotional needs.
- Additional learning space to accommodate increasing enrollment.

OUR TEAM'S RECOMMENDED OPTION

OPTION C-2 CONSOLIDATE:

- Eliminate modular spaces.
- Improve classroom space.
- Reconfigure library space.
- Reconfigure music room.
- Reconfigure lunchroom space.
- ADA accessibility upgrades.
- Technology improvements.
- Boiler and heat distribution.
- Safety and security improvements.

SECURITY

Modify facility to create obvious main entry, secure waiting area and ability to observe visitors approaching the building. Subdivide the building into secure zones with electronically activated door closers.

TECHNOLOGY

Develop high-speed/high-volume fiber optic distribution to breakout spaces for projects, presentations and technology in each learning community, enhanced with robust wireless and hard-wired access points.

ENVIRONMENT

Install barn doors and garage doors with quality acoustical materials between learning areas and breakout areas for projects, presentations and technology. Create small learning communities for teams of teachers and students that include traditional classrooms as well as important support spaces for 1:1 tutoring, small groups, planning centers, storage, etc.

FACILITIES STRATEGIC PLAN

Site Area: 4.84 acres
Parking Spaces: 20
Building Square Footage
Existing: 82,787
Renovation: 30,043
Demolish: 4,982
New: 23,000
Estimated Project Budget: $11,519,663*
Replacement Cost: $20,440,374
Remaining Deferred Maintenance & Energy Project Costs: $0
Rental / Lease / Sale Income: None
Current Enrollment: 550
Future Peak Enrollment: 735
Capacity: 650–750

*All costs are projected based on industry averages for building costs, sizes and land prices. Final project budget will be developed during the design phase.

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN SMARTER SCHOOLS

Education has never been more important than it is today. Our students face international competition for scholarships and jobs, and an increasing pace of change that impacts their futures. Yet, while the need for quality education continues to increase, our schools are physically in decline.

At Missoula County Public Schools, we realize that we must change if we're to keep up academically and economically as a community. That's why we launched Smart Schools 2020. Led by teams from each school, the initiative assesses needs by facility and prioritizes those needs in light of achieving our goals of a 21st Century Educational Culture and of being fiscally responsible.

By addressing schools now we prevent further deterioration of facilities, better prepare for population growth and ensure our students continue to get the educational opportunities they need to succeed in school and beyond.

THE SMART SCHOOLS PROCESS

SCHOOL CENTRIC:
Criteria and preferred options were established for each school by a team of teachers, administrators, students and parents from that school, along with members of the Missoula community.

COLLABORATIVE:
Alternatives were shared at public meetings at each school. In addition, surveys were sent out systemwide to vet priorities.

REALISTIC:
Team recommendations were reviewed by the steering committee and the elected board of trustees before a bond measure was drafted.

PUBLIC:
Everyone is invited to review options and weigh in. Final support for the initiative will be determined by public election in November 2015.

To get involved, please visit www.mcpsmt.org/washington or contact Principal Craig Henkel at chenkel@mcps.k12.mt.us.

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