

TOWN HALL FACILITY MEETING QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1. Where will the kids be educated while construction takes place?

The new building will be constructed on the 42 acres the school owns off Ida East road. Therefore, students will remain in the current buildings until the new school is completed. The renovation projects will be completed over the summer break.

2. Debt Concern: How can we pay cash for the new building and stay out of debt?

The only funding mechanism for new school construction in Michigan is bonded debt. Therefore, saving cash for the project is not realistic.

3. Have we examined renovation costs vs new construction costs?

Yes we have. Renovation costs are in excess of 10 million dollars and when they exceed 1/3 of the cost of a new building most building experts agree that new construction is the best option.

4. What are the enrollment projections?

Stable with slow growth moving forward. Current enrollment is about 1500 students with about 380 school-of-choice students.

5. Technology inclusion?

Monroe County has a special technology millage which generates extra money for K-12 students. Ida receives approximately \$380,000 per year in money for technology advancement. Therefore, we are currently and will remain in great shape in regards to access to the latest software, hardware and instructional models.

6. What is the cost of pre-bond consulting?

Plante Moran CRESA, owners representative = \$10,000

Clark Construction, construction manager = costs diverted until after the bond passes (pre-bond planning fees waived)

Kingscott, architect = costs diverted until after the bond passes (pre-bond planning fees waived)

7. What percent of high school students stay within Ida High School (CTE, FFA, Dual Enrollment)?

Typically about 80% of the student population. The other 20% still spend 5 hours per day within Ida High School.

8. What is the long-term plan for the number of buildings in Ida Public Schools?

Reduce the buildings from 3 to 2 leaving a K-6 elementary school and a 7-12 high school with approximately 800 students each.

9. Are there space plans available?

Yes, Kohler Architect has conducted a space study and that information is readily available.

10. Should there be a high school gym addition if we are building a new gym in the new elementary school?

Yes because the gyms serve different purposes. The current high school girl's locker room is half the size of the boys which created Title IX issues for the district. Furthermore, we cannot host District and Regional Tournaments because we do not have 4 team areas. In addition, the expansion would include a concourse, ticket area, concession area, public restrooms and a training room. There are many issues resolved with the expansion of the high school gymnasium.

11. Will the new building have air conditioning?

Yes, both scenarios are priced with air conditioning.

Attendees voted via red and blue stickers at the conclusion of the meeting. Scenario A to build a new elementary school had 56 green stickers (yes) to 18 red stickers (no). Scenario B to build a new high school had 42 green stickers (yes) to 38 red stickers (no). **Therefore, attendees voted in favor of an elementary school 3 to 1.**