

NEWTON USD# 373**Community Dialogue #1****February 27, 2006****Individual****Please rate your support for the following early childhood options.**

	A. Strongly Support	B. Support	C. Oppose	D. Strongly Oppose
1. Build new early childhood center (consolidate all early childhood programs into one building)	53%	28%	13%	2%
2. Build a new early childhood center that includes kindergarten	21%	30%	33%	14%
3. Expansion of elementary schools to include early childhood programs	12%	36%	29%	21%

Please rate your support for the following elementary options.

	A. Strongly Support	B. Support	C. Oppose	D. Strongly Oppose
4. Build a new elementary school.	32%	34%	24%	8%
5. Reconfigure elementary grades to create more space	33%	37%	22%	5%
6. Expansion of elementary school	18%	36%	28%	14%

Please rate your support for the following middle school options.

	A. Strongly Support	B. Support	C. Oppose	D. Strongly Oppose
7. Current configuration (6-8) with renovations and/or expansions	15%	45%	28%	9%
8. Reconfiguration (example: 5-6;7-8)	57%	12%	21%	8%

Please rate your support for the following high school options.

	A. Strongly Support	B. Support	C. Oppose	D. Strongly Oppose
9. Renovation and expansion of current high school (grades 9-12)	37%	38%	14%	8%
10. Build new high school	27%	18%	29%	22%
11. Renovate the high school and build 9 th grade center	21%	30%	22%	24%

Please rate the following grade configuration options:

	A. Strongly Support	B. Support	C. Oppose	D. Strongly Oppose
12. EC*; K-5; 6-8; 9-12 current	20%	53%	17%	5%
13. K-2; 3-5	5%	24%	37%	30%
14. K-4; 5-6; 7-8	48%	20%	25%	4%
15. EC & K	22%	21%	28%	26%
16. 9; 10-12	18%	26%	28%	24%
17. EC -5	12%	32%	28%	25%

*EC = Early Childhood

18. Would you support the expansion of technology in schools?

- a. Yes 97%
- b. No 3%

	A. Strongly Support	B. Support	C. Oppose	D. Strongly Oppose
19. Please rate your support for expanding community partnerships which may include shared facility space.	65%	32%	3%	0%

20. What questions did we not ask? (or What additional information would you like to have?)

1. Expanded options through partnership with HCC.
2. I really need much more explanation of where the needs are and why. I was answering questions and making judgments based on incomplete understanding.
3. More information is needed to make a decision on #10 and 11. What would be done with the old high school? Weather issues with a separate 9th grade center.
4. Could the 9th grade center be physically connected to the high school? Our group doesn't want students to have to travel outside between classes for 9th graders.
5. If a K-2, 3-5 configuration is created, how will we afford busing? Can the high school be added on without having a 9th grade center?
6. Why spend more on technology products and other parts when we need to focus more on the English and Math parts of our education? Why do we pressure on how to use a computer instead of pressuring to know the curriculum and knowing the core parts more than the technology to being successful people in the world? Yes, technology comes into affect in good reason, but we first need to know how to use it. Many jobs need a good English language and need that English background. Why pressure and teach more technology then the core parts because technology gets out dated but English and the other core parts of the curriculum don't.
7. Security in existing schools and/or in new construction? – Tax increase with expansion and/or renovations? – Enrollment costs increase with expansion and/or renovations? – When would any changes begin? Length of time in transition? Safety issues during renovations, i.e., air quality, noise, disruptions in classroom, etc.?
8. More information would be helpful on the location of the early education center. I believe the high school would be helpful.
9. Cost.
10. I think the community and staff need to know class size concerns immediately and lack of space NOW! – Splitting Nancy's class. – 4 2nd's going into 2, 3rds at SB etc. – Testing demands.
11. More information about current needs at all facilities could have been provided. Would be helpful in decision process. – Studies/research available on "stand alone" 9th impact on students.
12. Has there been any consideration of partnership possibility with Bethel College?
13. Discuss developmental needs of children and poverty more in depth. Eby Learning Center is in huge need of renovation/expansion. I know it is a Youthville building, however, it needs help. Cooper Education Center and the alternative high school also have needs that weren't discussed.
14. Questions of accessibility – specifically pedestrian and bicycle access to schools. With rising fuel costs, obesity, health issues, this will become more important issue in the future.
15. If we build an elementary on the south of town, would the bused students to Walton attend? What happens to Walton's attendance? 9th grade center would require close proximity to the high school.
16. Costs preferences/tax impact. Comparisons with neighboring districts/states. Teacher/student ratios. How soon, when? Redistrict implications.
17. Are you looking at a K-1 transitional class? What is the percentage of students on IEP's that are only serviced in speech?
18. Busing students from school to school. What age levels would Early Childhood include? Latchkey at each building?
19. If we go with 5-6, 7-8 centers, what expansion would be done at the middle schools?
20. Are there specific areas of study that need increased emphasis for space?

21. Some encouragement to think creatively beyond the current traditional "school of thought". A little background information/education on what Early Childhood (EC) is. Which programs it involves.
22. Would like more information about reconfiguring as it affects subject areas.
23. How to minimize transportation time and costs for parents and the district with any proposed change.

24. Additional Comments:

1. On the question about a new high school, it wasn't clear if you meant a new high school in addition to or in place of.
2. I believe for the community to buy in and make positive decisions, much education of the public needs to be done.
3. Question on new elementary school was not discussed enough to know how to reconfigure! As someone not on the committee, there was not enough information to answer the questions with any knowledge!
4. Good discussion in small group.
5. What about the option of: Pre-K, K-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-12 (question #14)
6. I felt that for most questions I did not have enough information to answer or give a response. In order to give a response on #10 (Build a new high school) it would be necessary to know the cost of remodeling and building the new building e.g. concerning clustering of grade levels, we need to know which grade levels are in fact compatible.
7. Why take state assessments on computers.
8. Whom would I speak with regarding curriculum and possible changes?
9. Very strong support for vocational education.
10. What type of technology expansion? Why didn't you get in with the city on the sales tax dollars? We should have had #'s on how many bids are involved in the ECC. Technology should include classroom instruction computers before we concern ourselves with laptops for all.
11. Clickers did not indicate rater, i.e., could be supportive of all options. I'd like the full report.
12. I'm in favor of community partnerships as long as it enhances learning instead of taking teaching time away from meeting our current demands.
13. I enjoyed the process and feedback. I would like to see educators polled separately. I value their opinions.
14. I am the parent of a nine-year old who is a third grader at Sunset Elementary. As a family, we utilized Parents as Teachers. This involvement lead to an evaluation for speech therapy services. My son had an IEP and speech services for two years prior to beginning kindergarten. This past December (2005) he was evaluated and qualified for special ed. Services ELP program. We are extremely grateful and appreciative for the quality of the services we have received.
15. What credibility is there for the data gathering and projections in this study for the year 2006? From the 1995 projections, there were not going to be any increases in student levels. Thus, buildings were gotten rid of. In 1995, there were people saying the buildings should be kept because there were elements within the community that had lots of potential for creating a rising quantity of students. For those people who advocated keeping the existing buildings back in 1995, will we be exempted from paying increased taxes as the school district now looks at building new facilities?

16. Concern with how technology is used, appropriate use of new technology. Need to avoid rush to get on technology bandwagon. Need more training on how to use technology.
17. You asked me questions I really had no ability to answer intelligently, especially grade configurations. I like the clicker technology. Predominant attendance was teachers.
18. Classroom sizes/school sizes – can we limit the size of our elementary schools to 250-300 students. We choose to live in a community, that should be one of our benefits.
19. Love the idea of 5-6 center! Would love to specialize or team to focus on assessment purposes.
20. Does the expansion of technology include laptops for all teachers?
21. Like EC & K; 1-5; 5-6 7-8. New high school to south of city. New elementary to south of city.
22. Some areas unclear. Needed more information. Example: expansion of elementary, which ones could?
23. Need examples and explanations of what 4-5/7-8/ 9th grade centers would look like. Love the information.
24. I recommend incorporating “dance” into the curriculum. Standards have just been established for Kansas.