

April 11, 2019

Hi everyone,

Thank you to all the members of the public who showed up at the school board meeting last night. I want to clarify the next steps in the process for the potential reorganization of our K-8 schools.

Public input and the forum in May:

There **will** be an opportunity for people to ask questions at the public forum. My comments about filling out the survey before the hearing last night were intended to ensure that people get answers to their questions.

Many questions take time to research. By receiving the questions in advance, we can provide you with accurate answers (if we have them at this time). If we are asked complex questions on the spot you may have to wait for the answers.

I want everyone to get their questions answered.

The primary purpose of the public hearing is to allow people an opportunity to share their opinion of the answers to their questions.

It has been made clear to me that people want an opportunity to ask follow-up questions at the hearing, and you **will** have that opportunity.

Timeline:

Please carefully review the [timeline in the slides](#) I presented on April 10. The school board has been working on this process for over 18 months. We have had public meetings, surveys, discussions, warrant article information, newsletters, and Facebook posts related to this process.

Busing:

Bus times are set at the discretion of the district. By setting a limit of a 30 minute maximum bus ride, for instance, we can work with the transportation company to figure out the cost of the buses based on our desired length of ride. Kids will not be riding on the bus for an hour one way. This is totally within our control as a community and a district.

Article 8:

The passage of Article 8 was a positive event that many thought would not happen for years. By passing Article 8 the needs of the students can be met by reorganizing the district PK-8 simultaneously. When we developed a plan to move 6th grade to the elementary schools it was a

tight fit. Reconfiguring to PK-3 and 4-6 is much more comfortable and allows us to fund intervention for students.

Teacher Reductions:

It is important to note that the number of teacher reductions in PK-6 is only two positions. If we reduce 6 grade-level classroom teachers and add four intervention teachers the net reduction is 2 teachers. We hope that our existing staff will want to fill the role of intervention teachers and we believe we will be able to handle any reductions through attrition, as we did last year.

All of the important information on the reorganization is located below. Just click on the link and you can see all the information presented over the last 18 months.

Please read this information carefully:

- NESDEC Study
 - [Part 1](#)
 - [Part 2](#)
 - [Summary of Options](#)
- [Article 8 Information Letter](#)
- [Middle School Reorganization Proposal](#)
- [Middle School Reorganization Survey](#)
- [Elementary School Reorganization Proposal](#)
- [Elementary School Reorganization Survey](#)

All survey questions are due by Friday, April 19th.

I am committed to helping the community provide the best educational experience for our children. If there is anything else I can do to help please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tom', written over a horizontal line.

Tom