

Comments/Questions

November 9, 2009 - Two K-5 Schools Discussion

- Each K-5 will support small communities and our small neighborhoods...more bikes, walking, supportive parents – HAPPIER FAMILIES.
- Aside from traffic convenience, please provide educator feedback as to why this is good.
- The bus is unsupervised and dangerous for 3rd graders
- Would like to hear what advantages this provides to the education experience
- NO MORE BAND-AIDS PLEASE!
- Do what's right for kids and families.
- San Domenico here I come!! I don't have children at Brookside yet, but listening to parent comments (what a mess!) about the confusion and logistical nightmares of 2 sep. campus sites sounds terrible.
- I'm very concerned about the size White Hill will be ballooning to. It is possible to consider K-6 @ Elementary and 7-8 @ White Hill?
- Are there enough kids who live near upper (within reasonable distance) to support a K-5 of equal size to a lower K-5? Needs to be examined.
- Cost/Time/Work – multi purpose room, computer labs, libraries, playground equipment, bathrooms, kitchens, art rooms, music rooms, parking.
- I would like to see parking and access to Brookside Upper addressed in the Bond Measure. I would also like to see parking and traffic flow at Lower Brookside addressed.
- What about having a Brookside School Bus (versus GG Transit)? Cost? Would this help with traffic?
- I love the public bus! Had NO problems with it at all. Very Safe.
- Delaying is good for NO ONE. Please move on this now and get out RVSD's pattern of taking forever.
- Childcare issues before school and after. Can each campus support a vibrant childcare program for working parents?
- As much as I'd love to drop-off at one location. I'm concerned about the facilities at lower and the extent to which they are not tailored to older kids. I can't imagine my son as a 3rd, 4th or 5th grader on a rainy day and not having a gym for PE!
- I find it surprising that last spring we had a major discussions regarding possibly losing the library, eliminating PE, etc. and now we are considering 2 and potentially 3 K-5 campuses. Is this finically sustainable? What has changed?
- Whatever you do keep the current 3rd grade class together and let them graduate from upper. They deserve it – they've been disrupted enough.

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- Why are we not considering re-building Bookside Lower? This could happen in conjunction with creating 2 K-5 campuses with the added benefit of increasing capacity and parking. Using modular construction this could happen fast.
- Assignment of schools for students. How would the RVSD assign schools to students? Proximity to site? The current system is broken!
- Concerned about cost to make both schools equal. When we are cutting support staff to the kids/teachers?
- Teachers – smaller teams may have more chance of getting together to discuss lesson planning and activities.
- Not everyone will attend meeting, no matter how many you attend. For the survey, it's important to present a case why should reconfigure and why should stay the same. I can help with this if you need. Suzanne Skyvara – suzskyvara@yahoo.com
- How will this impact class size?
- Is there any educational advantage to k-2/3-5 campuses? If not, go to K-5!
- More communication between the 2 campuses might make scheduling conflicts less.
- If we had 2 K-5 schools, would they end up being 2 totally separate schools? Different names? Parent clubs?
- We need a document similar to what you get when you vote...present the case for and against and provide explanation of the problem upfront.
- How is the split going to be determined? Please explain upfront.
- Until we decide to move to K-5 should consider keeping the 2nd grade together. Inexpensive modular buildings can be done fast. Don't let another year go by splitting up the 2nd grade class.
- The math of class size reduction means that when schools are full and the schools have the same number of classrooms, splitting 2nd grade is almost a necessity.
- Many parents are concerned with scheduling between 2 campuses...problems with scheduling would still arise due to early bird/late bird at both campuses! Could stagger start/end times and party dates to make it easier!
- How will this affect the expansion needed for middle school (White Hill) when there needs an expansion? What financial concerns are involved that would effect the stagnation of a larger campus for our incoming middle school students?
- Action Now! 2 separate K-5s
- Two K-5s – the sooner it happens the better.

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- Regardless of which way we go, we need more parking especially at upper. This will be even more important if upper becomes a K-5. Parents of younger children want to stay on campus at drop-off.
- What are the core issues why teachers wouldn't support two K-5 campuses?
- Two K-5's would mean my kindergartener and 4th grader could go to school together.
- Switch to K-5 ASAP. I have one 3rd and one K and support this change ASAP.
- Should consider staggering start times by more than 5 min. for families that have multiple kids attending both campuses. I have three kids (2nd, K, and preschool) and will have to get them to three different places next year. Please help make it easier.
- Stress on kids/families split between 2 campuses. Why impose this on our community?
- The work to be done for 2 K-5s is not that big (switching books between libraries and teachers' rooms).
- I want my children to enjoy elementary school together. They deserve it.
- I did not hear any good reasons to maintain status quo other than that "change is hard". Kids and family well being need to be paramount concerns.
- My 3rd grader would volunteer to come back to lower tomorrow.
- Whatever you do, keep the current 3rd grade class together. They've been disrupted enough and it isn't fair. Keep them together and let them graduate from upper. Enough change already!
- Change is good. Do 2 K-5s for 2010/2011 school year.
- Parents don't go into upper because it's too difficult to. Our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders still need their parents and I know mine still want me to walk them in.