

- Smaller # of classes per grade makes stronger communities and kids
- Role modeling that can happen between older/younger
- Smaller teacher team
- My kids miss their lower teachers. They'd love to see them everyday.
- Siblings together! A great thing.
- Fewer transitions for kids. This would be great!
- One campus per family makes sense! Less transitions for kids, lasting friendships, easier pick-up/drop-off & participation for parents.
- Kids will not connect with the teacher every year. But, when they do, if they can continue to see that teacher on campus, they will be able to hold onto that non-parent adult relationship.
- Keep kids together – they deserve 2 K-5's
- The transition from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade makes both kids and parents anxious. This level of anxiety would probably not be as bad with two K-5 campuses.
- Older kids could help younger to get out of the car (valet) and greet them.
- Siblings: chance to be together, Teachers: Chance to have better hold of developmental and academic needs of children.
- Transition from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in a different school is very hard: no chance to see your 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> and K teachers anymore or your usual territory.
- Smaller community better chance of keeping friends.
- Older kids chance to be role models
- Older kids: better chance to remain "little kids" longer if with K-2 kids
- Easier on families
- Smaller communities
- Helps people feel less anxious
- Can more easily walk to school
- More balance if five K-5 – 5<sup>th</sup> graders show up at White Hill – instead of a big group of Brookside dominating middle school.
- Better family life (easy) more focus and better jobs as volunteers if in the same school.
- Safe Routes recommendation 2 K-5 campuses – keep our kids safe.
- Parents/teachers/students and administrators more familiar with one another
- The long term gains outweigh the short term costs
- Kids need the older role models
- Relationship with teachers, long term is a great thing! 2 K-5 campuses with foster long-term accountability & meaningful relationships.
- Better friendships for students when they have more classes together.

- Would be easier for older students to spend time with younger students in “buddy” activities if all the kids are on same campus. All kids seem to enjoy and benefit from these activities.
- Environmentally better many more people could walk/ride to school.
- Administrators and teachers in K-5 school really have the opportunity to know families and build long-lasting relationships with them.
- Less traffic
- One year of transition is worth the years and years that follow to benefit the entire community.
- Older kids need to see their kindergarten teachers to help them remember where they came from.
- More opportunities from meaningful contact between cross grade levels.
- Families stay part of the community campus longer (currently it is not really 1 school).
- Older kids benefit by being around younger ones by being exposed to role modeling/leadership experiences.
- Buddies/Mentors on 1 campus!!!
- Each site would become familiar with students and their families for at least 6 years.
- Better articulation across grades, especially 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (where articulation is currently weak).
- Smaller teacher teams so they can inform next grade teachers as kids move up.
- Principal connection to families for 6 years...Priceless.
- No transitions for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (remember 8 yrs. old) very young to change friends, schools, teacher supports.
- Alleviate some problems with splitting up 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.
- Teachers and administrators can build closer, longer term relationships with kids/families.
- Smaller intimate schools
- Siblings together
- Role Modeling
- Easier for families with several children
- History for all relationships
- Continuity
- Older children taking on roles – helping at lunch time and recess.
- The influence of older children together with younger and vice versa is of course positive. 3-5 makes middle school happen too soon.
- Would lessen traffic as 1/2 the drivers would be going to 1 school. Bike riding is dangerous on Butterfield.
- Blended (combo) classes can be an opportunity. The combo classes our kids have experienced have been amazing. They are not a bad thing.

## Two K-5 Pro

November 9, 2009 – Two K-5 Schools Discussion

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- 7 teachers per grade level seems too large. The teachers have said 2-3 is optimal.
- Having 2 K-5 campuses will keep the older kids younger and bump up the younger kids a bit.
- The STRESS it causes families to have sibling split up is not necessary and it is unfair.
- Opportunity for kids to keep connections with their teachers from their early years, to see where they've come from and have their eyes on where they are going.
- Better if school is closer to home for FT working parents. May make more volunteers!
- Teachers have expanded perspective on development needs of kids
- The teachers will greatly benefit from seeing all grade level kids on campus. And, dialogue between different ranges of teachers (K-5) will help them see all the development levels.
- Older students mentor/buddy younger students.
- Siblings together
- Easier to get to school less stressful for kids.
- We would all want a neighborhood school. It is good for the community, the students, and the environment.
- Makes upper a school that includes parents and families. Upper has no community feel like BLC.
- A chance for families to move through a small school together, from K-5, knowing the same group of teachers, all 6 years.
- Eliminates transition between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- Puts focus entirely on the kids and families – sped kids will have a continuum of care for 6 years.
- Stress of moving kids to 2 different campuses is eliminated
- Families can focus on one campus:
  - 1 open house
  - 1 back to school night
  - 1 Halloween parade
  - 1 Wed. am meeting
  - 1 place to go for conferences
- Reduces the anxiety in the community
- Community building is critical to our kid's well being. 2 K-5s!
- Siblings in school together.
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders deserve to have K/1<sup>st</sup> graders on campus – they are innocent too.
- Traffic, traffic, traffic and I'm afraid we are a community awaiting a tragedy with all the kids on the road.

- Fewer transitions
- Kindergarteners interacting with 5<sup>th</sup> graders have big kids to look up to.
- Older kids can be moderated by the younger ones – Behavioral
- Parents would use fewer cars if their family was at one campus – I can't bike to two campuses with 3 kids.
- Siblings would be on one campus together – that is priceless to them and their family
- Keeping families together (siblings) is always in the best interest – my kids are 3 yrs. apart and will always be apart.
- Teachers across grade levels can share information about students (e.g. history, teaching strategies that work well, etc.). Better with two K-5s.
- A school with less classes per grade will lead to a better community for kids, parents and teachers.
- 2 K-5s get us OUT OF OUR CARS = a good thing!
- Fewer classes per grade allows for families to know each other better and support each other.
- Smaller team size from a teacher's perspective having a team of 7 is harder to manage.
- Younger students have older students to look up to.
- Being able to follow the history of each family/child.
- Smaller grade level population of kids at each site 130 kids in a grade are too many.
- Kids feel more continuity with being with the same group of kids.
- Stronger, more cohesive, smaller communities
- BUILD COMMUNITY – this is why we have chosen to live in San Anselmo. If we wanted a 7 class grade we would have moved to San Francisco.
- Puts an end to the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade split.
- Reduce the pressure on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade kids. The transition is very tough for a lot of kids.
- Traffic reduction
- Sanity for parents with multiple kids (currently on multiple campuses)
- Improved community by having K-5 spectrum on one site and benefit of having more years together with same group.
- Keep siblings together.
- Helps children develop friendships that are long-lasting, with on another, with their teachers and with their principal. Deeper relationships with teachers.
- Less transitions = Less Stress
- Less transitions on kids – they know their teachers from day one throughout the six years.
- Balance special ed needs better, get to know families, continuum/transition.

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November 9, 2009 – Two K-5 Schools Discussion

- Families are so disconnected these days. Any chance for siblings/parents to have more physical time together is a positive thing.
- Changing grades in a child's 9<sup>th</sup> year of age (see the 9yr change) with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade curriculum and the older social issues = bad year to add to child's plate.
- K-5 helps the Ks grow and the 5s learn responsibility
- It's so difficult to make and keep friends when kids have a whole new group of kids they are matched with each grade year.
- Less stress for families
- Families can stay together
- Less stress for families on:
  - Back to school night
  - First day of school
  - Halloween
  - Winter holiday celebration
  - End of the year celebration
  - Every day of the year
- Community kept small – parent groups remain intact for 6 years.
- Less impact on neighborhoods and streets.
- Safety – more people would walk/bike to school.
- More collaboration between teachers and grade levels
- One drop off/pick-up for families with multiples