

# TRI-TOWNSHIP CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION

STRATEGIC PLANNING  
FOR THE NEXT 100  
YEARS.

TRI-TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL

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- Physical Concerns of LaCrosse H.S.
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# PHYSICAL CONCERNS

- Sources: April 30, 2015 Facility Study Conducted by Performance Services: February 2018, Demographic and Tax Study Conducted by Dr. Robert Boyd, Indiana State University.
- Using these studies as references, combined with a year and a half of personal observation, I want to highlight some of my biggest concerns as Superintendent regarding our high school and our future.

# PHYSICAL CONCERNS

- Obviously, the building has been showing its age for quite some time, but the process has hastened rapidly.
- The **HVAC systems** are extremely **inefficient** to run and a major financial concern to repair / replace.
- **Electrical system** has been **unreliable** and with the many mixed ages of components, Electricians & NIPSCO have both shared concerns with me. Electrical instability has led to network issues and device replacement.
- With time and continually updated laws, the increasing list of grandfathered codes leads me to strong concerns with **liability exposure**.

# PHYSICAL CONCERNS

- The deterioration of walls, floors, & doors have hastened greatly and have **limited** the use of some **spaces**.
- **Plumbing issues** have required several fixes and the aging infrastructure has led to increased water usage and billing.
- Physical layout and limitations create a less than safe visitor management system and therefore **lack** the **safety** required in **2020**. Sagging doors are causing inconsistent latching.

# PHYSICAL CONCERNS

- **Limitations** exist to any kind of **remodel** to address many of the above issues due to load bearing wall system.
- Some long-time building **maintenance vendors** continue to **voice concern** about their ability to maintain and / or willingness. (Advanced Mechanical, TRANE, Chimney)

# PHYSICAL CONCERNS

- Part of the reason vendors are growing continually more concerned is how far we are away from meeting basic **indoor air quality standards** as outlined by both the EPA and Indiana Administrative Code 410 IAC (Indoor Air Quality) 6-5.1. This is also known as the **Sanitary School House Rule** and dictates things such as required square footage, temperature, humidity, and acceptable levels for many materials, chemicals, and molds.

# BUDGETARY CONCERNS OF LACROSSE H.S.

- There are three potentially **large cost items** that are my immediate concern from a short and long-term budget perspective:
- Reliable **Electric** System
- Reliable & Efficient **HVAC System**
- Cost of an immediate solution should either of those two aforementioned concerns fail suddenly: (Portable classroom cost).



# BUDGETARY CONCERNS OF LACROSSE H.S.

- Less immediate and lower impact budget concern:
- Are the increasing nickel and dime **maintenance costs**, combined with poor efficiency of old systems slowly but surely **eroding our budget**?
- Am I helping or hindering our **long-term financial health** with the budgetary choices being made now?

# BUDGETARY CONCERNS OF LACROSSE H.S.

- **Enrollment Concern:** Does the current **facility help or hurt** our chances for an upward trend in enrollment.
- The static to declining enrollment trend hinders growth to both our short and long-term budget.

# PROGRAMMING CONCERNS

- My programming concerns fit in four phases:
- 1. Physical Limitations
- 2. Enrollment Limitations
- 3. Staffing Limitations
- 4. Proximity Limitations

# PROGRAMMING CONCERNS

- What does the **physical layout** of the building prevent us from offering?
- Some **curricular resources** (particularly in the science / vocational area) cannot be brought into the building. Art Kiln & CNC Machines are examples.

# PROGRAMMING CONCERNS

- **Small / declining enrollment** has an obvious impact to what we can offer. We must justify our budgetary choices while providing students what they need. We constantly weigh required courses and elective courses against **class size and budget**.

# PROGRAMMING CONCERNS

- **Programming** is also limited by **staff redundancy** due to separate campuses. Specifically, if students were located on one campus, staff could be utilized differently to reduce redundancy on required courses, thus allowing resources to divert to elective course offerings.

# PROGRAMMING CONCERNS

- **Proximity** limitations abound.
- With the geographic location, our students are a great **distance from vocational offerings**.
- It also makes it impossible to have older and younger students work together for the benefit of both.  
Example: **cadet teaching as a high school credit**.
- Other **student employee / business internship possibilities** are limited by the proximity issue.
- We lack **ability to partner** with other schools to share staff / offerings.

# RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

My personal driving statements as your Superintendent:

- What decisions can I make that do the following:
  - Provide our students equal opportunities through **access to great programming.**
  - Increase **Enrollment.**
  - Provide a **balanced budget.**
  - Position this corporation for another **100 years.**
  - Properly honor a rich **historical legacy**



# RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

- There is one decision that checks every box on the previous slide. To achieve all I have outlined, the best course of action for Tri-Township is to move our high school to the Wanatah campus as opposed to sinking funds into an aging structure.

## RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

- We can provide **better access** to diverse programming because of proximity, redundancy reduction, and shared staffing.

## RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

- We would have a much better chance of **reversing** the **declining enrollment** trend at that location. It puts us much closer to more potential students. The decades long declining birthrate in Dewey and Prairie isn't changing (Boyd Study) and can't be relied upon to increase our enrollment. At that location, I also firmly believe there is a higher likelihood of **keeping more** of our **in-district student body**. Out migration is a significant concern.

# RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

- That increasing enrollment, along with redundancy reduction & shared staffing allows me to **balance** our **education fund** while giving students the staff and programming they need.

# RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

- Balanced Budget and positive enrollment allow for that **100 year future vision.**
- An **unbalanced budget** with negative enrollment **risks** everything from limited student opportunity all the way to **losing local control / consolidation.**

# RECOMMENDATION FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

- Properly honoring a great historic legacy takes planning and purposeful decision making. If we wait until the decision is forced upon us, not only do we risk local control, but we also miss the opportunity to properly honor a building that has blessed so many.

# PROJECTED SAVINGS:

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- Reduced Redundancy of Services: Utilities, Telecommunications, Internet - \$71,095
- Certified Staff Reduction (Salary & Benefits): 2 teaching Positions - \$135,000
- Classified Staff Reduction (Salary & Benefits): Custodial, Food Service, Office Staff, Para-Professional- \$110,000

ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION  
FROM  
PERFORMANCE  
SERVICES

- Cost of having waited
- Cost to continue waiting