

Space and Enrollment Committee

Report to the Board of Education
May 2010



Board of Education Goal # 3 2009 – 2010

Develop a plan that presents viable alternatives to address and improve current transitions and feeder patterns throughout the district



Board Resolution

August 3, 2009

“Over the next couple of months the district look at the policy that was adopted in 2004 regarding the Master Plan and look at how we can eliminate the transition across the board for all students to go because right now if they’re not going 6–8 they are going K–6 in someone else’s building—because the research shows less transition at that age are in the educational best interest of the child—we can look at doing it with the buildings that we already have with the room we already have in a way that we don’t tax the community— in a way that we use what we have—what’s been sitting at our feet now that the population has gone down slightly to alleviate this long term problem.”

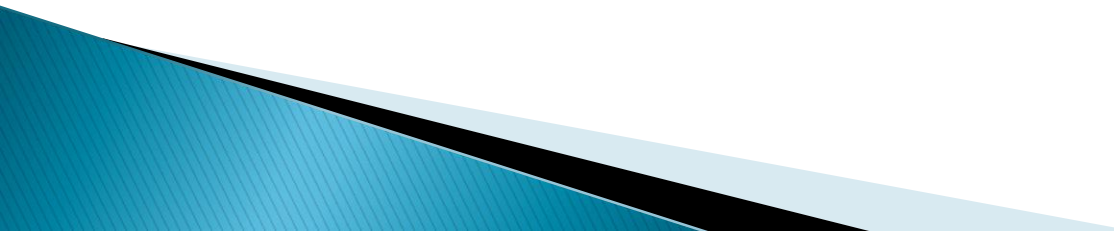
Passed Unanimously



Board of Education Decision

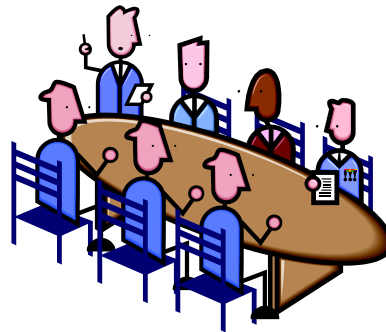
November 16, 2009

“...a committee of parents, teachers, administrators, board members and support staff address the ongoing problem of the district’s inconsistent K–12 feeder patterns, inconsistent grade level configurations, inequitable class sizes and continuous need for overflow adjustment, especially those that have a negative impact on the special education program.”



Charge of the Committee

“The committee is charged with gathering data, analyzing reorganization options and developing short-term recommendations and alternatives to address these issue on a long-term basis. It is anticipated that a report will be issued to the Board of Education in Spring 2010.”



Members of the Committee

- James Parla
Chairman
- Lori Jiava,
Board Member
- Wendy McNamara
Board Member
- Mary McGeary,
Board Member
- Marilyn Schultz
Board Member
- Dr. Charles Hill
Deputy Superintendent
- Johanna Hudak
Director of Special Education
- Michele Moloney
Business Manager
- Dr. Andrew McNally
Principal Fishkill, ES
- Steven Shuchat
Principal Van Wyck MS
- Marco Pochintesta
Principal John Jay HS
- Vincent DiGrande,
Principal Wappingers JHS
- Angelina Alvarez-Rooney
Principal Oak Grove ES
- Jose Olavarria,
Principal Gayhead ES
- Franco Miele
Principal, Sheafe Road ES
- Linda Gilmartin
Teacher John Jay HS
- Donna Basile
Teacher Van Wyck MS
- Rose Neckles
Teacher Sheafe Road ES
- Lea Lasusa
Teacher Fishkill
- Karen Meiller
Director of Transportation
- Kim Catalano
Assistant Supervisor of Transportation
- Debbie Kuter
President, Wappingers Council of PTAs
- Gregg Ninos
Parent
- Maryann Zimmerman
Parent
- Laurie McConlogue
Parent



Scope of the Problem

➤ Inconsistent Feeder Patterns

➤ Sheafe Road:	K – 5	To –
➤ Myers Corners	6	
➤ Wappingers JHS	7–8	
➤ RCK	9–12	

Students in this pattern attend 3 schools prior to high school and spend only one year in one school

Scope of the Problem

➤ Inconsistent Feeder Patterns

➤ Oak Grove:	K – 5	To –
➤ Kinry Road	6	
➤ Wappingers JHS	7–8	
➤ RCK	9–12	

Students in this pattern attend 3 schools prior to high school and spend only one year in one school

Scope of the Problem

➤ Inconsistent Feeder Patterns

➤ Fishkill:	K – 5	To –
➤ Myers Corners	6	
➤ Van Wyck MS	7–8	
➤ John Jay HS	9–12	

Students in this pattern attend 3 schools prior to high school and spend only one year in one school. Moreover, these students join their cohort in 7th grade, one year after the cohort has already been together in 6th grade at Van Wyck.

Scope of the Problem

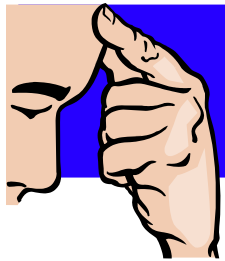
➤ What Makes the Previous Feeder Patterns Inconsistent?

- | | | |
|--|-------|------|
| ➤ Evans: | K – 6 | To – |
| ➤ Wappingers JHS | 6–8 | |
| ➤ RCK | 9–12 | |
| | | |
| ➤ Brinckerhoff, Fishkill Plains,
Gayhead: | K – 5 | To – |
| ➤ Van Wyck MS | 6–8 | |
| ➤ John Jay | 9–12 | |

Students in this pattern attend 2 schools prior to high school.

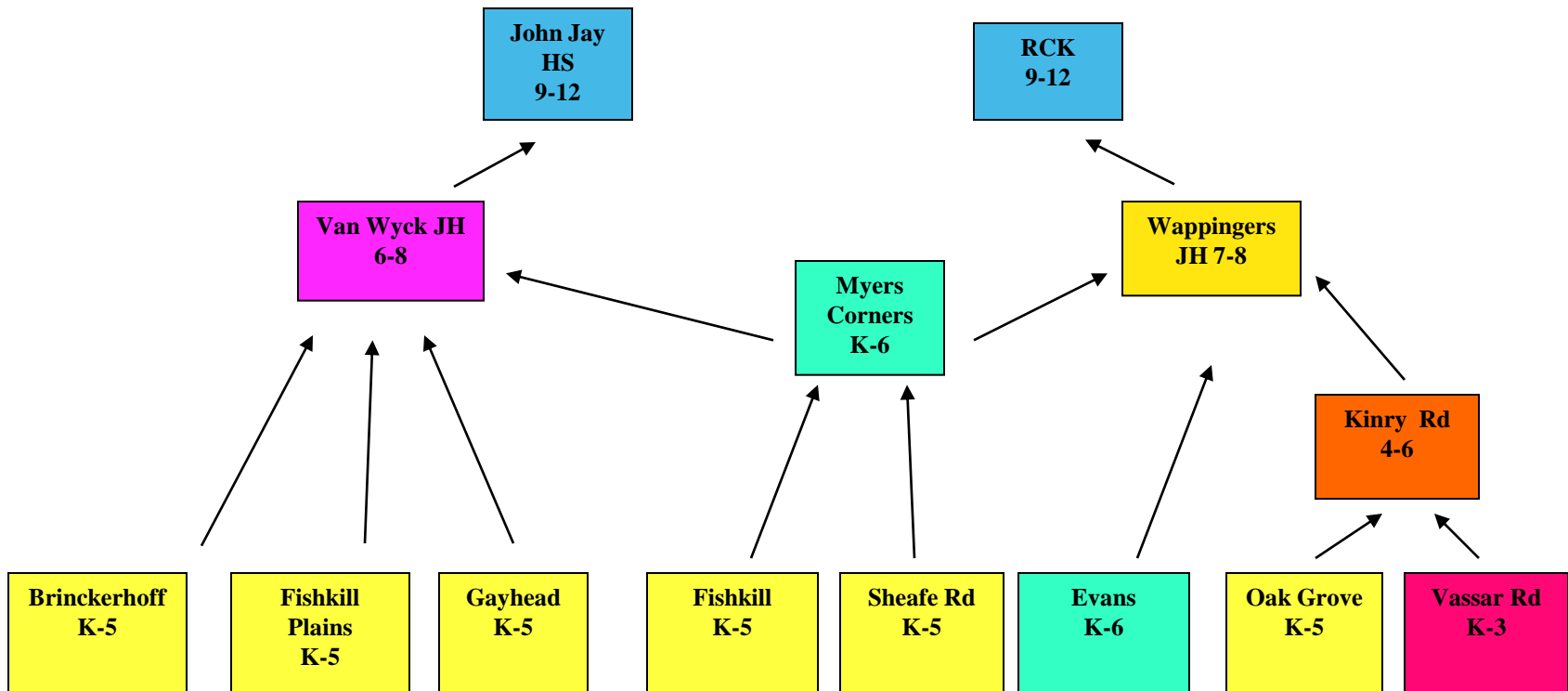
Scope of the Problem

What About Students Who Attend Vassar K – 3, Kinry 4–6, Wappingers JHS 7 –8 and Then RCK 9 – 12? They Too Attend 3 Schools Before Attending High School.



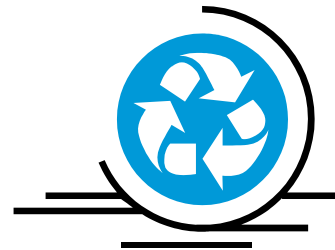
Vassar/Kinry are close in proximity and therefore, have evolved as one K–6 system. The PTA is merged as an example

Current Feeder Pattern

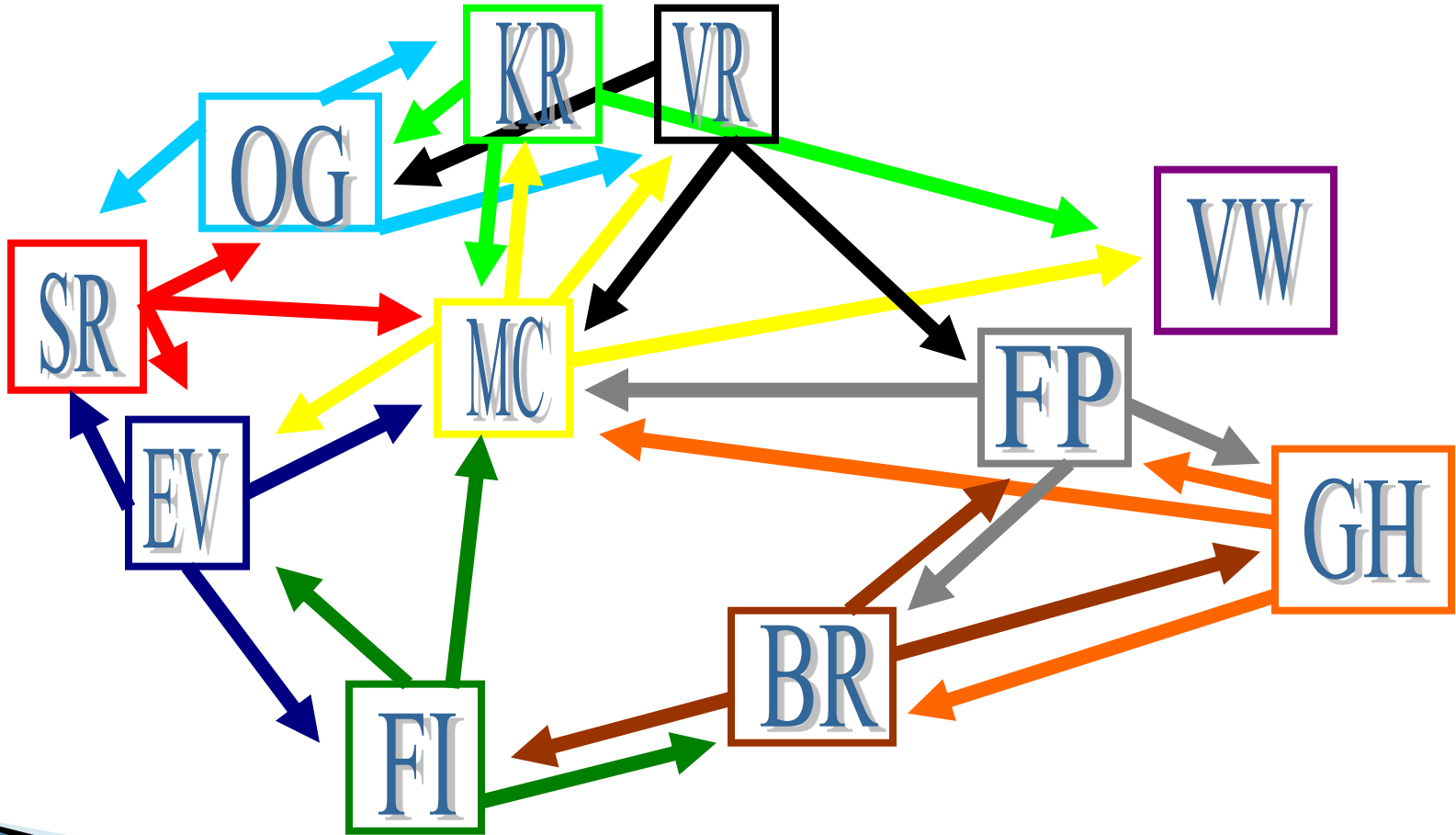


Scope of the Problem

- ◉ Special Education Classes are not Aligned
- ◉ Classified Students May Attend 2 or 3 Different Elementary Schools by 5th Grade
- ◉ That Means Classified Students Could Potentially Attend 5 or 6 Schools Before They Graduate High School

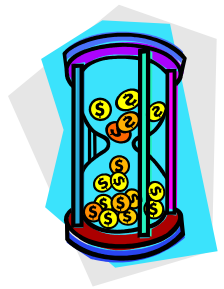


Current Overflow Plan

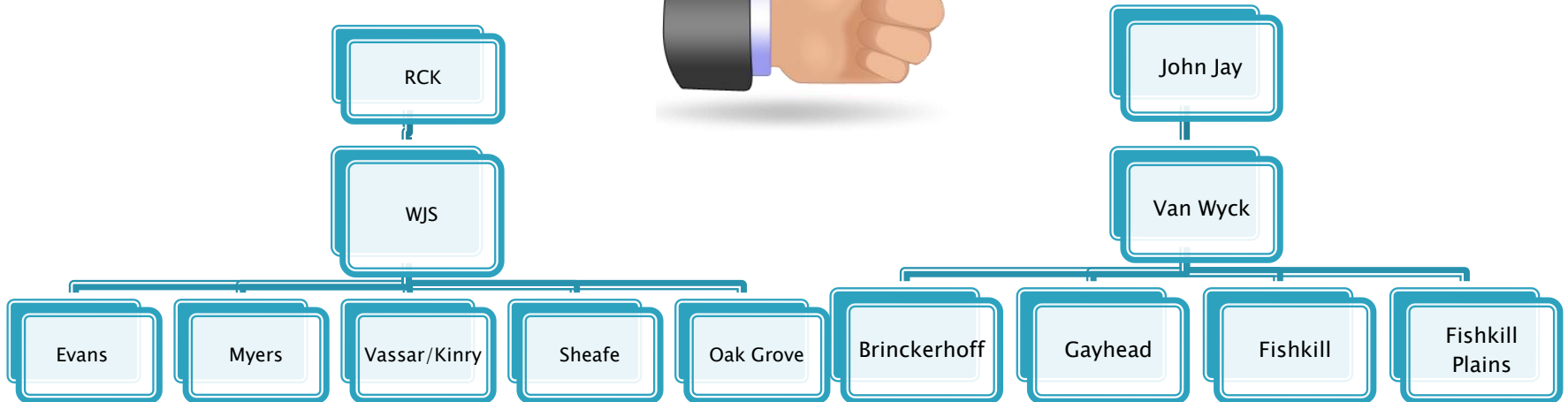


Scope of the Problem

- ▶ Feeder Pattern Inconsistency Has Remained an Unresolved District Issue for Decades
- ▶ Attending a School for One Year Does Not Allow for Sustained School Connections
- ▶ Research Supports Fewer Transitions For Students
- ▶ Overflow Plan is Not Educationally Sound, Especially for Classified Students

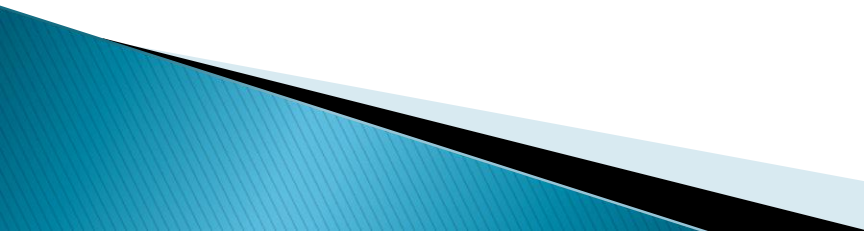


Desired Outcome



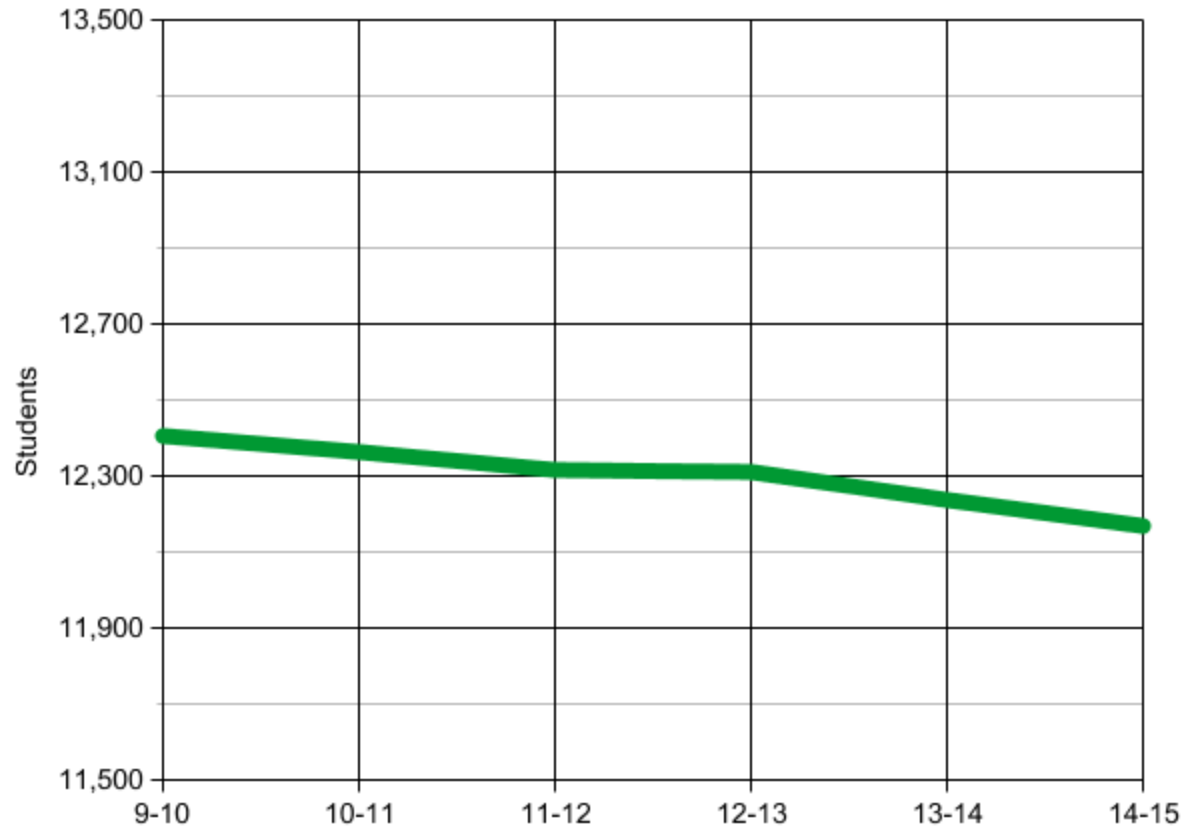
Alternatives Explored

1 a. Status Quo

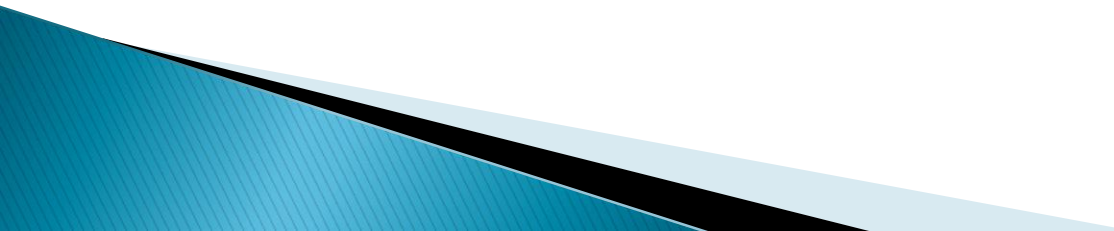
1. 6th Grades Maintained at Sheafe, Oak Grove; Fishkill 5th Grade Directly to Van Wyck
 2. All Elementary Schools K–5; Kinry Serves as 6th Grade Center for Evans, Myers, Sheafe, Oak Grove and Vassar
 3. All Elementary Schools K–6; Van Wyck and Wappingers JHS 7 – 8
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Enrollment Projection

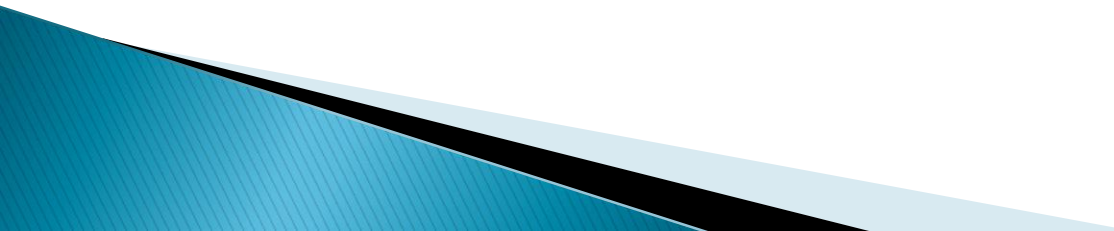
WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT



Status Quo

- ▶ Without Maximizing Class Size, Four Schools Lack Adequate Classrooms Over Next Two Years.
 - ▶ Feeder Pattern Issue Not Addressed
 - ▶ Overflow Issue Not Addressed
 - ▶ No Advantages – No Change Would Take Place
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Alternative #1

- ▶ Oak Grove becomes K-6
 - ▶ Sheafe Road becomes K-6
 - ▶ Vassar / Kinry remain “sister schools” and considered together remain K-6
 - ▶ Fishkill stays K-5, goes directly to VanWyck JH
 - ▶ Worley Homes moves to Fishkill Plains
- 

Alternative # 1

Details to Accomplish

Special Ed. Alignments to make space at Oak Grove:

- ◉ Language Based 1–2 moves to Gayhead
- ◉ Language Based 5 moves from Plains to Gayhead
 - Aligns LB classes in one building
- ◉ Self-Contained 2–3 moves to Vassar
- ◉ Self-Contained 4–5 moves to Kinry
 - Aligns self-contained in “one” school
- ◉ 6th Grade inclusion is created at Oak
- ◉ Gives Kinry inclusion “breathing room”

Alternative # 1

Details to Accomplish

Special Ed. and other moves to make space at Sheafe:

- ▶ 1 Self-Contained class (grades 2-3) would relocate to Vassar
- ▶ Self-Contained 4-5 moves to Kinry
 - Aligns K-6 self-contained at Vassar / Kinry
- ▶ Sheafe keeps Inclusions Grades K-6
- ▶ Sheafe already has empty room, 3 rooms now available for 6th grade

Alternative #1

Special Education Realignment Year 2

<u>Brinckerhoff</u>	<u>Evans</u>	<u>Fishkill</u>	<u>F. Plains</u>	<u>Gayhead</u>	<u>Vassar</u>	<u>Kinry</u>	<u>Myers</u>	<u>Oak Grove</u>	<u>Sheafe</u>
SC 1-2	SC K-1	SC 2-3	ICT K	LB1-2	SC K-1	SC 4	Comm K-1	ICT 4	ICT K (.5)
SC 2-3	SC 2-3	ICT 5	ICT 1	LB3	SC 2-3	SC 5	Com 1-2-3	ICT 5	ICT 1
SC 4-5		RR (.5)	ICT 2	LB4	ICT 2(.5)	SC 6	Comm 4-5	ICT 6	ICT 2
ESL (1.5)			ICT 3	LB5	ICT 3(.5)	ICT 4	ICT K(.5)		ICT 3
RR (1.5)			ICT 4	ICT 1	RR (.5)	ICT 5	ICT1		ICT 4
			ICT 5	ICT 2		ICT 6	ICT2		ICT 5
			RR	ICT 3			ICT 3		ICT 6
				ICT 4 (2)			ICT 4 (.5)		
				ICT 5 (2)			ICT 5		
				RR			ICT 6		
							SC 5-6		

Oak Grove 25 Rooms	Students 2010-11	Rooms Needed	Students 2011-12	Rooms Needed	Students 2012-13	Rooms Needed	Students 2013-14	Rooms Needed	Students 2014-15	Rooms Needed
K	57	2	57	2	57	2	57	2	80	2
1	66	3	67	3	67	3	67	3	83	3
2	65	3	64	3	65	3	65	3	81	3
3	53	3	65	3	65	3	66	3	82	3
4	56	3	54	3	67	3	67	3	85	3
5	64	3	57	3	56	3	69	3	86	3
6	79	3	66	3	59	3	58	3	106	3
SC	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	451	21	430	20	436	20	449	20	463	20

Sheafe Road 25 Rooms	Students 2010-11	Rooms Needed	Students 2011-12	Rooms Needed	Students 2012-13	Rooms Needed	Students 2013-14	Rooms Needed	Students 2014-15	Rooms Needed
K	85	2	85	2	82	2	80	2	80	2
1	82	4	83	4	83	4	83	4	83	4
2	97	4	80	4	81	4	81	4	81	4
3	93	4	98	4	81	3	82	4	82	4
4	91	4	96	4	101	4	83	4	85	4
5	77	3	93	4	99	4	104	4	86	4
6	82	4	79	3	95	4	101	4	106	4
SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	607	25	614	25	622	25	614	26	603	26

Myers Corners 37 Rooms	Students 2010-11	Rooms Needed	Students 2011-12	Rooms Needed	Students 2012-13	Rooms Needed	Students 2013-14	Rooms Needed	Students 2014-15	Rooms Needed
K	56	2	56	2	56	2	56	2	56	2
1	65	3	66	3	66	3	66	3	66	3
2	89	4	64	3	65	3	65	3	65	3
3	94	4	90	4	64	3	66	3	65	3
4	103	4	97	4	93	4	66	3	68	3
5	90	4	106	5	100	5	96	4	69	3
6	114	5	99	4	118	5	112	5	109	4
SC	24	2	37	4	37	4	37	4	37	4
Total	635	28	615	31	599	29	614	27	535	25

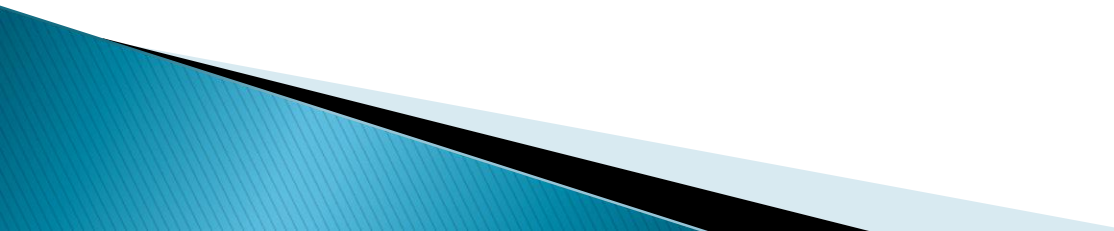
Kinry 19 Rooms	Students 2010-11	Rooms Needed	Students 2011-12	Rooms Needed	Students 2012-13	Rooms Needed	Students 2013-14	Rooms Needed	Students 2014-15	Rooms Needed
4	102	5	99	4	93	4	116	5	118	5
5	120	5	105	5	102	5	96	4	120	5
6	121	5	121	5	108	5	105	5	99	4
SC	24	2	24	2	24	2	24	2	24	2
Total	367	17	349	16	327	16	341	16	361	16

Van Wyck 39-42 Rooms*	Students 2010-11	Rooms Needed	Students 2011-12	Rooms Needed	Students 2012-13	Rooms Needed	Students 2013-14	Rooms Needed	Students 2014-15	Rooms Needed
6	438	16	493	18	503	18	479	18	484	18
7	520	10	457	10	523	10	522	10	516	10
8	550	11	530	11	466	11	533	12	532	12
SC	24	2	24	2	24	2	24	2	24	2
Total	1532	39	1504	41	1516	41	1558	42	1556	42

*Conversion of Office Space and Change Breakout Room; Reduce from 3 to 2 computer labs (+2 Classrooms); Relocate staff lounge and computer to existing staff lounge (+1 room)

Net Increase:	17	(11)	1	43	41
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Reaction to Posted Plan Post Mortem

- ▶ Multiple Letters Supporting Fishkill 5th Graders Attending Van Wyck 6th Grade
 - ▶ Multiple Letters in Support of Keeping Oak Grove 5th Grades at Oak Grove for 6th Grade
 - ▶ A Few Letters Requesting that Edgehill not be Redistricted to Myers (1 letter supporting the redistricting)
 - ▶ Several Concerns Expressed in Regard to the Capacity of Van Wyck to House the Additional 6th Graders from Fishkill
- 

Concerns Regarding Van Wyck



Concern: The school's systems are already stressed and adding 80 more students further exacerbates this situation.

Consider: The school's systems are stressed and this must be addressed through long-term capital planning. The total student population is estimated to increase by 17 next year with the Fishkill 5th graders in attendance. The following year the population estimate *decreases*. The highest estimated increase over the projection period would be 43 students in 2013–2014 school year.

- ▶ **Concern:** Indoor air quality is poor and additional students would make it worse.
- ▶ **Consider:** IAQ is a function of the number of occupants in a building, HVAC systems, windows and sources of chemical use. The total the number of students over the projection period increases minimally and therefore, should not impact IAQ. This issue likely exists in other buildings and must be addressed through the upgrading of our facilities.

Concerns Regarding Van Wyck



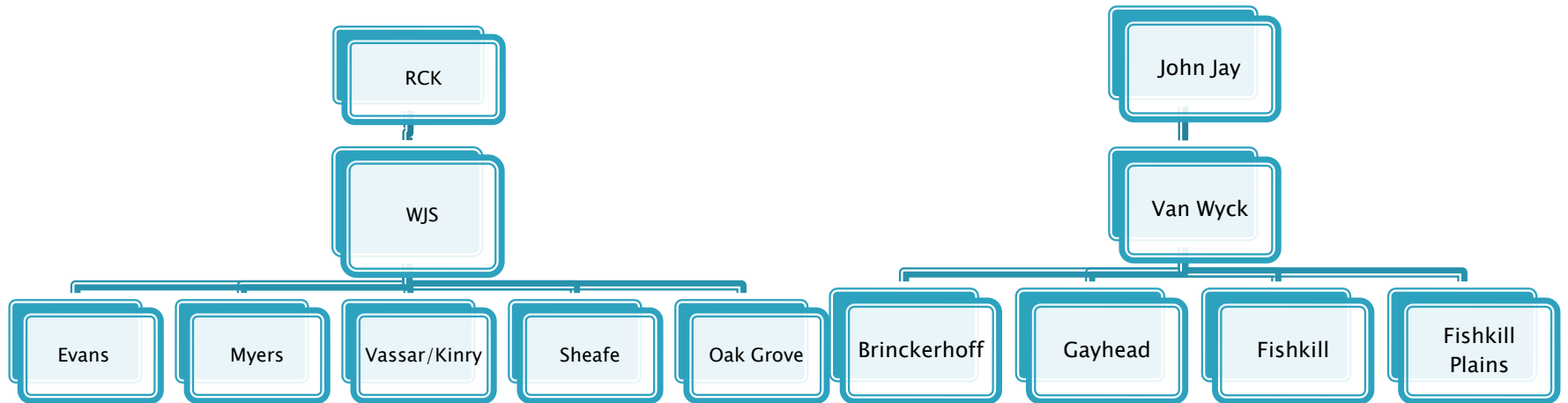
- ▶ **Concern:** The school's septic system is stressed and more students may exacerbate the problem.
- ▶ **Consider:** There has not been a recent problem with the septic system. However, long-term, the system must be addressed with or without the additional students. According to the Town of East Fishkill, sewers will not be available anytime in the near future. Therefore, we may need to consider a Package Sewer Plant be installed which will help to rectify this problem. T
This should be done regardless of any changes at VW.
- ▶ **Concern:** Bottled water is currently being used due to the poor quality of the water. Why subject more students to this?
- ▶ **Consider:** The Town of East Fishkill is taking over Rand Water. They have started to use one of the better wells and will be flushing the system throughout the spring which should improve the water significantly by the start of the new school year. By next year at this time a new filtration system will be in place.

Concerns Regarding Van Wyck



- ▶ **Concern:** Common areas, such as the cafeteria cannot accommodate the number of students in the school. More students add to this problem. Lunch, this year starts at 9:30 a.m.
- ▶ **Consider:** Again, the total number of students in the school next year will not significantly increase, even with the entering of the Fishkill 5th graders. The 6th graders have lunch 3rd & 8th period and there is room for them without violating any occupancy limits (273 limit; 253 students)
- ▶ **Concern:** There aren't enough lockers for the students if Fishkill 5th graders go directly to VW.
- ▶ **Consider:** There are enough lockers.
- ▶ **Concern:** A new Toll Brothers housing development of 250 homes, The Glen, may add more students to VW.
- ▶ **Consider:** First, the housing units are not scheduled to be completed for another 5–6 years. Second, estimating the number of students in grades 6–8 that this development would yield is difficult. If we look at the yield of other housing developments such as Merritt, there are 25 students in grades 6–8 from this development (about 545 units).

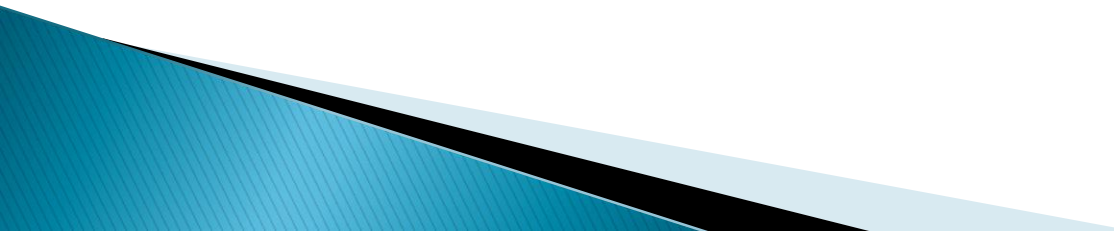
Alternative #1 Outcome



Alternative #1 Advantages

- ◉ Reduces transitions for Fishkill, Oak Grove and Sheafe
- ◉ All District Students go directly from their home elementary Schools to their middle/JHS schools
- ◉ Space freed at Myers and Kinry allows for alignment of Special Ed. services, reducing transitions for Special Ed. students
- ◉ Improves Transportation routes → time and cost savings: Approx. \$58,795
- ◉ Eliminates “Only One Year” issues
- ◉ Worley Homes area will have a consistent feeder pattern to John Jay

Alternative #1 Disadvantages

- ▶ Does not finish final transition to Middle School Model
 - ▶ Elementary Schools across the district have different grade level configurations and at junior high/middle school levels as well
 - ▶ Some special education students will have to change buildings due to realignment
 - ▶ Unused Classrooms at Myers
- 

Alternative # 1

Other Possibilities

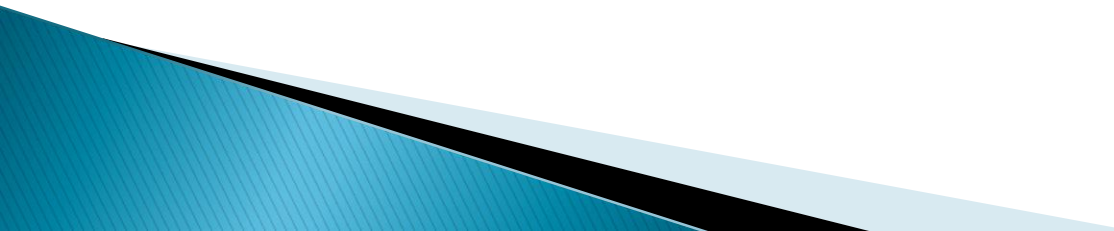
A. Move Part of Edgehill Community to Myers Corners from Vassar/ Kinry

- Geographically Closer to Myers
- Shorter Bus Ride for Students
- Transportation Savings of Approximately \$12,000
- Frees space at Vassar
- Utilizes Open Space at Myers
- “Grandfathering” Should be Considered

B. Move Neighborhoods from Roberts Lane to West Side of Route 9 from Evans to Myers

- Eliminates Crossing Route 9
- Frees Space at Evans
- Utilizes Space at Myers
- “Grandfathering” Should be Considered

Alternative #2

- ▶ Evans, Myers, Sheafe, Oak Grove Become K–5
 - ▶ Vassar Becomes K–4 (Year 1); K–5 (Year 2)
 - ▶ Kinry Road Becomes a 5–6 (Year 1) and Sixth Grade Center (Year 2)
 - ▶ Other Elementary Schools Remain K–5
- 

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

- ▶ Kinry becomes 6th grade center to WJH
- ▶ Myers becomes K–5, feeds into Kinry 6th gr.
- ▶ Edge Hill Neighborhood Moves to Myers
- ▶ Sheafe stays K–5, now feeds to Kinry 6th Grade Center
- ▶ Oak Grove stays K–5, now feeds to Kinry 6th Grade Center
- ▶ Fishkill stays K–5, goes directly to Van Wyck JHS

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

Year 1 of 2 year rollout (2010–2011)

- ▶ Vassar SC K–1 moves to Oak Grove
- ▶ Vassar Communications moves to Myers
- ▶ Vassar becomes K–4, Kinry becomes 5–6
- ▶ Kinry gets Comm. 6 from Myers
- ▶ Kinry gets any overflow 6th grade from Van Wyck
- ▶ Kinry gets SC 6
- ▶ Oak Grove has SC K–1, 2–3, 4–5

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

Year 2 of 2 year rollout (2011–2012)

- ▶ Edgehill neighborhood moves from Vassar/Kinry to Myers, freeing 6 classrooms
 - Edgehill closer to Myers, used to attend Myers
- ▶ Vassar becomes K–5, Kinry becomes 6th center
 - Students who started 4th at Kinry will “graduate” Kinry
- ▶ Sheafe goes to Kinry for 6th grade
- ▶ Evans becomes K–5, goes to Kinry for 6th
- ▶ Myers becomes K–5, goes to Kinry for 6th
- ▶ Oak Grove stays K–5, goes to Kinry for 6th

Alternative #2

Special Education Realignment

<u>Brinckerhoff</u>	<u>Evans</u>	<u>Fishkill</u>	<u>F. Plains</u>	<u>Gayhead</u>	<u>Vassar</u>	<u>Kinry</u>	<u>Myers</u>	<u>Oak Grove</u>	<u>Sheafe</u>
SC 1-2	SC K-1	SC 2-3	ICT K	LB1-2	SC K-1	SC 4	Comm K-1	ICT 4	ICT K
SC 3-4	SC 2-3	ICT 5	ICT 1	LB3	SC 2-3	SC 5	Com 1-2-3	ICT 5	ICT 1
SC 4-5	SC 4-5		ICT 2	LB4	ICT 2(.5)	SC 6	Comm 4-5	ICT 6	ICT 2
ESL (1.5)			ICT 3	LB5	ICT 3(.5)	ICT 4	ICT K(.5)	SC K-1	ICT 3
			ICT 4	ICT 1 (.5)		ICT 5	ICT1	SC 2-3	ICT 4
			ICT 5	ICT 2 (.5)		ICT 6	ICT2	SC 4-5	ICT 5
				ICT 3			ICT 3		ICT 6
				ICT 4 (1.5)			ICT 4 (.5)		
				ICT 5 (2)			ICT 5		
							ICT 6		
							SC 5-6		

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

Sheafe Road Total 25 Rooms	# Students 2010-11	# Classrooms Needed	# Students 2011-12	# Classrooms Needed
Kindergarten	71	2	71	2
1 st	82	4	83	4
2 nd	97	4	80	4
3 rd	93	4	98	4
4 th	91	4	96	4
5 th	77	4	93	4
SC	24	2	24	2
Totals	535	24	545	24

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

Evans Total Rooms 18	# Students 2010-11	# Classrooms Needed	# Students 2011-12	# Classrooms Needed
Kindergarten	50	1	50	2
1 st	57	3	59	3
2 nd	48	2	56	3
3 rd	62	3	48	2
4 th	47	2	63	3
5 th	44	2	49	2
6 th	54	2	0	0
SC	32	3	24	3
Totals	394	18	357	17

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

Myers Total 37 Rooms	# Students 2010-11	# Classrooms Needed	# Students 2011-12	# Classrooms Needed
Kindergarten	56	2	78	2
1 st	65	3	90	4
2 nd	89	4	82	4
3 rd	94	5	109	5
4 th	103	5	122	6
5 th	90	4	131	6
6 th	188	8	0	0
SC	7	1	7	1
Totals	692	32	619	28

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

Oak Grove Total 22 Rooms	# Students 2010-11	# Classrooms Needed	# Students 2011-12	# Classrooms Needed
Kindergarten	57	2	57	2
1 st	66	3	67	3
2 nd	65	3	64	3
3 rd	53	3	65	3
4 th	56	3	54	3
5 th	64	3	57	3
SC	37	4	37	4
Totals	398	21	401	21

Alternative #2

Details to Accomplish

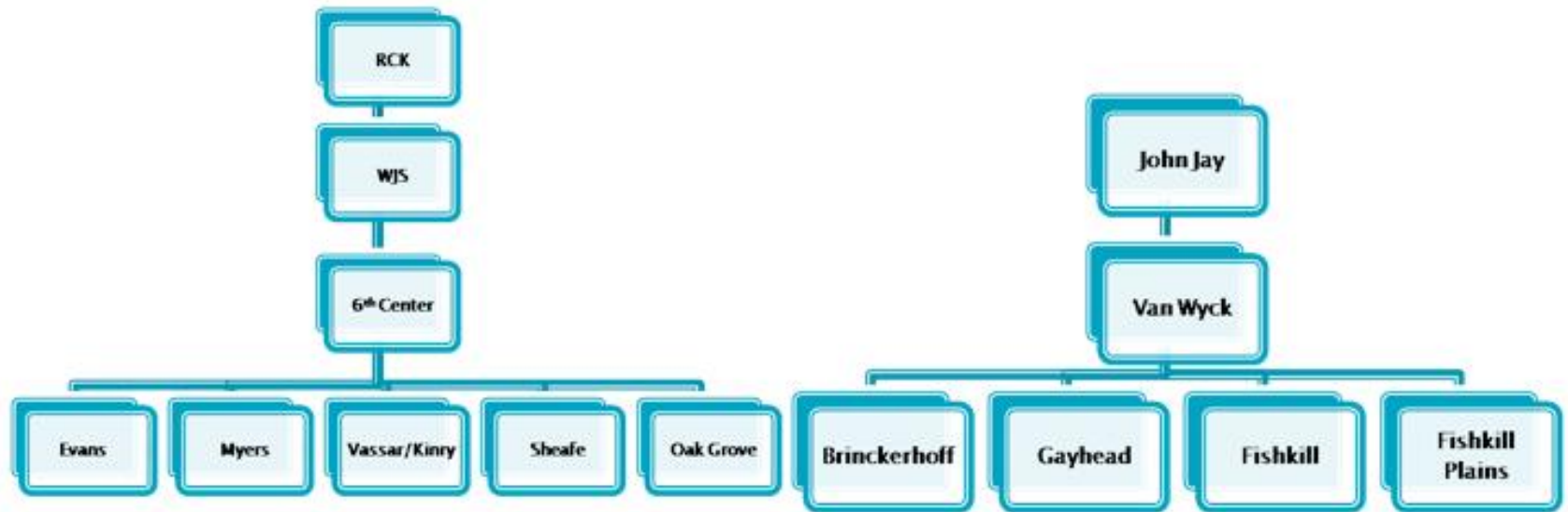
Vassar Total 17 Rooms	# Students 2010-11	# Classrooms Needed	# Students 2011-12	# Classrooms Needed
Kindergarten	99	2	77	2
1 st	115	5	89	4
2 nd	89	4	92	4
3 rd	96	4	71	3
4 th	116	5	74	3
5 th	0	0	83	3
Totals	515	20	486	19

Alternative #2

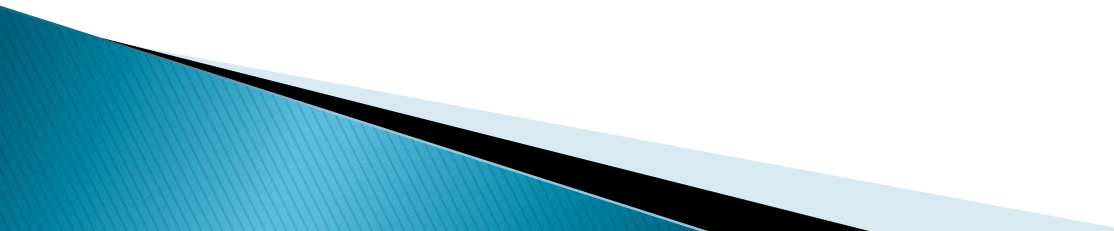
Details to Accomplish

Kinry Total 19 Rooms	# Students 2010-11	# Classrooms Needed	# Students 2011-12	# Classrooms Needed
5 th	120	5	0	0
6 th	197	8	395	17
SC	24	2	24	2
Totals	341	15	419	19


Alternative #2 Outcome



Alternative # 2 Advantages

- ▶ Makes all WCSD Elementary Schools K–5 grade configuration
 - ▶ All students in WJHS Feeder Pattern Transition to 6th grade center together
 - ▶ One step closer to ultimate goal of the Middle School model
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Alternative #2 Disadvantages

- ▶ Requires redistricting of entire Edgehill community to Myers
 - ▶ Adds one transition for Myers and Evans
 - ▶ Creates a “Only One Year” school
 - ▶ Does not finish final transition to Middle school Model
 - ▶ Transportation Issues–Long Bus Runs
 - ▶ Vassar Lacks Adequate Classrooms
 - ▶ Special Education not totally Aligned (SC and Inclusion)
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Alternative #3

- ▶ All Elementary Schools Become K –6
- ▶ All JHS 7 – 8
- ▶ 8 of 10 Elementary Schools Would be Short Classrooms During Projection Period
- ▶ Capital Construction Would be Required; Approximately \$28 Million



Next Steps or “Phase 2”

- ▶ Either solution presented here (or others) must be considered Phase 1
 - ▶ Continue the Review of Other Redistricting Possibilities
 - ▶ Begin Capital Planning Process to Address Infrastructure Needs Including Additional Space and Replacement of Temporary Modular Classrooms
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