

9/15 Community Engagement Session at Preble High School

Now that you have learned about the District's facility challenges, about flexible school design, and about the board's efforts to address facility challenges, we have a very general question: What do you think? What are your reactions to what we have covered tonight?

- Not helpful at all. Waste of my time. We need to know what the plan is. Boundaries - what are they? False information went home as to what meeting was about.
- I am OK with the idea but not in love with it. There needs to be variety.
- Some interesting info but frustrating meeting. Came hoping for some actual plans - some suggestions on what the options are for dealing w/ overcrowding. Seems like we're spinning our wheels!! Why are we talking about what we should do? I trust the educators are being consulted & know what's best. The community wants specific info about plans & construction & rezoning, not furniture & room layout!!
- I think we should have a stronger focus on the growing population on the east side and deal with the possibility of another high school wait on the changing of school work space.
- The major concepts of re doing existing facilities are the need for future facilities
- I don't think you addressed the answers I thought I was going to get. I was interested in projected growth and your plans relative to rezone students from overcrowded schools to under crowded schools vs adjusting the over populated school to accommodate.
- Some glossed over. Are the numbers accurate? Felt there might have been ulterior motive.
- My question/concern is about the possibility of rezoning. We chose to buy our home in a certain school zone & don't want to see our kids rezoned to another school.
- I feel like having more space regardless of type of space is more [important] than having nice space.
- I feel like there is a very vague plan w/o a lot of hard data. The community is looking for specific data. Need to be able to answer questions w/ data. How does reconfiguring existing space address the problem of overcrowding/bldgs @ capacity?
- For already full/overcrowded schools is changing the design to flexible school design going to be able to address this?
- I am not sure we can address both issues - capacity & learning space. We need another high school, but that will build a new facility & leave the old ones with ancient space. Two separate issues!
- As a Director of Community Development for a community covered by the GBPSD we intend to grow and the quality of education & facilities are one element in why people choose to locate there. Our concern is to take a strategic approach to change perception compared to other districts.
- Segregating students (advance in learning) may not be all positive. As adults we have to deal with a diverse range of people and it is important to develop this skill at a young age. Young children also may not be like being separated from friends and other

“normal” students. I was in a “students advanced in learning” program in elementary school and did not like being separated from friends.

- I feel changing the design & ambiance is a good idea if the teachers are able to remain open minded & have flexibility to change curriculum. And if it's proven to truly improve their educational experience & success. And separating the advanced learners does not seem ideal. Diversity is good.
- Will need to keep in mind the staffing and curriculum requirements, if more “flexible spaces” and “breakout spaces” - need staff input as well.
- The info given was too general. We have a serious overcrowding issue in some of our East side schools (ex. Preble). What are some ideas to alleviate it? I was hoping to hear possible solutions and discuss them.
- 1) Presentation: get closer to the mic - you did better at question time. 2) Personalized education - what schools are badly in need of updates? 3) Preble - How much pressure could be relieved by changing boundary lines? How much room is there in the other high schools? Why is Preble so large compared to an East or West? Is this a segregation issue?
- I like the idea of alternative learning spaces. I worry about the logistics of removing walls without needing to build bigger buildings.
- I need to know how this will affect the children with special needs, such as the autistic child who can't handle a large space. How is one classroom teacher able to watch children spread over such a large area?
- Need flexible delivery of curriculum - seems pretty scripted which doesn't work w/ flexible learning spaces. What is the long range plan for Preble? Should we be considering “wrap around” community schools (especially inner city)
- Why didn't the library have books? Too much [computer] “screen time”, as a parent I want less computers teaching. What about the playgrounds? Art rooms? Gyms? Cafeterias? Bigger lunch facilities for more nutritious meals or kids “learning by doing” as far as food growing (gardens) & prepping would be something I'd love. What do the buildings in other countries look like? Japan? Finland?
- What standards are being used to say “the current is not working”... What is the change in the standard that will make doing these changes worthwhile? Ex. test scores are low, our kids are not going to college, etc... what is being used to evaluate this situation & how will it change with better classroom space.
- Seems to be alright, but the open hallways seem like kids would be more easily distracted. I'm also concerned at the idea of focusing on teaching how to learn more than content. There are many skills that need to be taught that will always be useful in computers, industrial, mechanical, culinary, graphic arts, etc, etc. Are we no longer teaching skills for fear they would become obsolete. Are we churning out thousands of kids who know nothing except “how to learn”?
- I really like the idea of a more modern school design I think it is very important to have multiple learning environments, not just your standard classroom. It's important to have designated areas for smaller group learning - not just information overload. I am very proud to have my son be a part of the Green Bay Area Public Schools, but I have very

specific desires on where I want my child to go. I want my son to go to Preble, but I want the environment to work for him and be able to prepare him for college & beyond.

- Remodeling facilities is fine but I think we need to address future numbers of enrollment. Meaning regardless of how much we renovate - we will still need more space with the flexibility to update technology as needed.
- I see the need for changes to older buildings to meet the needs of the children. I see a need to present this information to the public to educate them using other methods other than this type of meeting.
- We were looking for more specific information regarding enrollment projects for Preble. When do you say there is a timeline for the completion of the facility study?
- Plain and simple... the district needs more money for growth (5th High School and Middle School).
- It is critical that you are looking at trends & potential changes in learning - so that your buildings will be prepared. What about you land locked bldgs? How will individual learners do in college?
- I like that we are looking at the “whole child” instead of just treating each child as every other child. Not every child is ever going to be the same as another. Not even twins are/learn the same way. I believe this should [have] been done years ago because I would of even done/learned better in school. Children should always be looked at as a “whole child!”
- I told you so, when we had the \$55 million ref. We were not building for tomorrow only for today (back then). Building another High School may add capacity but will it solve balance & boundary issues?
- What is the plan for overpopulated schools?
- What is the plan for Baird School? Too general info - specifics would be more helpful. Thank you for the community input opportunity.
- We did not discuss what I thought we would discuss. I understand that there is not a plan yet but we have a serious problem of over capacity schools on the east side & I wanted to know what are the options & what areas are we concentrating on.
- I expected more specifics & options to the issues we are facing about the overpopulated schools. I think having solutions for the under-populated & overpopulated schools first before talking about how we are going to transform the schools is important. I think it will be better to get capacity under control & then transform based on that capacity & future growth.

As board members continue their facility-related work, what do you want the board to keep in mind? What do you think is important for the board to consider?

- We want to know what the boundaries are going to be.
- The Arts-Music: do not sacrifice these rooms & programs to have flex spaces. What about boundary changes? Hot Button Topic! I know, but a discussion that needs to be had-again.

- Please move quickly - I can't believe we're still talking about east side overcrowding w/out a plan! This is nothing new & it's hard to think we're talking about a 10 year plan. Too late. If you really want to know what would work, ask the teachers!
- Recognition of the absolute need for new buildings on the far East Side to not only meet the overcrowding @ Preble but also facilitate the growth & needs of this East Side. Development of the community will not (and has not) occurred without new facilities. Reacting to reasons why student population has been relatively flat!!
- Keep facilities on an even level as teaching and extracurricular support - school excitement grows from excited kids & families - kids and families are driven by succeeding academics, arts and sports. The district needs to sell their success. My main goal is when my kids graduate they are ready to succeed in life and that is a joint effort of parents, teachers ability, facilities and tending to support all - excellent schools build excellent communities - look at Bayport, Howard has an amazing school, a thriving community and tons of successful positive residents! This all builds on each other.
- We don't want a band aid. Whether the numbers are lower than documented, bottom line, there will be projected growth. [Illegible] so to say, people choose the location of where they live particularly based on the school district. Nobody wants to be uprooted or separated from siblings. I do not want rezoning!
- My concern is that my children attend a large school, a good school, but there is nothing specialized at the school. We have no language offered, no STEM, no fine arts. Where are my kids going to compete with the kids who get more specialized learning?
- We need space and I think all facilities across the board should be similar appeal and one school shouldn't be super crappy/old facilities w/out windows when other schools are super nice.
- I hope the community realizes the needs and referendum is successful so a 10 year plan can begin - has do we deal with current issues with numbers until then
- I want board members to keep in mind reconfiguring a space does not address issues of overcrowding @ capacity.
- Keep in mind the children & new learning & safety! Some of the community members only see \$ and not the advancement to education.
- Capacity is our primary concern. We have a 1 and 2 year old and want to ensure that they have enough space & teachers to receive a good education. We have considered moving to another district to avoid the over capacity issue that Edison and Preble are having.
- Main concern for our family is the capacity at the district. Overcrowded environments are pushing us towards the idea of moving into the De Pere district where middle & high schools are better equipped for success. As parents of toddlers we want to be reassured the district we are in will still provide them with a successful, safe, & happy educational experience.
- The challenging task of balancing the "preparation for the future" with the fiscal limitations that we have
- Overcrowding on the East Side
- 1) You need to educate the public about how the education process has changed. Educate about personalized education. Educate before talking about wall changes. 2)

Show the public that they are getting quality education here in GB. Cover the area with good news stories. 3) Get state legislators and walker to stop bad mouthing education costs. Stop making teachers the whipping children of the political process.

- The socioeconomic disparity between the schools in our district needs to be addressed. The districts needs to address redistricting and not bend to parents whining about going to “this” school or “that” school.
- Redistricting before building new schools
- Need for input - keep the library as a library w/ book shelves and plenty of space. Community members on planning committee.
- Kids need more recess and less tests. Could save a lot by stopping the data gathering education policies that repeatedly test, get rid of scripted teaching styles & testing “coaches”, it is a waste of money as well as stopping innovative styles of teaching. The modern classrooms idea I love (But our current test, test, test does not seem to fit our current teaching climate.
- Rise of ADHD students & adjusting classroom spaces with gadgets that are helpful to kids with attention problems.
- Design that is sustainable, uses local business to supply & build, and are safe for our children. Safety from both manmade & natural disasters. Consider insulated concrete forms as many other states have for ALL of their school buildings.
- Creating facilities to prep kids for college and/or workforce. Marketable skills that are timeless need to be build comp. Labs, graphic arts, CAD, auto mechanics, medical labs, financial/banking/investment, education, art studios, TV production studios, kitchens, welding, forklifts, construction, sports facilities, training/physical, music production studios, nature studs.
- I think it is important to know that our schools are overcrowded. I would prefer our current schools be fixed, and make them a priority before building other facilities. Numbers will go up, as far as enrollment goes, but I don’t want to see the facilities we have fall by the wayside in order to build bigger & better schools in more rural areas.
- Enrollment numbers in the future. Technology needs.
- Preble/Edison are overcrowded - there is a need for another school on the far east side. I do NOT want rezoning. That will drive me to move my kids entirely out of the district.
- The board needs to keep this student centered. The students’ needs (educationally, emotionally, socially) need to be out of the center of all conversations.
- Reducing enrollment pressure at Preble & Edison.
- We have to get state of the art facilities & buildings. A lot of landlocked schools have nowhere to go as far as space, so what is the plan?
- Where are the needs? Teacher needs, student needs, community needs. How do you feed this many kids, how fast? Are you thinking like an urban school district?
- Keep in mind the children and families all this effects. (The taxes, supplies, the teachers needed, low income/homeless families vs rich/well deserved/well off. Look at every learning aspect especially for special needs children and different culture child. Need to look at the “whole child” not do it for just one child.

- Design & function w/out expensive frills. Life is fragile -- what we have in GB today may disappear quickly ask the folks in Brillion that are losing the Brillion Iron Works. What if we drive industry out of town along with the families that depended on the jobs?
- What is the plan for the overpopulated far east side schools?
- Pre K - 8. Baird location
- Please keep in mind the overpopulated schools on the east side. The graduating clear from Preble is too high right now! Transforming the learning environment is not going to change the size of the graduating classes. Red Smith & Preble need to be addressed.

Earlier tonight we discussed flexible, effective modern classrooms and learning spaces. What do you think? What additional information will you be looking for as it relates to this topic?

- Not really thrilled -- Maybe make bigger classrooms so the teacher can use these spaces in their control. I do think there needs to be places to go. But I don't know about how many.
- I worry that this is very trendy & doesn't really address the overcrowding issue.
- Two pronged approach - revitalize the older existing & how to proceed with justifying the need for new facilities. How do you convince the public of the dire need for both converting existing facilities & meeting the need for new sites, again on the East Side.
- Totally agree. I think this creates a better real world experience. I worry that the teaching staff will not properly adjust/be trained so that quality education can continue. Make the school district consistent so students at all schools have a consistent feel/experience. For example - my children (McAuliffe) have music concerts in a cramped gym - my niece (Webster) has her concert at the Weidner.
- I think modern classrooms may be effective @ this time, but to your earlier point these may be trends. Is that effective or just a temporary fix? Is it a two pronged approach? Can't do the upgrades w/o the re-zoning? How do you convince people to fill empty spaces?
- I think that needing more space is more important than the type of space. Ideally want more space to meet the need for enough classes on but also want better learning spaces.
- Specific plans for specific buildings -- Baird, Red Smith, Preble
- I would want to know the enrollment numbers & capacity of each building. I want to know classroom space & modernization of buildings to know how many need to be updated or closed.
- It could work if we have the commitment to rebuild the curriculum and train/educate teachers how to effectively teach and communicate with students in the environment. If teachers are resistant to change (as we all are to some extent in our occupations) this entire idea may not work.
- As noted on my orange card, will need to keep in mind the staffing and curriculum requirements. Staffing = larger, Curriculum = less rigid?

- What is the plan? The actual plan to address boundaries
- 1) What schools are in dire need of updating? Is it the inner city schools?
- These spaces don't impress me. What impresses me are different programs (IB, culinary arts, etc.) That the district can offer my students.
- What about the playground, art, gym, cafeteria areas? Why the library didn't appear to have books?
- Use of play areas, recess, opportunities for interactive play - (why are we reducing recess time in our schools? Will this be continued?) Are we looking at educ successfully design in other countries?
- Making sure teachers are educated on teaching & being effective with these new spaces. The space is only as good as the teacher & student.
- I really like the modern classrooms. These remind me of college learning which gives children a better preparedness. I would be looking for additional info on each separate school. What about the children that perform better in a traditional setting? How do we separate & how do we even figure that out?
- I like it, open to it, only potential issue I can think is open hallways, etc could be a distraction for elementary age kids seeing other kids walking around.
- This is simple for me, I want my son who tends to learn with very little direction to have the ability to be part of the classroom, and also part of smaller learning groups of kids who learn the way he does. Please make this happen.
- I think this is a stop gap solution and a bit short sighted. Community backing is needed to facilitate more buildings/space.
- I would like to see some actual plans what would happen in the schools. It's a great concept, but it is hard to visualize.
- I think we need both - redevelopment (existing buildings) & new school(s) in order to solve the problem. You need to convince the public of the need for these!
- Individualized learning is a great concept, but hard to implement in overcrowded classes & lack of funding. Need more teachers, smaller class sizes and socio-economic considerations.
- Are you planning for shifting & changing learning concepts? Are you prepared to understand continual changing in learning & teaching? What about extracurricular activities spaces?
- I like the idea but you have a lot to think about before you go ahead and do something that may not work for long. Fixing boundaries to help with under and over populating schools.

School board members have made clear that they are interested in your thoughts and feedback. What additional information would you like to provide them? What have we missed?

- Most important -- no matter what the buildings look like - is student-teacher ratio. And this [kumbaya] area concept may not work for some teachers. Maybe they are not the best teachers but would it make them worse?

- I understand that it's important to get Community buy-in, but we need to get teachers excited (and behave that their opinion matters) & that will excited & support will spread.
- Talk to the teachers, they know what we need!!! What is important to me = student-teacher ratio!!
- 1) “Politically” be sensitive to presenting the voting public with justification of both better use of the less stressed areas as well as meeting the needs of both growth & facility improvement with new building(s). 2) How do we gage &/or justify the # of students leaving the districts? 3) Community tax base & growth will continue to be flat without new facilities to be planned, promised & built! The Green Bay School districts reputation is tragically suffering.
- Give all kids a consistent educational fee/experience in the GBPS district to build the brand so to say. Please have your teachers set high expectations/reward the positive - trust me it works. We recently moved from the Mishicot School district - it sounds magical but their school had a very pleasant positive feel my kids loved school. My time in the schools here (McAuliffe and Edison) has been that the teachers spend all their time addressing the problems issues - which leads to a miserable school experience (for my kids at least).
- People need to be attracted to the school. Sports, arts, academics, size, technology, location. Every child learns differently, style (classrooms, learning method) can be a pro or con based on each child. Open spaces would put my son out of sorts, my daughter would love it. Many variables/challenges.
- Please fight for an additional school on the east side vs rezoning. Generally people purchase homes in the school district they want to send their kids go to. It loved not be fair to move kids to the other side or the city.
- As a parent of students that go to Baird and then would be moving to Red Smith and Preble, all three schools that are struggling with overcrowding I was hoping to hear possible plans for the East side schools with projected continued increase in enrollment.
- What is your plan for how to get community support behind master plan? How are you dealing w/ immediate concerns/issues? How?
- I think this DPI # issue is interesting and could be detrimental to the goal of helping make sure we have enough room for our kids → I did the calculation based on the #'s that guy community member presented and it was less than 5% absence rate. If anti educative folks are going to use this to campaign - we need [people] to understand this.
- I think you need to be more direct on options you are considering or will consider to better inform the public and how it will service the entire district.
- Preble and Edison being over capacity are our primary concern. We have considered moving to other districts to avoid the issue.
- Preble & Edison are overcrowded. New schools NEED to be added. Families will not want to enroll & utilize these schools if something doesn't change. Moving is something our family is strongly considering only because of the overcrowded district.
- 1) Does all education need to take place in “school” buildings? Can some educational opportunities take place in other places? Are there businesses that can support students in educational settings? 2) Get the good news out about the student progress toward accomplishing your mission statement. How are GB students doing when they get to

higher education or into the work force? Get some community leaders to back you up. Get community leaders talking about the well-prepared students they're getting.

- There was no mention of the poverty, truancy, and diversity that happens in our schools. At our schools (where our kids attend), the demographics are not what are the overall GBAPS represent. Most people do not understand this.
- What is the re-districting plan?
- Community members, parents involved in the planning process. How will playgrounds, play areas be included/addressed? Why the difference in numbers? DPI?
- Why weren't DPI numbers being used? Have other countries buildings been looked at? The scripted teaching & all the teachers coaching how doesn't that fit into the flexible, modern more individualized style teaching.
- Try to get more people involved! From the e-mail sent out about today's meeting, I had very little idea about what to expect.
- Updates on new buildings, like Baird
- I would like an update on planning for Baird.
- Boundaries. East side schools are overcrowded west - not so much - how do we address this?
- Nothing was discussed about school boundaries. I have major concerns about the division of elementary schools as the students move to the secondary level. Children like mine are going to be ripped from their peers they have spent 6 years with. This emotional damage at such a sensitive time may have lasting effects that may be never overcome. I would like to discuss this more.
- A lot of information for the Preble & Edison area. What about adding teachers to meet needs?
- 10-15 yr projection? Bussing & rural areas - How are you going to deal with them?
- All the needs of community, teachers, families and children.
- Don't tie yourself to a 10 year plan. Expand to 20 or even a 30 year expansion plan because time really flies by & the future always arrive sooner than expected.