



The following emails were sent to the OneVision@IowaCitySchools.org email address prior to 2:30 pm on 5/21/13. Emails are published in their entirety with the following exceptions:

- Names of those submitting are redacted.
- Phone numbers are redacted.
- Email addresses are redacted.
- Home street addresses are redacted.

Community members are encouraged to share feedback by attending community meetings, completing surveys, or emailing their thoughts and ideas to the Steering Committee. Send emails to OneVision@IowaCitySchools.org and that feedback will be shared with the Steering Committee.

All documents shared with the Steering Committee are posted on the District's website. Visit www.IowaCitySchools.org for more information.

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 10:53 AM
To: Board
Cc: OneVision; council@iowa-city.org
Subject: Horace Mann Elementary

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am the parent of three children, two who currently attend Horace Mann (3rd grade and kindergarten) and one 3 year old. It is my hope that all my children will attend Mann for their entire elementary education. It would be a great loss to the school community, the neighborhood community and the larger Iowa City community for a school like Mann to close. My husband and I chose to live in our neighborhood because of our placement in the Horace Mann school district. To shutter the doors of a beautiful old school in the heart of our strong and thriving northside neighborhood seems counter-intuitive to the stability of our town. The central district, northside and goosetown neighborhoods serve many people, including families like mine: long time residents who intentionally choose their neighborhoods for attributes like walkability, close proximity to shops and restaurants, and a strongly supported local school.

Please hear the voices of the Horace Mann community. We love our school, we love our neighborhood. Please vote to invest in these components which make Iowa City such a wonderful place to live.

Thank you for listening,

[REDACTED]
Iowa City
[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: David Dude
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 8:55 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: FW: North Corridor Parents Newsletter & Notes ~ Steering Committee Edition, Week 13 & 14

From: [REDACTED]
Date: May 21, 2013, 12:00:18 AM CDT
To: Board <Board@iccsd.k12.ia.us>, Becky Furlong <Furlong.Bekky@iccsd.k12.ia.us>, Ann Feldmann <Feldmann.Ann@iccsd.k12.ia.us>
Subject: North Corridor Parents Newsletter & Notes ~ Steering Committee Edition, Week 13 & 14

Hello Board Members,

Our group has been to several of the Facilities Steering Committee workshops recently. Only one day wasn't well attended by North Corridor Parents and that day was Saturday, May 11. Many parents were busy with our traveling baseball tournament for the feeder teams for West High Trojans. We have 18 teams within the age groups of 8 to 14 years of age. So doing the math...we were keeping 396 parents busy with baseball on Mother's Day weekend.

Many of us attended Monday morning and Tuesday night's workshops and came back with some positive stories about all of the parents wanting to help our overcrowded schools. It's really quite obvious and apparent that a few vocal people are NOT speaking for the majority. That's actually comforting to us and it was so nice to hear from so many reasonable east side folks.

Scenario 1 was all the rage - 3 new elementary schools, Penn addition, NCJH addition. In this scenario if they put two new elementary schools on the east side, it overbuilds east side elementary capacity by about 400 seats by 2020. At the same time the NWJH feeder elementary schools are short close to 600 seats. If voters will allow one of the elementary schools to shift from the Iowa City area to the Coralville area, this scenario works. Also, the new high school would need to be 1500 to accommodate the almost 1200 additional high students. At 1500, we also we will have three approximately equal size high schools (1300, 1700, 1500), and all of them within the "sweet spot" for size.

Scenario 4 was also very popular - k-5, 1 new elementary, either 3 large middle schools or new fourth middle school. We assume the new elementary would be in the corridor. Unfortunately, the elementary schools feeding SEJH will lack about 125 seats by 2020. Same goes for elementary schools feeding NWJH since they will lack 190 seats, also by 2020. NCJH elementary schools would have excess capacity of about 362 seats. We are very concerned about split feeders with a four middle school scenario; We are also equally concerned about 3 huge middle schools.

We've landed at 1500 seat comprehensive high school in the corridor, an addition at NCJH only for 7-8th, one new east side elementary, one new Coralville elementary, and one new NL elementary plus an addition at Penn. Close Hoover and provide field space and parking for City High. Provide for "A" and "B" level criteria at remaining schools. We seem to be undecided about how to handle the C and D level criteria (less critical, AC, other). We can also see giving the schools some more autonomy on deciding what they need but with some reasonable limits and not dollar amounts.

There is a point where a school has reached the end of its life and we need a better way to make that

decision.

We would love to see more operating cost info to really compare scenarios. These are our thoughts, what are yours?

North Corridor Parents

Facebook: North Corridor Parents

Twitter: NCParentsInfo

Lastly...we are thinking of those in the Oklahoma schools, homes and businesses who lost their lives today.

May the angels be caring for those leaving and family members, neighbors and healthcare workers looking after the survivors, keeping them **"Safe and Sound."**

And a little music for the week...one of our high school students picked this one...and the video is worth viewing.

It's called **"Safe and Sound" by Capital Cities.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47dtFZ8CFo8>

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2013 11:40 PM
To: OneVision; council@iowa-city.org
Subject: restoration and renovation of neighborhood schools as Horace Mann

I wish to express my support for the partnership between Iowa City and the school district to revitalize and upgrade neighborhood schools like Horace Mann. We were fortunate that our two daughters (now 14 and 16 years old) got to attend Mann Elementary just after we moved here in 2007. We appreciated the diversity of cultures and backgrounds of the students and their families and the teachers were excellent.

I agree with the comments expressed to the Iowa City Council on 5/14/13 by Liz Maas and Mike Wright in the following synopsis:

"Many of us are here because we know that Horace Mann Elementary School is vital to our neighborhood. It is 1 of only 3 schools located in the central district of Iowa City. Stabilization of the central district is said to be a top priority based on the City's Comprehensive Plan. Aside from the Comprehensive Plan, neighborhood stabilization is also a Strategic Plan priority. We have seen positive changes to the Northside and Goosetown. The restoration of North Market Square has re-energized a play and community space for residents. The UniverCity Program has promoted stabilization and home-ownership. A currently ongoing traffic study will help to mitigate problems and develop traffic calming ideas and conversations. While progress is being made, on-going efforts are needed for our unique area of Iowa City.

I would like to ask the city to begin a conversation with the school district to promote partnerships and joint-use agreements with Horace Mann Elementary. The city could budget for partial funding for a multi-purpose space along with ongoing operational costs. This would be similar to what is happening at Grantwood Elementary as well as elementary schools in Coralville. The space at Horace Mann allows for expansion. Suburban models for building and expanding schools should not be applied to our school. It's an urban school in an urban setting so the mindset for expansion has to be different.

Historical schools have been successfully restored and added onto in other cities such as Kingsley Elementary in Waterloo, Iowa. This is a crucial time in the central district of the city. We are asking that you make a commitment to stabilization and growth in the central district of Iowa City by creating partnerships and dialogue with the Iowa City Community School District. Please be proactive in your approach, Iowa City has too much to lose."

I also agree with the points that John Thomas made recently:

"Regarding Horace Mann's high cost per square foot of facility, we do not know what capital and repair costs have been expended at ICCSD facilities over the past, say, 25 years. I think it is fair to say, however, that the maintenance/capital costs at Mann have been deferred for some time, resulting in the current high cost. Additionally, Horace Mann's compact, urban site (which, by the way, contributed to Mann's low educational adequacy score) has resulted in savings in site development and maintenance costs which are not accounted for in the assessment. Mann has far less parking area than most elementary schools. Wickham, for example, has about 1 1/2 acres of parking, whereas Mann has a fraction of that. Mann also uses North Market Square as part of its outdoor space, and the City of Iowa City just spent about \$350,000 on the renovation, and covers the maintenance costs."

Please support the restoration and renovation of our neighborhood schools as Horace Mann Elementary.

Thank you

[REDACTED]
Iowa City

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2013 9:07 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Horace Mann

Dear board members,

I am a parent with two children at Mann Elementary (3 and 4 grades), and would like to express my strong support for the maintenance of this school, as one of only three located in the central district of Iowa City.

The building may be old, but this school is vibrant. The diverse community of children and teachers are exceptional, as exemplified by its removal twice from the "watch list" related to its performance. The building may be old, but the walls have a soul, they have a character, they have educate thousands of children over its almost 100 years of existence. This building belongs to the landscape of the city, and should be open for business as long as people will live in Iowa City. Upgrades are necessary; using ICCSD funds will demonstrate the long term vision of the board to invest in historical buildings. If Europeans would have taken down every old building that is too expensive to maintain, what would we have left to see?

Maintaining Horace Mann as a school is critical for the maintenance of our Iowa City neighborhoods. Neighborhood school is what make neighborhoods great communities. Neighborhood schools allow children to walk to school, to walk to their friends on the weekend, parents to meet, and together, constitute vibrant communities where people know and trust each others. In some countries, it is the rule that each neighborhood has an elementary school where children can walk to. This is how it should be in a town like Iowa City.

Finally, Horace Mann has a great pool of children and supportive parents that care for their education, as illustrated by perfect attendance by the parents to parent-teacher conferences. We may have 50% of reduced free lunch, but we have 100% of support for our children, which studies have demonstrated, is a critical factor in children's education.

I sincerely hope that you will continue to operate Horace Mann as an elementary school. There is plenty of ways to be creative with the land, in collaboration with the city, as demonstrated by the recent renovation of the North Market Square park. Other ideas could potentially include the Preucil building into a "campus", and the addition of a multi-use building that could be used by the city for local communities activities.

I am proud to send my children to the public school in Iowa City, and hope that the ICCSD will continue to invest in buildings and teachers to provide the best for our children.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Iowa City

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OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 19, 2013 8:48 PM
To: Jeff McGinness; David Dude
Cc: OneVision; Marla Swesey; Karla Cook; Sally Hoelscher; Jeff McGinness; Sarah Swisher
Subject: BLDD Phone Survey
Attachments: IC Patron Parent and Staff survey 011810.pdf

Importance: High

Good Evening Gentlemen,

Are the questions on the BLDD phone survey available for public review yet? I had a call from an irate parent who said that the way many of the questions were worded was "obscene" in that they were leading or qualifying her ability to accurately answer them. She also felt they were clearly worded to produce particular answers in most cases.

I would like to also draw your attention to the last big community survey along these lines for comparison, please see attached.

Please also feel welcome to join the discussion at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SupportIowaCityCommunitySchools/>

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]

"The further a society drifts from the Truth, the more it will hate those that speak it."
--George Orwell

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2013 10:02 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: Rationale for supporting Scenario 1 and a few other comments...

Greetings FMP Steering Committee,

First, thank you for hosting these FMP workshops. I was able to attend Monday morning and enjoyed the dialogue around our table (#2). Unfortunately, I had to leave before all the tables reported on their recommendations.

Second, I'd like to recommend Scenario 1 for strong consideration, based on a number of observations, not necessarily ranked in importance:

- 1) Neighborhood schools (one of the five planning principles cited) would not be closed.
- 2) A much needed northern high school would be provided.
- 3) A natural movement of feeder junior high schools to high school would occur.
- 4) Several new elementary schools would provide options for placement (including an east side location, and potentially reduce political conflict on school placements/locations).
- 5) Other than status quo, it would be the most cost effective option.
- 6) It would keep the junior highs at the current 7-8 set-up and not disrupt our current system of K-6, 7-8, 9-12 and all the things associated with such a transition.

Third, I heard a that one of the issues with Scenario 1 is that it would fall 669 students short of the 2022-23 enrollment projections. Doing some quick math (and assuming equal grade level and geographical distributions of that shortfall), that would be mean that there would be 51 extra students per grade level (K-12). With 22 elementary schools, that means we would have 2 extra students per grade level, or 1 extra student per classroom in most schools. That, at least on the surface, seems negligible to me.

Fourth, it was mentioned at our table that when the district moved Lake Ridge from Hills to Twain a number of those families chose to go out of the district (Highland?), which really hurt Hills numbers. Would you consider moving them back to Hills and how might that make Hills more viable and free other schools up for more students?

Anyway, that's all I've got, and I hope my rationale for Scenario 1 is compelling enough to be considered.

Thanks again for seeking your constituent's input!

Gratefully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
www.GenesisJourney.org
www.BigWhiteHouse.org

[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 10:00 PM
To: Board; OneVision
Subject: Support for Mann Elementary

After attending the community meeting this past Saturday at Park View Church I will attempt to make my points concisely:

1. It would be best if BLDD consultants were not presenting the information at the Visioning Workshops. A neutral person would be better. It feels like a sales pitch to convince us to accept and pay for new school construction.
2. On Monday, May 6th the Facilities Master Planning Steering Committee was asked to look at various scenarios and narrow the scope/make adjustments, etc. By the end of Monday's meeting the Steering Committee gave back to the BLDD consultants 10 scenarios, only two of those scenarios had schools closing - I believe Hoover and Hills (20% of scenarios). BLDD consultants were then supposed to make some revisions based on what the steering committee came up with and present revised scenarios at the three Visioning Workshops. Of the 7 scenarios presented at the Vision Workshops, five had elementary schools closing (approximately 71% of the scenarios). This does not show that the BLDD consultants are listening to the recommendations of the Steering Committee. It seems, instead, there is an agenda to build new schools regardless of what the committee or community suggests.
3. Horace Mann has NOT seen a decline in enrollment. We have been at or near capacity consistently, despite taking away some of our international students when Hawkeye Drive was sent to Borlaug this past school year. Horace Mann is also not a SINA School. In fact, at this time it is not even on the Watch List.
4. We need to stop imposing suburban school models to urban sites. Schools should not receive high educational adequacy ratings because they have large lawns and closet space. There IS room to build an addition onto Mann, especially with the revitalization of North Market Square Park.
5. It is more economical and "green" to restore/update existing schools than it is to close schools and build new. Especially since new schools would most likely involve an increase in busing.
6. Schools require an adequate physical environment. There is no data that shows that any new facility that is believed to be "above adequate" has any additional benefits for students.
7. In 2017 Horace Mann will be 100 years old. It was built to last. I shudder to think what a new school like Borlaug will look like after 100 years if it was given the same attention as Mann. It is time to invest in the infrastructure of the school. If you do, the building will be around for another 100 years.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
parent

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 9:35 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Seven Scenarios feedback

Hi,

I am writing in response to the district's request for feedback regarding the seven potential scenarios discussed by the Facilities Planning committee.

I would strongly support the recommendation of implementing Scenario #5, given the diversity of community needs, growth projections, and need to further long-awaited goals.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
North Liberty, IA 52317

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 9:30 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Plan #5

After reading all the materials on the plans, website, etc, I would like to place my support for plan #5 as it best encompasses the long range outcomes for students in the WHOLE district based on needs and not petty rivalries.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]
West High Graduate

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 5:31 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Schools...

NORTH CORRIDOR/NORTH LIBERTY DESPARATELY NEEDS A HIGH SCHOOL! Thankyou- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 4:33 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: feedback on district proposal

To Whom It May Concern:

I am not able to attend the meetings but have some feedback to share. I clicked on a number of entries on the ICCSD site and could not find the information about the different plans. I would support any plans that will eliminate the use of portable classrooms at the schools. I don't understand how you can discuss security at the school when anyone could walk up to those portable classrooms and cause serious injury without even entering the building. There is no fence around the school grounds at Penn, for example, that would even slow someone down.

I think schools should be built where the needs are. I don't support building schools to encourage development in a certain area of the district.

The cities have no problems giving TIF or other incentives to businesses building in the business districts. If they want to promote residential growth in certain areas, they should provide incentives for that as well.

I strongly support a third high school. Both high schools are overcrowded.

People argue a smaller, third high school would not be able to provide all of the advantages of a larger school, but if you are overcapacity, doesn't that also limit students from educational and extracurricular opportunities?

If there are a smaller number of students, you don't need as many AP courses. If you don't want to support, for example, a swim team at the third high school, maybe consider partnerships with the other two. Fields can be shared.

We need to consider how we spend money on facilities. Is an artificial turf sporting field the best use of funds? I am not even convinced air conditioning would be needed if we didn't start school in the middle of August. If you think schools may move to a more year round offering, then I think it becomes more of a priority.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

North Liberty, IA

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 4:16 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Facilities Management Scenarios
Attachments: ICCSD letter.docx

Please see the attached letter to the Steering Committee. -- [REDACTED]

P.S. Could you tell me where on the ICCSD the survey is located? I have not been able to find it.

May 13, 2013

Dear ICCSD Facilities Management Steering Committee,

I have been unable to attend your meetings to get input from the community due to their inconvenient times. However, I want to share my opinions concerning the various proposals.

First, it seems suspect to me that the firm, BLDD Architects, that is doing the assessment is also the firm hoping to get contracts from the school district. They have much to gain and I cannot believe that their assessment is entirely unbiased.

Secondly, I do not want to see any of the elementary schools closed. These are important features of our neighborhoods that contribute to the quality of life in ways that cannot be measured by BLDD. In addition, the historical value of their architecture cannot be overlooked or cast aside in favor of some firm's "vision" of what makes a "learning environment". I do not believe that such vague terms as BLDD's "Building Integrated Modeling" and "Quantified Learning Environment Outcomes" constitute a recipe for student success. If this were so, districts would only need to follow their magic learning environment formula to have top-rated schools.

Lastly, to be specific, I strongly oppose Scenario 5 (as printed in the Iowa City Press Citizen, Sunday May 12, 2013). It is the absolute worst of the bunch, and tellingly, is the only one that requires the elementary schools to be closed. Naturally this is the one supported by BLDD Architects. In addition I feel that moving 9th graders to junior high would be a mistake (scenario 6); they are mature enough to be in a high school setting. Please choose from among the other five options.

Thank you for your attention.

██████████

Iowa City, IA

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 2:21 PM
To: OneVision; Board
Subject: Support for Horace Mann

Dear Members of the Iowa City Community School District Board and Facilities Master Planning Steering Committee:

I am writing to voice my support for funding infrastructure improvements in existing schools in our Iowa City neighborhoods—and more specifically, in my neighborhood elementary school, Horace Mann.

As you move forward on spending sales tax revenues that were granted by the voters in February, I strongly urge you to invest in existing schools first, before constructing new elementary schools (if and where needed) to handle anticipated growth.

All children deserve equitable learning facilities, and all schools require an adequate physical environment. However, there is no data showing that newer facilities deemed to be "above adequate" have any additional benefits for students.

Horace Mann is a vibrant, diverse, high-quality, community-focused learning environment that has not seen a decline in enrollment. Mann has been at or near capacity consistently, despite the departure of some of Mann's international students when Hawkeye Drive was sent to Borlaug this past school year.

Additionally, Mann is not a SINA school (School in Need of Assistance). It is the historic heart of our Northside neighborhood, and we believe it is deserving of your continued support and investment.

Thank you for your commitment to our community and our children's future.

[REDACTED]
Iowa City, IA 52245
[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 11:05 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: Facilities master planning--Input

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend any public input meetings, so I need to send this to you via email, as I would like to give my opinion on which direction I would like to see our district proceed. I am a parent of 2 school age children. My son is finishing 6th grade and my daughter is finishing 3rd grade at Penn Elementary. I have reviewed the workshop handouts with all of the proposed plans. Here are my preferences listed in order:

Scenario #7
Scenario #4
Scenario #5

Why I like these plans in particular: First, I believe that this community needs another high school. Anyone believing otherwise is sticking their head in the sand. Additions to the current high schools just won't be enough. Where I currently live, there are houses under construction with young families moving in, and there are many more neighborhoods like mine throughout the district. I do NOT want to send my kids to a high school that is so overcrowded that kids have to wait in line just to get into the stairways, eat lunch on the floor, and--God forbid there is a fire--take more than 3 minutes to evacuate the building. This is what is currently happening at West high. I just can't imagine what it will be like for them in a few more years with even more students.

Second, I believe that moving the 6th grade students to the Junior High level is a smart decision. 6th graders are more than ready for a little more responsibility in their lives. They are ready to receive 'letter grades' in their classes. They are much more like 7th and 8th graders in maturity, behavior, and emotion than they are to kindergartners and first graders. The facilities at the elementary schools are not adequate for 6th grade students. (Think bathrooms for menstruating girls.....they are sharing these restrooms with 5-year-olds.) By moving the 6th grade students out of the elementary schools, you immediately free up space for more students, thereby reducing (but not eliminating) the need for additions to the grade schools. Scenario #5 does not include moving the 6th graders to the Jr Highs which is why scenario #5 is my third choice.

I voted in favor of the SILO tax many years ago in hopes that my kids would get some relief from the growing pains of this vast school district. I also voted in favor of the revenue re-purpose statement to get funds now in order to get these projects moving. Unfortunately, my son will not really benefit from any of this, as he has attended an overcrowded elementary school (currently using portable classrooms/crowded lunchroom/crowded hallways and

classrooms), the Junior high he will attend will be just at or just over capacity during the 2 years he is there. And the high school...I've already discussed the current issues, and it will only get worse as more and more students attend while we wait for these new additions and new buildings. IF a new high school is built, my son will never attend it, as it will not open before he graduates. If we hurry, my daughter (remember, she's a third grader now) might be able to attend a new high school when she is a junior or senior. This just won't do for my family, nor for many of the families in our district. My family has important decisions to make in the coming months and years. One of which is whether or not we will send our kids to West high. We are considering not to send them to West. Eventually, something's got to give. And it will NOT be the quality of my children's education.

Thank you for your time,

[REDACTED]

North Liberty resident.

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 9:54 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: Facilities Master Planning

Greetings, Steering Committee.

I had the pleasure of attending the Master Planning Workshop yesterday and wanted to share some thoughts with you regarding the planning process.

After reviewing all the scenarios presented, I feel that there are some easy and some difficult choices ahead for the committee. First the easy ones:

The first priority of any parent when their child attends school is that their student be safe. Currently, we house many students in temporary structures; this is a very unsafe situation in the event of a tornado or – heaven forbid – a situation like that which occurred at Sandy Hook. Two of the scenarios presented (#1 & #3) will not meet projected capacity needs and – for that reason alone – should be rejected.

Scenarios #2, #5, & #7 all have a similar price tag at about \$250M. All three plans have flaws: #2 does not address equity in the district, #5 increases capacity the least, and #7 disrupts the feeder system. Based on Cost-Benefit analysis, however, #5 was given the highest rating for educational adequacy and would give us the best bang for our buck.

That would leave three scenarios on the plate: #4, #5, and #6, with a range of costs from \$218M-\$250M.

I do not know what the best answer is from within those three, but hope my thoughts on the planning will be helpful.

[REDACTED]



Please consider the environment before printing this email

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 9:32 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: Input

My input on the various scenarios:

1. Need 3rd High School
2. Keep 3 Junior High Model (to enable clean feeder systems)
3. If we add a 3rd grade level to a Junior High, I would add grade 6 (less logistical and course selection/availability complexities)

[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 8:37 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: New High School

I currently have a child in the 6th grade in North Liberty. I have been watching and waiting for many years for action to be taken regarding the building of a new high school in the north corridor area. Now we are two years away from my daughter starting high school and West will have more students than ever. I have started having serious conversations with her about possibly going to Solon, from open enrolling there (if still possible) or moving should open enrollment be closed. While initially resistant, she has started to accept that it is a real possibility. I am not a fan of mega schools and believe many students get lost in the mega school environment. I want my daughter to have the opportunities that come with being in a reasonable sized high school, not one that is overcrowded.

Your decisions over the next few months will determine whether we stay in the ICCSD or go up the road to Solon. While I know a new high school couldn't be built in these two years, I hope you will put priority on it instead of delaying it opening until after she would graduate. I think recent capacity numbers show just how necessary a new building is.

Please don't delay the 3rd high school any longer.

[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 10:45 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: A new scenario to consider

Facilities Master Planning Steering Committee,

I attended both the Visioning Workshop and the Facilities Master Planning Workshop and I would like to share an additional idea that I have as a result of attending.

I would ask that you seriously consider evaluating a new scenario with (three) 7th through 12th grade campuses. The campuses could divide the students into grade level groupings of (7-8 and 9-12) or (7-9 and 10-12). One campus could be at the West High location. One campus could be at the City High location and the third campus could be at the North Central Junior High location if there is room.

Using this model you gain efficiencies by having only three secondary education sites instead of the current five and potential six and there will be benefits from having the junior high students closer to the high school facilities that they use for many athletic and musical activities.

As far as the elementary schools are concerned, I heard a strong and recurring theme at the meeting of keeping and supporting the existing neighborhood schools. I would ask that you provide a scenario that meets capacity needs at the elementary level solely through renovation and additions to the existing schools. This could include tearing down an existing school and rebuilding a new school on that same site if necessary. This does not include building a brand new school on a new site.

In summary, I would like the committee to request a scenario that includes:

- Three 7th through 12th grade campuses
- Meeting capacity requirements at the elementary level using only existing elementary sites

I do not support staying with the original plan because it was what we had at the time of the vote. We have more information, feedback and data since then and we should use this knowledge to create the best possible school system we can.

My hope is that the committee and the school board will use bold creativity and courage in their decision-making. If there was ever a time for inspired leadership in ICCSD it is now.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 8:44 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Disappointed Yet Again

To the ICCSD Board:

I appreciate your putting all the RFP proposal information up online. As someone who is busy most every day from 8am to 8pm, it's quite hard to make it to meetings; though I do when I can. However, I was astounded at your support for closing Lincoln Elementary. I grew up in the Park View Terrace neighborhood—spent my first eighteen years in the same house. After the flood in 2008, many families packed up and left; my parents opted to stay. Now my sister walks to Lincoln every day, and has made a few friends along the way, which is nice since there are few kids in our neighborhood. Now you propose shutting down Lincoln as a cost effective option. Aside from destroying a sense of community in the Manville Heights area, let's just ponder why you would entertain the notion of shutting down the TOP PERFORMING elementary school in the district. Sure, it didn't do well in the structural/topographical analysis, which was provided at a premium by a company not even from the community (or the state, for that matter). This is what bothers me about public education; the decisions aren't grounded in assessing performance—teachers get paid on seniority and objectively poor-performing schools remain open. I have yet to hear any Lincoln parents (the people actually affected by your plans) complain about the school, academically or otherwise, from the time I attended through today.

I think this is yet again another chance for the Board to make a commotion about FRL figures—trying to "equalize" the playing field. Why don't you focus on bettering performance in our failing schools instead of punishing the families in the Lincoln community? It gets old after a while—from moving Lincoln to City High and trying to tinker with our socioeconomic enrollment. If you actually want to make a difference, help the people who aren't doing well. We are doing just fine—even though our confiscatory property taxes are paying for out of state consultants, telling us old buildings are old.

[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 6:50 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: School Plans

I have looked through all seven of the school scenarios and was wishing to give some feedback. None of the scenarios I could get behind.

The scenario I think would be best is if a new hs was built, with at least one new grade school maybe two and a few additions onto a few of the grade schools. I could see building onto Shiemk and closing Lincoln, since Lincoln is so small and old. And also to add on to a few of the other schools that may need them.

Penn most certainly should have their new addition.

I do think Hills should remain open and kids should be redistricted into it so it will be fully operational.

At the jr high level I do get confused. I don't understand why NW has so many open seats and then kids from NC are in temps. Why can't some of NC kids be redistricted into NW? At least for the short term? Also, why isn't there a need for a new jr high in IC? If the district is going to build new elementary schools on the eastside wouldn't they need a new jr high at some point? Especially since SE is already overcrowded? Does the district really want a mega jr high on the eastside if they just build onto SE?

Clearly this is based on my opinion and the scant knowledge I know of the ICCSD situation, but I thought I would give some feedback on what I have read.

[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 5:33 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Thoughts in regard to Facilities Planning

To Whom it may concern: Although I am unable to attend the public meetings scheduled for discussion of the Facilities Master Plan, I have been very concerned to follow the reports of these discussions. Today's IC Press-Citizen detailed the various "scenarios" you have prepared for optimizing use of the school facilities. As a parent of 2 children who had their entire K-12 experience through the ICCSD, I do feel a loyalty and connection to this excellent system. Our progress from Hoover Elementary through SEJH and City High was, for the most part, outstanding; my "boys" were very well prepared for their chosen college careers and beyond.

In that light, I do object to the prospect of closing Hoover Elementary School; I cannot understand how closing 4 elementary schools (especially the strongest ones) and building 3 new ones makes fiscal or educational sense. I also strongly oppose the idea presented in several of the "scenarios" that would move 6th-graders to the Junior High Schools. As you are surely aware, some 6th grade students are mature enough to make that transition, but most of them (perhaps especially the boys) are still little kids in their outlook and appearance. I feel that any re-configuration of the grades would work better if it meant moving 9th-graders to the Junior High setting, leaving the K-6 model for elementary and making a 10-12 Senior High. I am also concerned that our Senior High Schools not expand in size to the point where others nationally began to "lose" students, as at Columbine in Colorado; smaller school environments usually serve their students much better.

I hope you will consider my thoughts in your future discussions. I will be looking for reports of your further progress.

Thank you for your attention, [REDACTED]

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OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 4:05 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Go with Scenario 5

Air conditioning, 21st century classrooms, and having space for the kids we will have at the HS level are all important.

Part of being able to “afford” all of this is getting the best deal for your money.

Being efficient with taxpayer money is the right thing for the board and superintendent to do. There is a plan that has been identified as the best both educationally and fiscally; they should pick the plan that the experts say gives “the most educational benefit for the cost.”

OneVision

From: David Dude
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 1:57 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: FW: Mann Site plan developed by community group
Attachments: 05-09-2013.pdf

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2013 2:23 PM
To: David Dude; Stephen Murley
Subject: Mann Site plan developed by community group

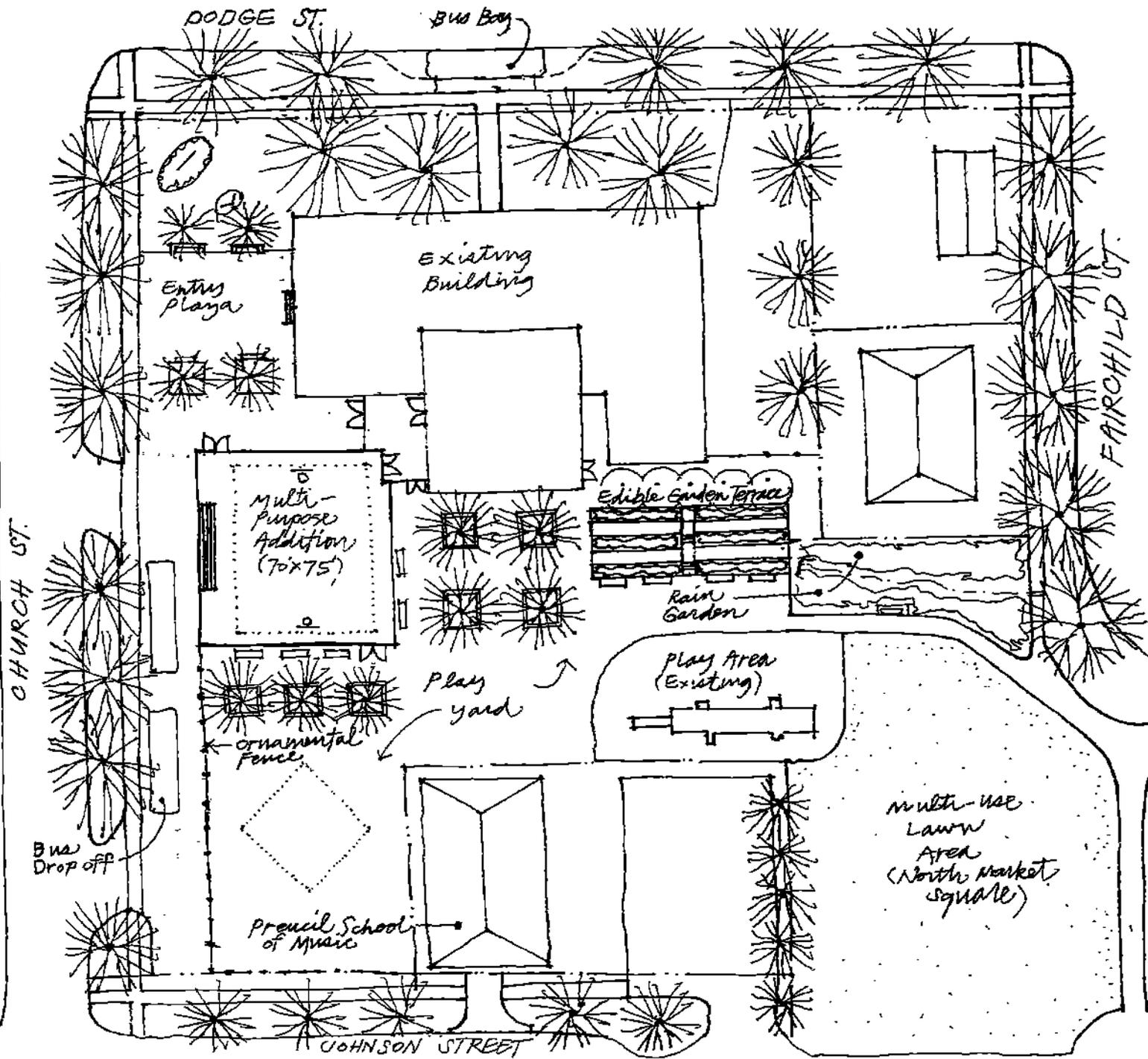
David & Stephen,

Attached is the site plan the community group drew up for Mann.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

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Horace Mann
Elementary

Preliminary
Site Plan

1" = 50'-0"



April 23, 2013

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 1:48 PM
To: OneVision
Subject: Facilities feedback

My high school age daughter, her friends and I attended one of the first set of meetings regarding visioning. We were quite discouraged by the reception the students received from some of those in attendance at the meeting. While the students expressed their sense of priority on engaging, interactive learning that may or may not necessarily be related to the physical plant or available technology, their comments were quickly dismissed by some participants. The students expressed more concern that school sizes stay small enough to be able to build strong connections with teachers and that teachers be trained and supported in facilitating engaged thinking and learning rather than in having to compete over who had the best facilities.

As a parent, I appreciated the forum and the comments of many. However, I was frustrated by some stereotypes and other comments that felt petty and competitive. I happen to live in North Liberty because that is the location that best fit with location to our jobs. However, people at my table stated that people in North Liberty just wanted the "bigger, fancier homes." This kind of comment is silly and distracts from the real challenges. North corridor parents at our table were also told by some that we weren't paying our share of tax money that supports the schools. I have asked for clarification of this from several sources but have not received any. If this statement is not accurate it should not be spread. If it is accurate then we should have the opportunity to address it with our city leaders.

Frankly, I'm embarrassed by the squabbling in our school district. I've heard it said that this is the Iowa City Community School District so more emphasis should be placed on Iowa City. That doesn't in any way express the ideas of community. Coralville, Hills and North Liberty are a part of this district by state mandate not because they are trying to somehow be a drain on Iowas City as I have heard suggested. We are all are responsible for the students and learning. Please look first at providing adequate facilities and addressing overcrowding where it exists in a way that maintains neighborhood schools.

Thank you for your service to our whole community and your planning work. Surely Iowa City, North Liberty, Coralville and Hills can work together for the needs of all of our children.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wX78iKhInsc> Tori Jimmy Riley

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2013 9:36 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: OneVision
Subject: Fwd: Master Plan Scenario Availability

H Adam - I read your article this morning with interest and tried to find out more information about the Master Facilities Plan. Unfortunately, the MFP website isn't very informative and doesn't contain information about any of the scenarios other than the dates of me workshops (which I can't attend). When I attempted to email the address provided on the webpage I just received the standard form response. Do you know where I might be able to view the proposed scenarios? Also, do you have a sense of why the MFP scenarios haven't been made available on the website?

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: May 12, 2013, 8:55:07 AM CDT
To: "OneVision@IowaCitySchools.org" <OneVision@IowaCitySchools.org>
Subject: Master Plan Scenario Availability

Hello - I'm a district resident who is unable to attend the master planning committee workshops on the new building plans due to preexisting conflicts. Where can I view the proposals and submit written comments? I noticed that nothing about the plan except the existence of the workshops is provided on the ICCSD websites.
[REDACTED]

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 11:32 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: may meetings

Just wanted to share that I can't make any of these times . Saturday, I'm decorating for Prom. Monday, I'm at work and Tuesday I have a choir concert to attend. I tried looking at the web site for info regarding the information that would be shared at these workshops but I'm not sure I'm looking in the right place.

In a message from Mr. Bacon he said we would all be affected by purposed changes. I have an elementary student as well as two high school scholars so I am curious what changes are ahead. If you could direct me as to where I can find this info on the site I would appreciate it.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
City High, *The School that Leads*

OneVision

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 8:24 AM
To: OneVision
Subject: Your planning

I just looked at the document regarding the state of the schools in the ICCSD. I certainly hope that the school board is looking at the educational programs and their adequacy. The physical condition of the schools is somewhat important, but fairly minor in comparison to the quality of the educational program. Older schools will always be deficient, almost by definition, as what is a desirable physical condition will vary with time. From everything I know, the educational programs at Mann, Hills, Hoover, and Lincoln are superb. That is the important issue!

[REDACTED]