

Community Café - OJH

2/20/08

Short Term Strengths

- More children would have greater exposure to hands-on learning at the STEM
 - a. Better for some children in the Connect Program
- Working towards desegregation in some schools.
- Better utilization of building infra-structure
- Site-based programs on east side would save money on transportation
- Elimination or cut back of athletics and after school activities preferred over academic cuts
- Strong district with strong schools
- Balances budget
- Changes made across district vs. small geographic areas
- Eliminates small attendance pockets and sends them back to neighborhood schools
- Provides more room at magnet school for students
- Eliminates empty classrooms
- Early childhood opportunities
- Fair Oaks early childhood opportunities
- Some administrative cuts - ~ \$980,000
- In general, more contiguous boundaries
- STEM students get a larger, nicer school
- STEM students get a newer school
- Mathematically it works
- Magnet Program increase for those that favor it
- Reduces a # of "Islands"
- Balancing the budget
- Works toward balancing budget for 2008/09 school year
- Balanced capacity burden across most schools (neighborhood)
- Good start at budget cuts – specifically administrative cuts
- Dean and Steve for asking question
- Lower level students involved with higher level achievers – This is weak @ best!
- Adjusted bell times = less buses = cost savings with limited downside
- None – bad plan for our community-based school district
- Efficiency of administration with cuts
- Possibility of more Pre-K opportunities
- Early Childhood expansion could benefit At-Risk students
- More classes per grade level equals more reading groups and more specialized teaching (at schools where there is only 1-2 classes per grade currently)
- It is only short term
- Addresses some of budget shortfall
- Budget will be balanced

Short Term Weaknesses

- Weaver Lake may remain under capacity and neighboring schools are pushed to capacity
- Special Ed. Children, affected by proposal, will not be with their peers
 - Increase anxiety
 - Increase in regression behavior
- Overall increase anxiety amongst children/parents who have to change schools, especially among the isolated pockets being moved
- Terminology from TeamWorks was deceiving, ("Expand" STEM program)
- Moving the site-based programs will not benefit overall budgets
- Concerns for lost dollars with families looking to place children outside of District 279
- Lack of other options/proposal to review

Short Term Weaknesses

- Secondary schools are not taking on an equal % of cuts
- Program reconfiguration without district dialog / research
- Increased transportation costs
- Communication
- Lack of community input!
- Too many cuts to licensed staff
- Too large class size
- Short-sighted; boundaries will need to be changed next year and the next
- Non-fact based decisions
- Time to implement too quick – displacing ~25% of student population
- Desire to expand non-proven programs; STEM, K-3, and 4-6 model schools
- Will repurposed Weaver be filled to capacity with current Edgewood students?
- Splitting families between 2 elementary schools K-3 and 4-6, parent resources, time, money
- How is Cedar Island going to accommodate up to 5 classrooms of Kindergarten and Pre-K?
- "No" vote committee for future levys
- Closes community schools
- Time frame too short
- Lack of early community involvement
- Only one proposal on the table
- Impact on special needs kids
- High % of displaced students
- Not consistent with districts policies and procedures. Is the only school within cities limits
- Loss of students to outside educational choices, ie.: home school, private, other districts
- Larger class sizes (cutting teachers)
- Children's sense of security → Potential disciplinary issues with reduced staff → disruption of education due to troubled individuals
- Walking distance
- Limited options; limited time
- Uninformed elderly in Osseo
- Quality of education → more truancy, absence, drop in performance for kids and school
- Effects on local business / home values → business closings / increase foreclosure
- Uprooting programs / special needs programs
- Families with elementary age children in multiple grades are being split between 2 different schools
- Dispersing 3 very successful schools
- It will be difficult to get a levy passed next fall with so many people upset by this change
- Cuts are not deep enough for administration
- Not significant enough cuts to staff and administration – 29% increase in staff and administration while student enrollment over past 10 years
- Doesn't address junior and senior high
- Unnecessary impact on so many students
- Doesn't focus on core responsibility of K-12
 - ECFE – doesn't need to expand
 - Magnet – doesn't need to move
- Should have hired consultant to determine how best to cut \$16 million instead of starting with preconceived closing notion
- No other alternatives considered or presented
- Net gain of 2 schools closed – affected 6 schools of kids, financial and real impact on kids
- Due to concentration changes at Oak View / Fair Oaks, 4-6 conversion \$/ADM goes from \$2751/student to \$827/student for a total annual decrease of \$500,000 per year
- Separating siblings K-3 / 4-6 program
- Increasing \$ bussing approximately 30% at Oak View (converting current walkers to bussers)
- Oak View will see a change in attendance of greater than 50% (no continuity for current students or moving students)
- Increase in class size, teacher reduction
- K-3/4-6 model is not proven successful

Short Term Weaknesses

- Magnet is not proven successful
- Displaces families on SW side
- Greater teacher to student ratio. Less one-on-one time with marginal students' time redirected to an influx
- Less one-on-one time with marginal students. Time redirected to an influx of failing students
- Loss of community cohesiveness
- Magnet will cost more to expand
- Lack of health professional at every school at all times
- Passing costs in transportation and extra curricular activities to students is just "stealing" from Peter to pay Paul
- Safety concerns with 2 mile walks!
- TeamWorks plan assumes 40% of Weaver Lake students will stay at STEM. There is no evidence to back this up!
- Lack of accountability for budget planning
- Stop gap measure such as those proposed will most likely cost money to remedy in long range planning rather than save #
- Impact of change on Special Ed.
- Class size increase
- Length of time on busses
- Increased traffic congestion
- Dividing families up between elementary schools when there are separate K-3 and 4-6 (conferences, volunteering, curriculum nights, etc.)
- Negative impact of neighborhood schools → separating kids that have been together (regular ed and special needs)
- Weaver Lake kids are being sent to 3 different schools. Deaf and Hard of Hearing students being moved away from peers
- Class load for teachers!
- Not taking into account future growth of Maple Grove when closing Weaver Lake
- Community priorities do not match the school board priorities!
- Thousands of children will be bussed at a dramatically increased expense
- Adverse affect on academic achievement
- Lack communication and community involvement in planning process
- Lack of creation of multiple scenarios
- Rushed decisions to get immediate approval
- Continued lack of alignment with core values in Strategic Plan
- Bus cuts will force more students to walk
- Class size increase = less personalized attention
- 2 mile radius for junior and senior high
- Quality of education – what are we doing to the academically at-risk students?
- Teacher burn out = not attracting high quality teachers
- Children who have issues with change (autism, Asperger's syndrome) will have a very difficult time adjusting
- Room for KidStop
- Hazardous walk for junior high/ senior high students with no bus under 2 miles
- It is a band aid – too short term
- Splitting families / neighborhoods / communities
- Insecurity for students split up
- Older kids mentoring younger kids won't happen in a K-3, 4-6 school
- Knee jerk reaction – reactive vs. proactive
- Not looking at junior high / senior high boundaries
- Making HUGE decisions in a short time
- Not collaborative
- Volunteerism to ↓ if not neighborhood schools
- Why only 1 proposal? Lack of alternative
- 23% of students will be moved
- Negative impact on student success due to student mobility
- Proposed boundaries will need to be re-evaluated soon with growth of housing in northern Osseo school district.
- Impact on junior and senior high schools (not addressing it)
- Ability to open enroll (unable)

Ideas for Improvement

- Fee-based transportation on sliding scale
- Moving 287 children back into 279 to capture more money
- Cutting more district administrators vs. cutting teachers
- Propose another levy
- School Board look into cost of full inclusionary classrooms instead of Connect (segregated) classrooms
- Staff needs to be part of planning in future
- We don't need to expand non-proven programs
- Cut deeper into administration (share resource managers between schools)
- ALC, OALC, Enrollment Centers need to be absorbed into other buildings to share costs
- Consider other proposals
- Obtain a new marketing plan for another levy
- Work with community to give us time to bring a long term vision
- What is plan B if this doesn't pass?
- Move Fair Oaks students to "7" schools closer to them!!
- Keep other proposals
- Open enrolled students keep open enrolled status
- Combine Weaver Lake with STEM school @ Weaver Lake (the numbers work)
- Reinstate the referendum proposal – clear to consequences and easy for elderly to understand
- Using reserves for short-term to allow voters to react
- Pay cuts in administration (higher up than assistant superintendent)
- Split the district; it's too large
- Make deeper cuts in administration
- Seek the help of the professionals (parents) in the district to analyze budget cut details
- Follow the Strategic Plan
- Let's pursue / study the \$69 million in cuts that are on the savedistrict279 website
- Focus on budget cuts that don't eliminate schools
- Look at budget cuts – senior high
- Why not do straight 7.5% cut across the board
- Since there is capacity across the district, could we consider expanding early childhood across the district rather than closing schools
- Ensure we are charging competitive rates for early childhood to max our revenue here
- Can Weaver staff and students remain, and take in the STEM. The teachers as a combination are the glue that make the school perform.
- Alternate – Use different key interest that are specific. So staff create alternate proposals. One should use _____ other than just plant cost in decisions. What could outcome be if Magnet did not expand, if ECFE was not centralized? What outcome would be if no school closed?
- Transportation/busing
- Year round school
- Carry over funds to the next budget
- Allow those affected by boundary changes to choose what school to go to
- Kids that open enroll should not be grandfathered in to allow for those living nearby to have 1st choice / priority in school attendance
- All communication via electronic delivery. Those without CPUs can opt out.
- Raise user fees for after-hour athletic and other activities to help fund extra-curricular activities
- Need additional information on "Energy Savings" reduction. What is a paid engineering firm doing for us?
- Make small % budget cuts at all schools . i.e., 5 % from \$212,000 budget would help immensely
- Increase fees to raise necessary funding for activities and other non-essential expenses
- Freeze curriculum development for 3 or more years (saves \$1 million)
- Eliminate or charge for extra curricular bussing or that for under 1.5 mile walk to school
- Alternate proposals presented would help to build community trust – only one proposal does not build confidence
- Financial incentives to district employees who find efficiency measures!
- Retain teachers who best promote the district mission, and not loose it on seniority

Ideas for Improvement

- Have we analyzed expenses that have grown rapidly over the years (i.e. bussing, compensation)
- Have a parent board from all schools that can work with the school board on future district wide changes
- For future "Hot Topic" board meetings, consider moving to bigger venue (i.e. high school) so community can be together
- Use current fund balance to buy time to make informed effective decision that will be a win-win scenario for all
- No school closings!
- Smaller dispersion of Fair Oaks students by natural borders
- Better negotiation with teachers unions and bussing companies to reduce expenses
- Re-evaluation of transportation plans , including students living close enough to walk, but are bussed due to streets deemed "dangerous" by prior superintendent
- Let's use the reserve fund this year; keep all the schools open and wait for the levy next year
- Slow the process
- Don't make hasty decisions which affect so many
- Rebuild trust between all stakeholders
- Be consistent among schools with looping or not looping
- Open enrollment option (grandfather clause)
- Emergency levy vote
- Cut ECFE to one year funding vs. 2
- Move towards a paper-less environment (voluntary computer access option)
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Long Term Advantages

- Building magnet programs to draw from other inter-district families and bring in \$
- Consolidate attendance areas
- Best use of space
- More choices for families
- ? – Show us what you know
- Fostered increased community involvement
- None!
- STEM program will pick up more enrollment
- Space and resources will be utilized wisely / efficiently if schools are at capacity
- Respectfully nothing

Long Term Concerns

- Stability regarding proposed plan and meeting future growth of district
- Support for future levies may wane
- Increase class sizes
- Healing wounds – parents, staff
- Families forced to move/make changes
- Helping groups “rebuild” communities
- Mobility of students decreases student achievements
- Traffic on Weaver Lake Road with 20+ buses each day
- Logistics – cost of moving and upgrading facilities
- We already
- Cutting behavioral specialists – how will they deal with students’ needs
- Lack of new students coming into district 279 – low
- Open enrollment
- Proven school is closed, will scores remain high in the district?
- Will STEM school maintain enrollment?
- 3 west side schools at capacity, no room for growth. Do we have to build new school? New levy?
- New levies will NOT be passed
- High school athletics / extra curricular will not have pipeline of students
- Under utilization of buildings due to increased class sizes
- Upkeep of buildings
- Why is there only 1 proposal?
- This is being done behind closed doors (mistrust)
- Why can't we have board meetings in a large space so everyone can be seen!
- Concentrate on K-12 education
- Just because
- Special Education cuts
- Fair Oaks currently has lower class size due to poverty. Can we expect that Oak View will have lower class sizes than the average district elementary school since those students are coming to Oak View?
- Is the district growth in the East or the West? Which is it?
- Why aren't secondary schools absorbing any more of the budget crunch?
- Why are we expanding the STEM school to attract students from outside of the district, when we can't take care of kids in our district?
- Shortfalls of government funding
- Why do we historically spend more than we have, only to offer more, and take it back again?
- Increasing class sizes and reducing number of teachers is not going to save money in the long term, because kids that end up failing will need remedial programs
- Moving STEM across district works against purpose of growing STEM school enrollment
- The long term repair and operating costs of the closed school buildings is not being fairly addressed in the plan
- That a new school in the future result from closing others now
- We are going to lose students to surrounding districts

Long Term Concerns

- The plan only balances the budget for one year
- Key interest #3 was not followed – questionable whether it was “well researched”
- Doesn't address future growth in west and northeast – what if they are young couples, not planning to have kids?
- People are leaving the district – why?
- Do we actually have demand for increasing Magnet or are we “hoping” they will come?
- When integrate Fair Oaks/Oak View, how going to fund future integration needs?
- Are we meeting special needs or we going above and beyond what is required?
- It appears these cuts are being made with the assumption that a future referendum will pass. Not a good assumption.
- Timeline for a well-thought out, purposeful decision is way too short
- Does not take into account the future growth, enrollment trends
- Trust in district leadership has been compromised
- No input from all stakeholders
- Oak View/Fair Oaks 4-6 school will not have staff or \$ to support the change in that schools' makeup
- Loss of sense of community with students attending schools that are not close to home
- With the mobility rate > 30% at Fair Oaks, how will our district benefit from Early Childhood? Also, how much of the Early Childhood would be subsidized? Would it be covered at 100%? If not, we're creating another expense.
- Not addressing the fact that Fair Oaks has failed AYP for 5 years – What is being done to help them succeed?
- Adding further hardship on Fair Oaks' families by moving their 4-6 school further away
- Fair Oaks is currently receiving ½ of the Special Ed funding of Oak Views and Cedar Island (Cedar Island = 19%, Oak View = 22%, Fair Oaks = 9%) indicating that many Fair Oaks children are not getting properly identified.
- Why aren't we seeing more options? Didn't TeamWorks come up with 5 proposals?
- Families with 2nd and 4th grader would have 2 different schools – may be 8 miles away
- Moving too fast!
- What is going to happen with the next budget?
- Lack of health professional at every school at all times
- Cutting staff development will cause quality teachers to go to another district
- Cutting technology spending will cause #279 kids to fall behind the tech curve in this global and tech learning world
- More cars, less bussing will result in additional capital costs and pollution, and is not as time efficient
- Larger class sizes = less quality education!
- Safety concerns with 2 mile walk!
- Additional boundary changes too often
- School Board appears to “rubber stamp” anything that the Administration wants. Pet projects, such as Magnet schools are a “nice to have” not a necessity to the Core K-12 Education Plan. They should send the Administration budget back when the expenses are greater than expected revenues!
- Currently 4,000 students choose other educational choices than ISD 279 that live within the district. Many more will choose to leave if this TeamWorks plan is implemented. This will result in a huge loss of revenue for the district (approximately \$7,000 per student)
- If you do not choose to listen to your voting constituents, you will have trouble passing future levys
- Loss of neighborhood schools will fragment communities and adversely affect the image of the district
- Loosing one of the top employers in Osseo will adversely affect residents, business, etc.
- By having Osseo Elementary; junior high and senior high in same campus needs to be maintained
- See City of Osseo resolution for additional concerns
- Not taking into account future growth of Maple Grove when considering closing Weaver Lake
- Future boundary changes when a new school will be built on land already owned by Gleason Farms
- No one has discussed boundary changes and how they will affect junior high and high school
- Trust has been damaged due to levy questions and how will this affect future levys
- What happens if “plan” does not yield savings as proposed – is there a contingency plan?
- Real estate values – how will those be affected by these boundary changes as well as future junior high and high school changes?
- Long term impact on families having to go to multiple elementary schools across cities, especially those with language barriers – increased cost due to ELL at new site
- Affect of changes on children with special needs when they change schools, lose peers, and new bussing → increased cost due to more paras

Long Term Concerns

- Are cuts in line with district mission or are there alternative cuts?
- Where is financial savings from K-3 and 4-6 schools?
- If this doesn't fix budget long term we will be back here again
- Loss of Osseo Elementary is 13% of city's land and will adversely affect property values and options for surrounding communities
- Lack of junior high sports programs creates more opportunity for student problems
- Increased class size – major issue!
- STEM benefits at expense of core K-6 programming and no proven success has been seen
- Closings and boundary changes will not accommodate growing communities!
- 2 school closings saves \$800,000!! – not any advantage
- Balance budget every year – do not spend so much more than you receive
- Lack of true long-term goals!
- Administration in district up 29% in past ten years with 1% enrollment increase!
- Superintendent raise of \$15,000 in budget crisis? Who is approving this?
- Balance your budget!
- Investing \$3 million recently in Osseo Elementary – now closing to save \$400,000
- No long term planning!
- Less activities for junior high students = more at-risk youth
- Not enough volunteers to make up for the paras that will be lost to keep the programs going
- Junior and senior high boundary issues after this one is settled
- Teacher burn out = not attracting high quality teachers
- Lack of long term planning
- 2 empty buildings – what will happen? Buildings will still need \$ to maintain
- District growth?
- Will we have to build more schools with future shifts / growth?
- \$ for moving / tech / equipment / SmartBoards from Magnet school to new location
- Class sizes – a huge concern
- Not the District of Choice – loss of community support, loss of students to other districts
- Cutting after school programs for junior high very detrimental
- Compensatory funds will be loss in merging Fair Oaks / Cedar / Oak View – less support for high need students
- Funding long term for preparing buildings for new or different programming
- What happens if funding improves / referendums pass – how permanent are these cuts / changes? Can't bring schools back – good teachers will leave the district
- Getting rid of successful and proven programs (schools)
- Too many students on busses
- Proposed boundary changes again with growth of housing in northern Osseo as well as east and west
- Not looking at junior / senior high impact
- Increased class size – less time/student
- Increased crime due to extra-curricular activity cut backs (junior high)

GREAT IDEAS

- Slow down this process to keep your voting public happy and preserve good will and trust. (Otherwise future levys have little chance of passing)
- Let's use the reserve funds this year – keep the schools open and wait for the levy next year
- Create a magnet school in the future on the land in SW Maple Grove and build the best one in the country! Could be 2 buildings with elementary school and magnet but 1 site.
- Increase revenue by charging parents a fee for days their children miss due to vacations
- Magnet schools have not been proven in this district. Do not expand at the expense of proven successful schools.
- Rank what kids need to achieve dreams and contribute to the community. Cut the expenses at the bottom of the list – not the ones at the top like teachers / smaller classes and neighborhood schools.
- Kids need wonderful teachers, not necessarily teachers with a lot of years of service. Teacher compensation should reflect that – more comp to newer, wonderful teachers and not automatic comp for years of service.
- Make the boundary Hwy 610 for Edinbrook and Woodland
- Reward system to encourage district employees to share ideas on cost saving measures – share the ideas with the community so we have confidence in efficiency
- Table the school closings for one year
- Take the funds from the reserve for 1 year and run another levy question next year. Do not close schools.
- Merge our great private sector Early Childhood, (Meap, MN Autism, Lazurud Proj.) with Early Childhood Special Ed we have today
- Wait, review budget cuts from community – get a parent board from all elementary schools to work in a trusting way to solve this with you!
- Revisit boundary changes. We are an island and would like to be with a neighborhood. Idea – open enroll option or send us with Weaver Lake students to Fernbrook.

QUESTIONS

- How will the Magnet school cure the social economic and racial isolation in our district if most Weaver Lake area kids don't go there?
- Why is there such a short time line for such an important and huge undertaking for the budget cut process and school closing / boundary issue?
- It doesn't appear school is actually "listening". It appears to be going through the motions.
- Is the vote on March 5th all or nothing? Can the board amend the proposal such as not close any schools? What is Plan B?
- Cedar Island + Oak View + Fair Oaks – How does the proposal ensure the quality of education for all students is unchanged and assure parents that this is the case? What is the plan?
- Why is it that the staff and administration are making the decisions and School Board acts as a rubber stamp?
- How can the public really provide an alternate proposal without connection and communication with the Board? Help us help you.
- With the building of the hospital and stores in NW Maple Grove – increased drive time, traffic congestion, danger now that Weaver kids bused to Fernbrook?
- Why doesn't the Board direct staff to create alternate proposals?
- Where is your data to base your assumption of where and how kids will move from Edgewood and from Weaver?
- Where is the accountability for poor budgeting?
- Why was there not a district rep sitting at each table? We only had 2 District reps come by our table.
- Does transportation \$ for magnet schools come out of district funds or are they covered by grant?
- What programs do you have in place to deal with problems associated with busing and the changing of schools and to _____ transportation?
- Why have all of these proposals been a closed process without community input?
- Does this plan operate within the deseg rules?
- How does this proposal maintain the current level of education that my child is receiving now?
- How does this proposal, in regards to Cedar Island, Oak View and Fair Oaks, help the school district with its budget problems?
- How do the Fair Oaks and Oak View families feel about the current proposal?
- If Edgewood is closed is there a cost to bring the building up to code to be leased? If so, are we going to recoup at least 100% of all costs?

QUESTIONS

- What is the engineering firm actually doing for their pay?
- Will there be an option to purchase busing if the 2 mile rule goes into effect?
- Was Rice Lake considered for the STEM location? It wasn't mentioned in the discussion by Mr. Pascoe last night.
- How will the Fair Oaks parents be able to get to multiple kids IEPs, etc if they have limited mobility? (cars, etc)
- What is the legislature doing to help with the budget problems?
- If we implement the 1998 budget, with adjustments for inflation and the increase in students, we would have \$50+ million extra funds available. Have we made wise choices with the additional expenses over the past 10 years?
- As an educator or administration, how would you implement plans so that we are ensured the quality of our children's education at the level currently given?
- How does this proposal in regards to Cedar Island, Oak View and Fair Oaks help the school district budget problem?
- Now that the federal grant money for the STEM school has dried up, we can move it. The original charter for the Magnet was to place the school in a racially isolated area. Weaver Lake location will now bring an influx of non-racial students and push the STEM population the other way. Is this morally right? Is it ethical?
- Why destroy top performing school(s) instead of understand why they are successful and replicating it?
- Why can't we slow this down? Human Resources notices are not a good enough reason. Pink slips can be given and revoked. March 5 is not reasonable.
- Why are the cost reductions not shared by the 7-12 students more? Bulk of effects are K-6.
- Why are the site programs and kids with special needs always thought of last? None of the program changes were discussed at the board meeting last night. For example: Any family that has a typical child can look at the proposed boundaries and know where their child will go to school. Families that have kids in a site program cannot and don't know where their child will go to school.
- If your child was to attend the newly proposed Oak View school, how would you feel?
- How does all of this reconfiguration affect our desegregation compliance problems?
- There is a public hearing about school closings so Edgewood is considered a closed school but is not – that makes no sense – Weaver Lake is closing – Edgewood is moving.
- How does this proposal maintain the current level of education that my child is receiving now?
- Does the board have the ability to "line item veto"?
- Transportation savings of \$800K is great. If the same changes (drop, start, dismiss times and the change to 2 mile radius) were made in the current school borders, how much would the cost savings be?
- If your child was to attend the newly proposed Oak View school, how would you feel?
- How does busing Fair Oaks students to Oak View help our current budget?
- Have you considered the impact on families and kids with autism, etc. regarding change and their social network / friends split in multiple schools?
- Why do the Deaf and Hard of Hearing students at Osseo have to not be with their peers? Special Ed goes to Fernbrook and rest of kids go to 2 other schools?!
- District 281's numbers. Have compared to see what our community will look like if this happens?
- Expenses in the past 10 years have far out paced inflation and the increase in students. How can we be more efficient?
- Why does the School Board feel they must accept any budget, plan, etc., administration gives them? Send them back to the drawing board so they stay fiscally responsible.
- How do you think you'll get another levy passed when the people in the west are now furious and will probably vote "no" next time?
- What will the impact be on the current autism children with the new charter school, Lionsgate (autism school in NW)?
- Fiscal responsibility for the last 10 years. Same amount of students in district yet 45% more in funding.
- Will our concerns actually be read by Board members / superintendent or will it be condensed like the survey?
- If TeamWorks proposal is "Plan A" is there a "Plan B and C"? Or is that what we're coming up with? What are other options?
- Where will our kids be going to junior high and high school? We have a right to know → will affect our plans within the district.
- What is the purpose of the Northwest Hennepin Family Center? How does it relate to the Osseo School District K-12 core education focus?
- Why are we not concentrating on K-12 vs implementing Magnet and Early Childhood Family Ed expansion? Why so quick. It seems there is a hidden agenda. Public perception! Take it into account.
- How did we get to this point? Where did you spend the money?
- How will converting school to pre "K" and Magnet school save money?
- What will happen with the next budget?
- Administration to show 4-6 million more options for budget cuts? Leave school alone; develop a plan for ALL students – jr high – sr. high. What are other options?

QUESTIONS

- Have you surveyed or asked how many Weaver / Edgewood children will move? What is your contingency plan if Weaver has lots of open spaces?
- What is plan B if the current proposal doesn't pass?
- If you were to re-submit and propose a new levy 1 year from now would you leave everything as is if it passed?
- Could we please hire a marketing firm that finds more than 1% of population?
- What is the plan for the closed buildings – how can they be repurposed to generate revenue?
- I live 1.6 miles from OJH. Will the district change attendance policies for inclement weather? I don't want my kids walking 20 minutes in rain and cold and dark.
- Why are we passing up 7 other schools closer to Fair Oaks than Oak View (6.8 miles away) and disperse students in those schools – not sending “in mass” to one location?
- What is the exact dollar amount saved from closing schools? Why does this number seem to be hidden?
- Why isn't there a Plan “B” or two proposals to choose from?
- Is this plan trying to directly address racial isolation with the TeamWorks proposal?
- If future growth is expected in the east due to lower housing costs, why is the district closing schools in the east?
- When and what early retirement provisions going to be presented?
- What is the district's long term vision?
- What about cutting busing from the kids from Weaver (south of W. Lake Rd) that are walkers – isn't that a cost savings?
- How will Oak View be given extra support when they are taking in 4-6 graders from two very different schools with different needs? Additional ELL needs? Additional remedial ed?
- How will families be able to meet volunteer needs, curriculum night needs, etc. if they have children at 2 different elementary schools?
- What is the plan to maintain current level of education of Cedar Island and Oak View 4-6 graders?
- Why didn't you have a contingency plan when you knew that even if the levy failed schools would close, etc.? Parents should have been involved.
- How are \$ being saved when multiple buses will be sent to the same neighborhoods as in case of Cedar Island / Oak View and Fair Oaks / Oak View as multiple kids from same family at different schools?
- By increasing the walking distance to 2 miles would save \$500,000, and wouldn't that have neighbors talk to neighbors to car pool, etc.?
- My children can apply to a school that I am paying for. Apply to a public school is wrong. Education is for everyone.
- Why are 70 kids being moved to a different school than the rest of Weaver Lake students to Fernbrook? Because of this teachers / staff of Weaver Lake won't get to follow with their current students. From a parent's view that is very wrong. When other schools have been affected their staff went with them. It's not right for the students or is not in their best interest.
- How can you eradicate an entire elementary school population just to move another population in? Is that move not extremely prejudicial by its very nature? To pick one population over another is wrong.
- Moving the magnet out of a racially segregated area goes against the entire reason to start one in the first place.
- How many schools are you prepared to close because we will not give you any money if we have no neighborhood school?
- What are you going to do with the land in SW Maple Grove?
- Principal assignment announced before involuntary pool #1 – they have to!
- If looking to desegregate, why pick only one school – Fair Oaks to Oak View? Shouldn't this be across district? Isn't this putting too much pressure on one school (Oak View)? Could this be setting up all Cedar Island / Fair Oaks students to fail due to change in school and change in peers? Setting up teachers as well – due more with less?