Capacity Study Public Forum Exit Cards Responses

October 17, 2018

- 1. Edye did a great job moderating!
 - I agree that it feels like the decision has been made since day 1.
 - Barb Nason's comment of "blended together" is a nice way to phrase it.
 - Feels like board members support John's proposal-- "us vs. them" instead of "we're open to your opinions."
 - UID, if repurposed, needs to honor/respect current users (Tac-kwon-do, YMCA, other programs)
 - What are costs to modify UID for other uses?
 - A panel member said "When we come together" not "If we come together"
 - Did 16 students leave UID (go to other school via school choice)? Did some leave for spanish immersion?
 - If there are still issues to talk about, then the vote/decision should be delayed.
- Handicap access for wheelchairs, blind persons at UCS need to be addressed in terms of sidewalks, parking lot, <u>ALL</u> of the bathrooms--the two that can be considered handicapped accessible need updating as well.
 - Safeways to school has <u>not</u> been looked at or considered in this decision. No sidewalks lead to UCS.
 - If UID closes, I will be sending my child to JES.
 - Many exits and egresses will need updating at UCS along with an ADA path (non-gravel) leading to playground.
- 3. Thank you to the board for taking the time to address these questions. I strongly encourage the board to repurpose UID. It is best for kids, taxpayers and for future use of UID. Please vote to repurpose UID. Thanks Anton Kelsey
- 4. My question is with:
 - Safeways to school (my kids bike and walk to school regularly).
 - The money spent on a brand new parking lot.
 - The outdoor access to the River and Mills River Park.
 - The safe, central location of UID (emergency).
 - Why not close UCS? It makes far more sense to close UCS and move students to UID.
 Many UCS students already pass UID on their way to school.

September 24, 2018 Forum

- 1. Best Option: Keep all schools open
 - Educational consideration: Closing ID creates a larger JES and a small UCS. The small school will not be able to offer all the services that the large school can offer.
 - Opportunities for UID: Why not implement these programs in the existing empty space.

- Why UID? Open classrooms are not a problem. Ask parents and teachers. Peter Mitchell. Jericho ID
- 2. Thank you. Go for it--change is good even though hard.

the Board needs to take a stand and move forwards.

September 12, 2018 Forum

- Change <u>is</u> needed. The choice of UCS or UID is up for grabs, but it was clear that <u>one</u> of these buildings should be repurposed.
 Delaying this until Fall 2020 would be very disappointing. Procrastination is not a positive trait, and
- 2. Most of the new development and growth that is happening is happening within walking distance of
- 3. Recommendations

the UID school.

- Keep both UID and UCS open if possible.
- If you have to close one, close UCS. This creates better balance (2 schools same size) eliminates "transition" for students (staying with friends). Peter Mitchell (Jericho, ID)

June 11, 2018 Forum

- 1. I would like to see the ID School repurposed. JES & UCS are fantastic schools! The more resources our schools have, the more opportunities our students have. Good luck!
- 2. Things I hope you keep in mind:
 - 1) TIME in order to really have conversations and make the best decisions for children. I think we need at least one more year of time. Two community forums before making this decision is not enough to hear all the options.
 - 2) LOCATION & STAFFING I am a teacher here at UID and am excited to combine (not separate) our staffs with UCS to make one Underhill Elementary School. Even though I understand that UID is located in Jericho, this location is the center of the community, naturally, even for UCS families that send their kids to BRMS, use Mills River to walk their dogs, visit the library weekly and play sports here. The loss of this campus for families and kids would be silly.
 - 3) BUILDING LAYOUT I can't argue with current studies but I have to say from having worked at 7 elementary schools, 3 in this district, we have explored the cost of knocking down walls at other schools to collaborate, team teach and be less isolated.
- 3. How much of a decrease will be seen for a property owner in Jericho/UID district by this consolidation? How much in renovation costs will need to be done at JES/UCS schools top accommodate? By housing the alternative program and a few more preschools at UID, won't you still need secretarial services, nurse and administrator? Has that been considered? How do you plan to support special ed students from UID when both JES & UCS special education services already have pretty much a full caseload? Its shows a decrease in a special education person on the report. Thank you!
- 4. 1) We have the feeling that the closing has already been decided. We have one school board member. The other board members will obviously vote to cannibalize the ID and reap the benefits.

- 2) What is the point of closing a school that is the size that any sane person would want for their child.
- 3) How much more does it cost to bus students to UCS? They come miles down Rt 15 to the middle school and the drive 5 miles out to UCS. A school with aging infrastructure, expensive oil heat and isolated from all safety and educational benefits.
- 5. Consider the impact of fracturing the UID community and removing a central school as well as the transition of students to new schools -- how it will impact students.
- 6. Suggestions: Before making a decision on what school to close, the Board should consider doing a further study on the elementary schools (possibly comparing with other districts) and look at potential future enrollment as families are and may move into the community.
- 7. Yes, please close a school! The numbers don't lie. Thank you
- 8. The board should: Figure out how to keep all three schools open.
- 9. A great deal of proposals to the board but very little details.
- 10. Thank you for offering this community forum.
 - 1) Please make sure to post all of the different groups' concerns and benefits.
 - 2) Please schedule more meetings before November. Don't rush to make this decision.
 - 3) Please clarify what the plans are for current UID students and staff as there are a lot of different scenarios floating around.
 - 4) Please think about how students are directly impacted. Be honest. This study and ultimate decision are driven by money. That doesn't mean there aren't benefits (and concerns), but it's disingenuous to state that it's not primarily driven by monetary reasons. To say otherwise, sends a message to your audience that you're not being forthright. Thank you.
- 11. Spend the extra money and build this areas as the center of our community. Utilize any free space at BRMS and see if UCS can no longer hold any students. Craig Luce