

## Report of the Board of Education Facilities Technology and Long-Range Planning Standing Committee

### Short Term Recommendations for Facility Needs for 2008-09 Based on Projected Enrollments – April 8, 2008

The Board of Education Facilities, Technology and Long-Range Planning Standing Committee met on March 4, 2008, March 18, 2008 and April 1, 2008 to develop short-term plans to address the enrollment projections at the elementary level. These accommodations are proposed to address the immediate needs for the 2008-09 school year and are not intended to be interpreted as long-term solutions nor precedent setting as a future norm for the development of appropriate educational facilities to accommodate all instructional programs.

1. The following internal room arrangements will be made:

#### **Sherman**

- Moving from 21 to 22 sections in 2008-09;
- Okay for 2008-09 as projected; if more sections are required, either art or music would be on a cart or a co-teaching model with an added intern or paraprofessional in a grade level that may exceed the class size guidelines;
- The principal will decide, in consultation with the central office administration, the grade level that may exceed the class size guidelines and/or the use of dedicated art and/or music rooms to address general purpose facility needs.

#### **Osborn Hill**

- Moving from 24 to 25 sections in 2008-09 with the addition of a fifth kindergarten section;
- Consider voluntary transfers to Burr or McKinley as in #2 below;
- Music will move from a portable to a smaller SPED room with SPED moving into a shared room.

#### **North Stratfield**

- Moving from 24 to 25 sections in 2008-09;
- SPED will be moving to smaller rooms while a grade 5 will use the present SPED room.

#### **Riverfield**

- Moving from 24 to 23 sections in 2008-09 and should be okay.

### **Mill Hill**

- Moving from 22 to 23 sections in 2008-09;
- Band and Strings will move to the stage;
- Room for OT/PT instruction will continue to be a concern.

### **Stratfield**

- Moving from 23 to 25 sections in 2008-09, with the addition of a fifth kindergarten section (103 students);
  - Consider voluntary transfers to Jennings or McKinley as in #3 below;
  - Consider collapsing grade 3 (76 students) and/or grade 4 (78 students) with the addition of a paraprofessional;
  - Consider the use of the dedicated art and/or music rooms for general classroom use;
  - The principal will decide, in consultation with the central office administration, the grade level to be collapsed and/or the use of dedicated art and/or music rooms to address general purpose facility needs.
2. Develop a letter to be sent to all parents of students at Osborn Hill to request voluntary transfer of students with transportation to selected grade levels at McKinley Elementary (all grades K-5) and selected grade levels at Burr Elementary (Grades K-3). Students will be given the option to follow the feeder system of either Osborn Hill or their new school through the high school level. In the event that requests exceed the available spaces, a lottery system will be used.
  3. Develop a letter to be sent to all parents of students at Stratfield to request voluntary transfer of students with transportation to selected grade levels at McKinley Elementary (all grades K-5) and selected grade levels at Jennings Elementary (all grades K-5). Students will be given the option to follow the feeder system of either Stratfield or their new school through the high school level. In the event that requests exceed the available spaces, a lottery system will be used.
  4. In the event that the number of voluntary transfers does not allow the grade levels within a school to maintain the class size guidelines as established by the Board of Education, an additional intern or paraprofessional will be assigned at the discretion of the principal to the grade level exceeding the guidelines.

Approved: 04/08/08