

AGENDA
BOARD OF EDUCATION – MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159
SPECIAL MEETING
Mokena Elementary School
February 23, 2012

Band Room
7:00 p.m.

- I. ROLL CALL**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- IV. OPEN SESSION**
 - A. INFORMATION REPORT**
 - 1. MIS Presentation – Steve Stein
 - 2. StratPlan Presentation- Larry Heidemann
 - 3. Informational Discussion on Buildings and Grounds Facility Usage
 - B. ACTION REQUESTS**
 - 1. Recommendation for the Early Start Program for 2012-2013
 - 2. Recommendation for MES/MIS Building Use
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

INFORMATION REPORTS



Possible Transition from MIS to MES

**“Costs, Advantages, Disadvantages, and
Implications for the Future.”**



Mission Statement

- To provide a quality educational environment in order to prepare students to be confident, life-long learners and productive citizens by challenging them to reach their fullest potential through a collaborative partnership of students, staff, family and community.

My Purpose & Task

- My purpose is to provide members of the Board, the buildings and grounds committee, and the community with data and raise relevant issues with respect to whether or not to keep MIS open, close it, or develop an alternative mixed use option.
- I am not here to provide a decision on the future of MIS. My task is to provide all stakeholders with the opportunity to understand the complexities of building usage.

A Little History

- First building on the current MES/MIS campus was constructed in 1956. This building was known as Willowcrest. Additions were made to this building in 1959 and 1964. Currently this section of MES houses the Kindergarten and Pre-school classes as well as the Volunteer room and South Gym.
- Willowcrest Primary School was constructed, just to the north in 1969. This would include the current second grade classes.
- In 1995 the two Willowcrest schools were joined together to make the building of MES today. The addition added the first and third grade wings, the Commons, the Central Gym, the Learning Center, etc.

A Little History (Part 2)

- During the mid-to-late 1990's, District 159 experienced a tremendous amount of student growth.
- During the 2000-2001 school year MES housed 1515 students in grades K-5.
- In August 2001 the new Mokena Junior High was opened on Kirkstone and the "old" junior high became MIS to house grades 4 and 5.

District Reduction of Staff

- Staff whether certified or non-certified is a school district's biggest expense.

Five Year Summary of Mokena School District Employees

	2006-2007				2007-2008				2008-2009				2009-2010				2010-2011				2011-2012				Difference from Peak to Present and % change								
Department	MES	MIS	MJH	DO	Total	MES	MIS	MJH	DO	Total	MES	MIS	MJH	DO	Total	MES	MIS	MJH	DO	Total	MES	MIS	MJH	DO	Total								
Teachers	55	29	40		124	53	28	40		121	50	25	40		115	49	25	36		110	38	23	35		96	36	21	33	90	-34	-27%		
Psychologists					0	1		1		2	1		1		2	1	1			2	2				2	2			2				
Social Worker		1	1		2		1	1		2		1	1		2		1	1		2		1	1		2		1	1	2				
Health Services	1	1	1		3	1	1	1		3	1	1	1		3	1	1	1		3	1	1	1		3	1		1	2		-1	-33%	
Office Staff	5	4	4	7	20	6	4	4	7	21	6	3	4	8	21	6	3	4	9	22	4	2	3	6	15	3	2	3	6	14	-8	-36%	
Aides	18	6	6		30	19	6	6		31	17	7	6		30	17	6	6		29	16	8	5		29	13	6	4	23		-8	-26%	
Operations/Maintenance & Director	12	5	7		24	13	5	7		25	13	5	7		25	13	5	7		25	12	4	7		23	13	3	7	23		-2	-8%	
Transportation & Director	19				19	18				18	19				19	19				19	15				15	14			14		-5	-26%	
Food Service & Director	11	6	7		24	11	6	7		24	9	6	8		23	8	6	8		22	18		3		21	18		3	21		-3	-13%	
Administrators	2.5	3	3	3.5	12	2.5	3	3	3.5	12	2.5	2	2	4.5	11	2	2	2	4	10	2	2	2	4	10	2	1	2	5	10		-2	-17%
ELL Teacher	1				1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			1				
Technology Department			2		2			2		2			2		2			2		2			2		2			2	2				
Totals	125	55	69	13	261	126	54	70	13	262	120	50	70	15	254	117	50	65	15	247	109	41	57	12	219	103	34	54	13	204	-58	-22%	

Reductions in Revenues

- General State Aid (GSA)- Our GSA has been decreased dramatically.

GSA received in FY 08 \$3,333,224

GSA received in FY 09 \$2,525,738

GSA received in FY 10 \$1,924,029

GSA received in FY 11 \$984,982

GSA received in FY 12 \$921,571

- Catagoricals (listed in \$ actually received from the state)

- *Transportation* FY 10 \$561,426 FY 11 \$368,784

- *Pre-K* FY 11 \$77,352 FY 12 \$0

- *Reading Improvement* FY 10 \$69,455 FY 11 \$0

- Decrease in investments

Current Student Demographics

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. Students</u>	<u>Sections</u>
• Early Start	41	1 (a.m.)/1 (p.m.)
• Kindergarten	135	3 (a.m.)/3 (p.m.)
• First	154	6
• Second	189	7
• Third	187	7
• Fourth	185	7
• Fifth	208	7
• Sixth	230	
• Seventh	221	
• <u>Eighth</u>	<u>240</u>	
• <i>Total</i>	<i>1790</i>	

Past Student Demographics

<u>Year</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
• 2000-2001	2215
• 2001-2002	2311
• 2002-2003	2337
• 2003-2004	2304
• 2004-2005	2322
• 2005-2006	2272
• 2006-2007	2199
• 2007-2008	2125
• 2008-2009	2081
• 2009-2010	2003*
• 2010-2011	1962

*Note that the 2009-2010 school year was the last year the district offered full-day Kindergarten.

What Happened to our Student Numbers?

- In 2004 the district hired Ehlers and Associates to conduct a ten year enrollment study.
- From pg. 22 “Because residential construction activity is slowing significantly, the district is expected to experience a stabilizing or leveling off of annual enrollment during the next five to ten years. Enrollment is expected to range between 2,275 and 2,375 during this ten year period.”
- “Enrollment projections indicate that there will be little to no adverse effect on the District’s ability to maintain current staffing ratios and class sizes.”

What Happened to our Student Numbers?

- People move to District 159 because of the schools and stay. During our high growth phase of the mid-to-late 90's, people moved into newly developed subdivisions. We have graduated eighth grade classes of 300 and filled in with Kdg. classes of 200 and now 130.
- We are pretty much 'built-out' in terms of single home capacity.
- The economy is not allowing people who no longer have children in the system to move or allowing young families with children to move in.

What are the options?

1) Mixed-usage at MES

- 1) Leave MIS open and functioning as a grade 4/5 building

2) Mixed-usage at MIS

- 1) Continue to have some school district presence, i.e., offices, storage, one grade level
- 2) Lease remaining part of the building

3) Close MIS

- 1) Lease the entire building

Option I-Mixed Usage at MES

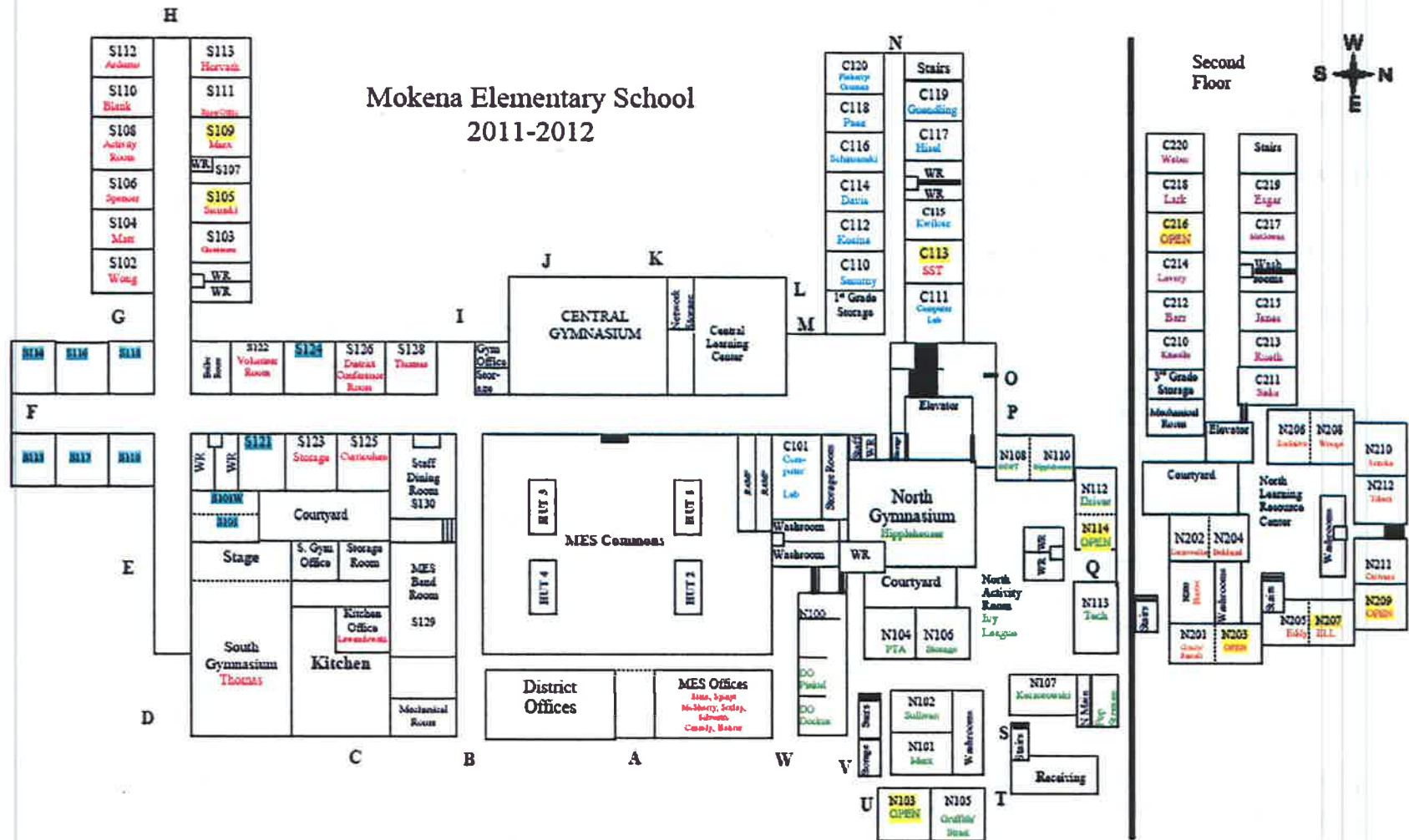
Issues

- Expense at MIS of:
 - Utilities \$86,547.08 (10-11 school yr.)
 - Maintenance \$52,000 (10-11 school yr.)
- Forecasted student population decrease
 - My estimate is that the district will see a net student decrease of 79 for the 12-13 school year.

Benefits

- May be able to not replace a retiring teacher (approx. \$45,000)
- Reduction of one administrator (approx. \$30,000)
- MIS has a unique culture and climate
- Continue team teaching concept
- Science lab and library provide the needed space for class projects and research
- Continue with current Rtl model
- Purpose is to maximize our space regardless of which building
 - MES has more open rooms than MIS
- Least disruptive
- Able to offset district expenses for maintenance and utilities (TBD)
- MES has additional office space at south end of building
- No transportation change
- Potential rental income (TBD)

ITEM	QTY
F	
ITEM	QTY



Option 2-Mixed Usage at MIS

Issues

- Potentially need a new computer lab at MES (approx.\$30,000)
- Transportation-based on the configuration, could require additional buses
- Safety and security-may need to physically separate the building-(approx. \$100,000)
- Depending on the configuration, this could create restrictions to bring back programs, including but not limited to, lowering class size and full-day Kindergarten
- Staffing the building administratively, having any configuration of students present will require an administrative presence
- Move technology (approx. \$8,000)
- Updating MES classrooms for technology that all current 4th/5th grade rooms have currently (approx. \$3,000)
- Moving the classroom furniture, packing rooms, and moving (approx. \$28,500)

Benefits

- May be able to not replace a retiring teacher (approx. \$45,000)
- Reduction of one administrator (approx. \$ 30,000)
- Potential rental income (TBD)
- Provides flexibility to reduce class size
- Able to offset district expenses for maintenance and utilities (TBD)

Option 3-Close MIS

Issues

- Possible Life-Safety Code Issues (approx. \$425,000)
- How should MES be organized?
 - One building K-5
 - Would need 3 additional buses to do this. (approx. \$87,000/yr)
 - Issues with traffic flow
 - Building within a building (a split building on separate schedules)
 - Causes issues with building climate and staff.
 - Issues for professional development and meetings.
 - Would need to transfer most of the current personnel
- Creates restrictions to bring back programs including but not limited to, lowering class size and full-day Kindergarten.
- Move technology (approx. \$8,000)
- Additional computer lab at MES (approx. \$30,000)
- Moving the classroom furniture, packing rooms, and moving (approx. \$28,500)

Issues

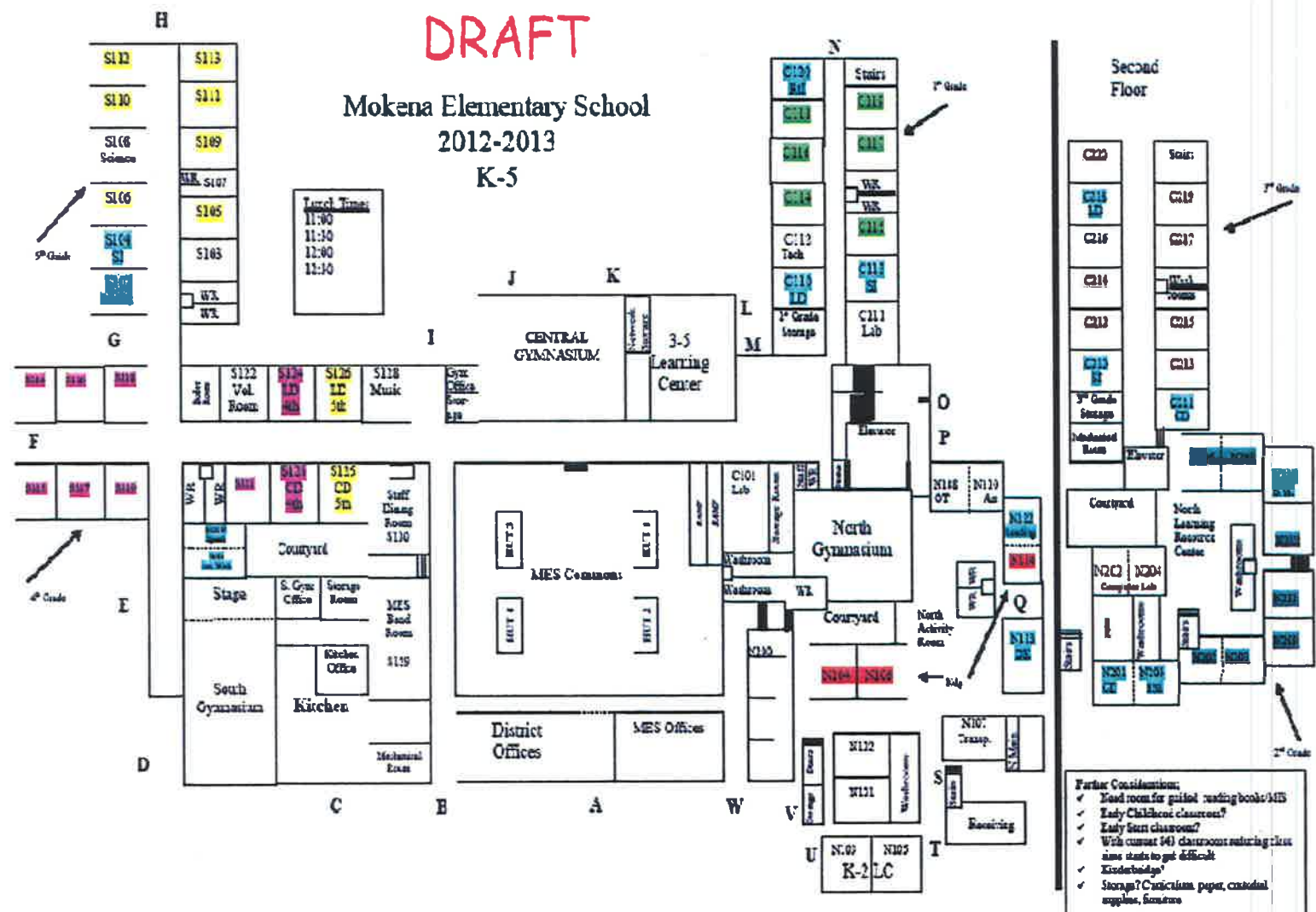
- Kinderbridge
- PE sections for grades 1-5
- Updating MES classrooms for technology that all current 4th/5th grade rooms have currently (approx. \$3,000)
- Maintaining the benefit of the Rtl walk-to model (P.E. staff would not be able to assist)
- Maintaining the benefit of a team teaching schedule
- Reducing Class Sizes will have an impact on the following:
 - Full-day Kindergarten
 - Early Start
 - Early Childhood (843)
 - Developmental Kindergarten (843)
 - Communication Development (843)

Option 3-Close MIS (con't.)

Benefits

- Utilities would be less.
 - From July 2010-June 2011 total utility cost was \$86,547.08
- Maintenance costs would be less
 - From July 2010-June 2011 total utility cost was \$52,000
- Cannot reduce utility and maintenance costs to zero. But they could be substantially lowered if the building is closed or leased
- May be able to reduce a couple more staff (approx. \$34,000)
- Would be able to staff MES with one principal and two assistants
- May be able to not replace a retiring teacher (approx. \$45,000)
- Reduction of one administrator (approx. \$30,000)
- Potential rental income (TBD)
- All students K-5 in one building (if those grades are on one time)

What might MES look like w/Grades 4/5



ACTION REQUESTS



MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159

ACTION REQUEST

Date: February 23, 2012

To: Board of Education
Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent

From: Dr. Charles J. Vitton, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Re: Early Start Program

The Board Curriculum Committee has spent considerable time researching the complexities of the Early Start Program for at-risk preschoolers in District 159. Information presented at the February 9th meeting of the Board was an attempt to provide all relevant information related to the at-risk preschool program. At this time, the Board of Education needs to decide the fate of the Early Start program for the 2012-2013 school year so that staffing decisions may be made and parents can make appropriate arrangements for preschool for next school year.

Either of the two motions below would be appropriate:

"I move that Mokena School District 159 continue to offer the Early Start program for at-risk preschoolers in the district."

OR

"I move that Mokena School District 159 discontinue to offer the Early Start program for at-risk preschoolers in the district."

Moved By: _____

Seconded By: _____



MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159

INFORMATION REPORT

Date: January 30, 2012

To: Board of Education

From: Steve Stein, Superintendent

RE: Building usage at MIS and MES

Based on the study and recommendation of the Build-Grounds and Transportation Committee, I am seeking Board approval to keep MIS open as a 4th and 5th grade building.

The other consideration the committee recommended was to seek a schooling-entity to lease space at MES to help offset some of the district's expenses.

If this recommendation meets with Board approval, the following motion would be appropriate:

Recommended Motion:

"Move to retain Mokena Intermediate School as a grade 4-5 building for the 2012-2013 school year and engage in leasing negotiations for classrooms at Mokena Elementary School."

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____
(Roll Call vote)