

# Academic Advisory/ Operations & Logistics Committee Update

Board of Education Report  
November 18, 2019



# Committee Members



- Jaym Abraham, DLMS
- Kristin Buzalski, Paris Ridge Teacher
- Amyellen DeBusscher, KMMS Teacher
- Gary Delger, Dir. of Operations
- Wendy Dubuisson, Special Programs Director
- Jeremy Geerdes - Emmons Lake Teacher
- Chad Gorton, DLMS Teacher
- Katie Grant, KMMS Teacher
- Tonya Heaton, KMMS Teacher
- Kelly LaCroix, Kettle Lake Teacher
- Joe Lienesch, CHS Principal
- Lynn Lidstone, Caledonia El. Teacher
- Darrell Kingsbury, Asst. Superintendent
- Nick Slot, Dutton Teacher
- Jessica Smith, KMMS Teacher
- Becky Sowerby, KMMS Teacher
- Angie Stauffer, CHS Teacher
- Janel Switzer, Curriculum Director
- Josh Traughber, Caledonia El. Principal
- Steve Uyl, KMMS Principal
- Kris Vydareny, Paris Ridge Principal
- Brenda Watkins, KMMS Teacher
- Brenda Witteveen, Dir. of Transportation
- Laura Witvoet - Kettle Lake Teacher

# Academic Advisory Process



- The Academic Advisory Committee met every other week in September, October and November.
- The Administrative representatives met bi-weekly in addition to the committee meetings.
- Committee meetings focused on topics including best practice for middle education, instructional models, building maps and configuration, and schedules.

# This We Believe

## Keys to Educating Young Adolescents



Association for  
Middle Level Education

### Successful Schools for Young Adolescents

### Essential Attributes

An education for young adolescents must be

#### Developmentally Responsive

using the nature of young adolescents as the foundation on which all decisions are made.

#### Challenging

recognizing that every student can learn and everyone is held to high expectations.

#### Empowering

providing all students with the knowledge and skills they need to take control of their lives.

#### Equitable

advocating for every student's right to learn and providing challenging and relevant learning opportunities.

### 16 Characteristics

#### Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Educators value young adolescents and are prepared.

Students and teachers are engaged in active, purposeful learning.

Curriculum is challenging, exploratory, integrative, and relevant.

Educators use multiple learning and teaching strategies.

Varied and ongoing assessments advance learning.

*Varied Assessment*

#### Leadership and Organization

A shared vision developed by all stakeholders.

*Shared Vision*

Leaders are committed to and knowledgeable about educational research, and best practices.

Leaders demonstrate courage and collaboration.

*Collaborative & Courageous Leadership*

Ongoing professional development reflects current research and best practices.

*Professional Development*

Organizational structures foster purpose and meaningful relationships.

*Organization*

#### Culture and Community

The school environment is inviting, safe, and supportive.

*School Environment*

Every student's academic and personal development is supported

by an adult advocate.

*Adult Advocate*

Comprehensive guidance and support services meet the needs of all students.

*Guidance Services*

Health and wellness are supported in curricula, school-wide programs, and community.

*Health & Wellness*

The school actively involves families in the education of their children.

The school includes community and business partners.

*Community & Business*

This chart is based on *This We Believe: Keys to Educating Young Adolescents* (AMLE/NMSA, 2010). For more information, visit [www.aml.org](http://www.aml.org).

“16 Characteristics of Successful Schools”

Association of Middle Level Education

# Building Reconfiguration



## **All Elementary Buildings: Kindergarten- 4th grade**

- Allows immediate space for future growth at the elementary level

## **Kraft Meadows: 5th- 6th grade**

- Less movement for the younger learner (smaller physical size)
- Pod configuration ideal learning communities

## **Duncan Lake: 7th- 8th grade**

- Former High School with amenities for increased extra curricular offerings
- Performing Arts Center, Athletics, Two Gymnasiums, Full Weight Room, Cafeteria Size

# Middle Education Schedules



## Start and End Times

- 5th -6th grades: Secondary Start & End Time
- 7th -8th grades: Secondary Start & End Time

## Individual Building Schedules

- Building teams will be formed to determine daily schedules
- District content department teams will provide input (Music offerings, World Languages, etc.)
- Sample schedules from districts currently using the 5-6, 7-8 model have been gathered as resources

# Timeline for Implementation



## **Considerations for Implementation in 2020-2021**

- Pros: Creates immediate space in elementary buildings  
5-6 & 7-8 students and staff are together in buildings
- Cons: Short time frame for planning and communication  
Limited space and reconfiguring space in Duncan Lake (754 Students)

## **Considerations for Implementation in 2021-2022**

- Pros: Allows for 18 months of planning (Teachers, curriculum, programs)  
Duncan Lake “bubble” enrollment reduces
- Cons: Pushes the transition one more year  
Potential loss of momentum for the plan

# Staffing Plan



## Placement Considerations:

- Teacher certification and endorsement
- Teacher preference
- Course offerings



# Next Steps



- Identify construction needs and impact on possible bond
- Define staff assignments through district process
- Identify transportation plan for all students Young Fives - 8th grade
- Communication plan for parents, students, community and staff
- Develop building leadership teams
- Develop daily schedules including plans for electives
- Develop Special Education service delivery plan
- Develop an intervention plan
- Define moving plan for furniture and equipment
- Transition Plan for all, including 4th grade