

WWG Alternatives : Comments and Questions? 3/17/06

	A	B	C	D
1	===== ALTERNATIVE ONE: STATUS QUO PLUS =====			
2	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
3	stable -kids are comfortable.	teacher overloads	by what measure?	
4	Smaller class size. Consider three kindergartens with one a "Junior kinder" or pre K in am and a pre K in afternoon with young 5 year olds		smaller than what? Is there a target "size" or do other factors such as behavior, ELL and skills need to be considered too. Does research show long term benefits to retention or early intervention?	STAFFING
5	Less pull out		Assumes more aide in classroom or less need or easier to handle?	RESEARCH SUPPORT?
6	Increase certified		Cost of certified teachers vs paraprofessional help. What about retention of and support for good para help?	STAFFING
7	Easiest Public Acceptance		Check Survey Data. Are perceptions accurate and do we need to do a better job of informing people. So are we going for convenience or better education?	POLITICAL ACCEPTANCE
8		We will be back again - ah the treadmill!	Back again because we haven't what? solved the numbers game? Planned for the future population decline? Resolved staff frustration with other staff and the difficulty of increasing diverse and mobile student population	VISION
9	NO extra Cost	What about high school elective options reduced to cover required classes for more students. Space crunch - 7 teachers currently share spaces or teach outside their classrooms in WB	What about high school staff with overloads and moving middle school people over to pick up the slack without room space for the equivalent of one more section in the high school?	FACILITY & STAFFING
10		Didn't like it. The eternal but useful question: Why are we hear?	Look at the vision for students: Academic Improvement / Reduction of staff stress / balancing loads in elementary and overload in classroom in high school	VISION & ACADEMIC & SOCIAL
11		Elementary students bussed to Westbrook are isolated	isolated from ? culture? parents? ELL support? Other ways to balance?	TRANSPORTATION & BALANCE
12		Test Scores	What is the question?	INSTRUCTION AT.
13		harder to pool resources - are computer labs fully utilized? In WB used as classrooms so can not always be used as labs	What significant resources are not already duplicated? Was it at great cost? Or is it the pool of talent that would benefit from mingling?	STAFFING & RESOURCES

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14	===== ALTERNATIVE ONE: STATUS QUO PLUS =====			
15	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
16	Programs in place for nursing home / Big Brother-sister / Student cadets		Can programs travel? How do they fit with overall mission? Are there any good alternatives?	PROGRAMS
17	Economically successful		Check the budget.	BUDGET
18		Is it possible to offer a Magnet program with the block schedule - negative impact on the arts	What is the "Program?" and what are the estimated numbers?	FACILITY & SCHEDULE
19	Build on existing ELL program. Also need to teach basic English and math at high school. Expand program for others who are struggling		Describe the ELL program we want to have in three years. Is there are location or configuration it does not work in? What is happening along the way that students are having a difficult time retaining this knowledge	RESEARCH & INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES
20		Lack of diversity in population at elementary	Value of diversity. Use sharing activities between schools to increase awareness and familiarity	RESEARCH
21	=== ALTERNATIVE TWO: ONE TRANSITION ===			
22	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
23		Increase in bussing costs as well as amount of time for some students on the busses at an earlier age. Add two shuttles. Add bus supervision? Loss of class time due to bussing	How does time and route and shuttle and after school routes change/ Impact on breakfast program and loss of students? / How many impacted by buss time and on shuttle.	TRANSPORTATION & Scheduling
24		Loss of class time	How much is "lost" now to travel and eating	SCHEDULE & TRANSPORTATION
25		Stress on building - need more lockers - and how about PE and Kitchen space	PE and ART and Music spaces as well as storage? Increase in custodial and food service? What concrete things will actually change?	FACILITY
26	Good Communication between staff in a 2 section program. Less isolation.		Will communication happen if it is not specifically scheduled and directed? Mixed reading and math? Division of Instruction? Multiage possibilities?	STAFF RENEWAL & INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

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27	=== ALTERNATIVE TWO: ONE TRANSITION ===			
28	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
29	ELL Emphasis in a pull out program & Sharing ELL people. Earlier integration and cultural diversity.		How many will qualify? Tie in with Chapter? Certified Instructors or incentives to get the certifications. Effectiveness after grade four? How is this sharing different than the current plan?	STAFFING & RESEARCH SUPPORT
30		More Difficult to get public acceptance. Long time in one town. Unequal numbers	Check survey data. How many K-4 are impacted by transportation. What is their ride time? How can it be shortened? Long for whom?	TRANSPORTATION & POLITICAL ACCEPTANCE
31	Room is Available and it frees up space in the High School	Renovations - bathrooms? Computer labs? private valet parking.	Tight Squeeze. What are actual costs associated with a move? lockers? Lunch room? Storage facilities	FACILITY
32	More of an elementary atmosphere. Can group students differently with two sections in K-4. Can benefit from specialization	Less Big Kid - little kid interaction	Clarify?	RESEARCH & INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES
33	One transition		Does the value as presented in research balance the bussing and squeeze into new space?	RESEARCH
34	Grade 5 Self contained with blocks of time. Not ready for move to middle school.		What does the research say? Do 5th graders have more, less or the same number of different people as other grades?	RESEARCH
35	6-8 extracurricular if eligible		How different than current	PROGRAMS
36	Meet more student needs		How different than current program? Which student need?	INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY
37	Share resources		What significant resources are not already duplicated? Was it at great cost? Or is it the pool of talent that would benefit from mingling?	
38		Administrative, medical and counseling needs unbalanced	Need shift in responsibilities or time allocations or location	STAFFING
39		Loss of Programs in place for nursing home / Big Brother-sister/ grade 4 play/ stamp club / Student cadets	Can programs travel? How do they fit with overall mission? Are there any good alternatives?	PROGRAMS
40		Getting coaching staff back to WB for athletics		STAFFING

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4 1	== ALTERNATIVE THREE: TWO TRANSITIONS ==			
4 2	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
4 3		More Difficult to get public acceptance. Will we lose kids	Check survey data. How many K -4 are impacted by transportation. What is their ride time? How can it be shortened? EC	TRANSPORTATION & POLITICAL ACCEPTANCE
4 4	a lot like second option	a lot like second option	Why was it suggested? Balance in numbers ? Political pleaser for younger students?	
4 5	Take the 8th grade - please		A pleas for help or is this a better shift point for transition? Research says...	RESEARCH
4 6		Bussing from WG for pre K and K	time on bus. Parent concerns? The other way is OK? What are the numbers?	TRANSPORTATION & POLITICAL
4 7		Isolation of Kindergarten and specialists in music, art, Spanish, PE?	More travel time for faculty? Scheduling more difficult? Consultation with other staff?	RESEARCH
4 8		Who will the kindergarten look up to?	Just about everybody. They are short! Do they hook up a lot with grade one students?	RESEARCH & FACILITY
4 9		Where do we put twenty new elementary students in this or option two?	What is the class size we are shooting for?	RESEARCH
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56	===== OTHER SUGGESTIONS =====			
57	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
58			5-8 Advisement? Isn't it an option that can be implemented no matter what grade configuration exists	RESEARCH * FACULTY TIME
59			Why haven't High School been asked how they feel - Check surveys and note participation in public meetings?	
60	balance numbers / others do it	bussing /	K-6 / 7-12 Why was it removed fro the mix	Research
61			7 and 8 on 7 period day	Use of time
62			Connections are made between parents in the 4 - years students are together.	
63		And what about a gifted and talented program?	Define the program so that all who are gifted can be a part of it.	RESEARCH & STAFFING
64		Would we ever reject an open enrollments dues to large numbers?	School Board question	BUDGET
65	Daily Physical Exercise for all		Brain gym and daily reminder. Does not take the place of PE	PROGRAM
66	DEAR Time		Emphasis on reading for everyone once a week for ten minutes	PROGRAM
67	Year Round School	Year Round School		SCHEDULE
68	JMC Grade online in Middle School			
69	Year Round school And Extended day Programs			PROGRAM
70			Staff Renewal by focussing on sharing of student work	STAFF DEVELOPME NT

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71	===== OTHER SUGGESTIONS =====			
72	Advantages	Concerns	Questions	AREA
73		ELL and paras fluctuate year to years	Incentives for paras to become teachers if interested	STAFFING
74		Appropriate placement of Paraprofessionals	What are the criteria for assigning a para to a room	STAFFING
75	Create an online academy for selected courses			PROGRAM
76		HOW is changing our structure addressing the desire to improves the achievement level of students	HOW is changing our structure addressing the desire to improves the achievement level of students	?
77	7 period days in middle school		Why 7 - why not 4 or 6. What was the purpose of going to eight and what did it achieve and why now to seven	RESEARCH
78	Strong Core Curriculum across all the grades		Define CORE curriculum. NCLB? WWG? MDE?	RESEARCH
79		Staff cuts or reductions or adjustments. If paras are reduced, some coaching positions may be lost.	FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: IF we add what do we take out,	BUDGET
80			How do we divide kids up	RESEARCH * FACILITY
81			SPRING Conferences later in the quarter and avoid activities during that time	CALENDAR
82			More research on block and skinny and modified	SCHEDULE