

To: Dr. Ken Graham, Superintendent  
Rush-Henrietta Central School District Board of Education  
From: Instructional Space Committee 2012-2013  
Re: 2012-2013 Classroom Space Recommendations  
Date: February 1, 2013

On Thursday, January 31, a special meeting of the Space Committee was held. The purpose of the meeting was to process and synthesize input from building PTO groups regarding eight space considerations to solve space crunches in two buildings, allow for class size to remain small, and to allow for elementary programming changes, such as full-day kindergarten, to be considered. The results are below.

**1. Add rooms to each elementary school. (Note: multiple small additions are more expensive than a single large addition; redistricting may be required.)**

Comments:

- Costly but comfortable because all buildings stay as is
- Can Leary stand further additions?
- How big can schools get?
- Not all buildings need space
- Will this work long term?

13 Votes:

- Yellow – 8
- Green – 3
- Red – 2

Overall Response: MAYBE

**2. Add rooms to one or two elementary schools. (Note: more cost effective from a construction perspective; one or two schools will be significantly larger than others; redistricting will be required.)**

Comments:

- More cost effective; additions only going to building where needed
- How many rooms is enough? Can we answer that?
- Can we guarantee the future being okay this way? Or will we go back again in 5 years?

11 Votes:

- Yellow – 7
- Green – 3
- Red – 1

Overall Response: MAYBE

**3. Convert Vollmer to a sixth elementary school and redistrict to balance enrollment. (Note: How would current space use at Vollmer be accommodated? The annual operating costs for a sixth school will be significant; fewer sections at each grade at each school will increase annual operating costs.)**

Comments:

- Ideal location to Riverton building
- Even Start/UPK – where would they go? Would the town programs be eliminated or supplemented?
- Closer to Riverton where new homes are
- Realign size for all schools and even out MS size
- Staffing costs – are they more?
- Recurring expenses of opening a new school
- Redistricting is certain

12 Votes:

- Yellow – 9
- Green – 2
- Red – 1

Overall Response: MAYBE

**4. Convert Vollmer to Early Childhood Center. (Note: All Kindergarten students attend Vollmer. How would current space use at Vollmer be accommodated? The annual operation costs for this center may be significant.)**

Comments:

- Too far for kindergarten students to travel on buses to a second location
- Too many transitions at the youngest age
- Artificial separation of kindergarten from home school
- Parents split between schools due to siblings

12 Votes:

- Red – 11
- Yellow – 1
- Green – 0

Overall Response: NO

**5. Change the middle school configuration to grades 5-8, add rooms at Burger, and redistrict to balance enrollment at the two middle schools.**

Comments:

- Redistricting will happen
- Only one place of new construction
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades together – how to shelter 5/6 and 7/8?
- Bus rides with 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades

11 Votes:

- Yellow – 9
- Red – 2
- Green – 0

Overall Response: MAYBE

**6. Change the middle school configuration to 5-7, add rooms at the NGA, and convert NGA to grades 8-9.**

Comments:

- Would grade 8 ride the high school bus?
- Instructionally sound since so many middle school students are taking Regents.
- Addition at NGA
- Transitions @ 8, 9 & 10 become 8-9 & 10
- Ages blend well
- No auditorium, small café, small gym = \$\$ at NGA

12 Votes:

- Green - 7
- Yellow - 2
- Red - 3

Overall Response: YES

**7. Add rooms at the Senior High School, return grade 9 to the SHS (9-12), and  
(i) Convert the NGA to a sixth elementary school (compare with option three above);  
(ii) Move Vollmer operations to the NGA and reopen Vollmer as a sixth elementary school (see 3 above), or;  
(iii) Convert the NGA into an Early Childhood Center (see 4 above).**

Comments:

- Too confusing, multi-layer moves not appealing
- Not make high school bigger
- Why have two elementary schools so close together?
- What building is in Riverton?

11 Votes:

- Red - 8
- Yellow - 3
- Green - 0

Overall Response: NO

**8. Make Burger a 5/6<sup>th</sup> grade school and Roth a 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade school.**

Comments:

- Like 5/6<sup>th</sup> together!
- Come out after the 7 options
- Not really “redistricting,” just uniting at grade 5
- 7/8<sup>th</sup> is like old junior high model.

12 Votes:

- Green – 10
- Yellow – 1
- Red – 1

Overall Response: YES

**Summary**

**Strongest Options: #6 and #8**  
**Luke Warm Options: #1, 2, 3, 5**  
**Weak Options: #4 and #7**