



Guiding Principles for Studying Campus Consolidation

*Presented on behalf of the HASD Administrative Team
July 28, 2015*

“What We Know”

-District enrollment has decreased significantly in the last ten (10) years.

-October 1, 2005 to October 1, 2014: 189 students-

-The average class size in the district is significantly less than what best practice and research recommends. (19.5).

-This coming school year, on any given afternoon, 6 classrooms, one office, and one gym at Enders-Fisherville Elementary School will sit empty. (kindergarten, first grade, music, computer lab, art, library, guidance office, and the “audicafegymatorium”).

-Administration has determined Enders-Fisherville Elementary School will need significant repairs and upgrades.

-The last time significant maintenance/renovation was completed at Enders-Fisherville Elementary School was in 2010-(hurricane/roof) and 2011-modular added for music, art, computer.

“What We Believe”

- ▶ It is in the best interest of the district to study the pros and cons of campus consolidation.
- ▶ Any study of campus consolidation must be guided by a set of principles.
- ▶ A committee of stakeholders must be convened to examine the qualitative and quantitative data.
- ▶ STUDY means just that: STUDY, EXAMINE, RESEARCH, ANALYZE, REVIEW, CONSIDER, INVESTIGATE.
- ▶ “Slow and steady wins the race.”

“Guiding Principles”

- ▶ The Halifax Area School District:
 - ▶ must balance the emotional impact of campus consolidation with comprehensive and meaningful data.
 - ▶ must consider the social, academic, and emotional benefits that campus consolidation could offer to students.
 - ▶ must weigh the short-term and long-term cost/benefit analysis of campus consolidation.

“Study Time-Line”

- ▶ Early August: Board approves request for Demographic Study to be conducted: PEL or Regional Planning Commission.
- ▶ Late August: Campus Consolidation Committee created.
- ▶ September-November: Demographic Study conducted.
- ▶ September-December: Teams visit school districts: 5-8, Pre-K-4, and Pre-K-5.
- ▶ September-October: True cost of repairing Enders is calculated.
- ▶ September-October: True cost of operating Enders is calculated.
- ▶ November-December: Real estate value of Enders is explored.
- ▶ January-February: All data is examined by the Campus Consolidation Committee
- ▶ March: Results of study are shared with Board and Community.
- ▶ April: Board directs administration on next steps.