

Kenyon-Wanamingo School District: Community Questions, Concerns, and Responses

Presented By: Superintendent Giese

Offices and Facilities

Q: Where would the District Office and elementary offices be located?

A: These offices will be at the Kenyon site to support administrative needs, providing significant savings for the district.

Q: Can Kindergarten remain at the Pre-K/Early Childhood/Daycare Center?

A: Specialists' availability makes this challenging but will be considered if appropriate prep coverage can be ensured.

Q: Which rooms would Preschool use if they move to the Wanamingo site?

A: Likely the rooms with small bathrooms, though planning is still in early stages.

Q: Will there be enough bathrooms if K-4 moved to Kenyon?

A: Yes, the Kenyon site has ample restrooms, with most classrooms having individual facilities.

Q: Are there enough classroom:

A: Yes, Superintendent Giese has a map which indicates all 625 students fit The building is designed for 1100 students.

Programs and Services

Q: Would Knights Kids operate at both sites?

A: Yes, before and after-school care will be available in both communities if the Wanamingo site remains open.

Q: What ages would daycare serve?

A: Birth to school age

Q: Where would summer daycare be located?

A: Likely in Kenyon, though either site is possible.

Q: Can Wanamingo get an outdoor classroom?

A: Yes, moveable options are being considered.

Operations and Logistics

Q: How would food service for preschool work?

A: The current preschool model does not include students eating lunch on site.

Q: Would the school day start time change?

A: Likely to align with the HS/MS schedule, ensuring younger students have time for breakfast.

Q: What about the lunchroom?

A: Many schools with 625 students successfully use one cafeteria. The district will adopt effective models from similarly sized schools. This is not a concern for administration.

Q: Has a 4-day school week been considered?

A: Yes, though research indicates minimal savings, and concerns remain about instructional time and family challenges.

Q: Would all Pre-K students have transportation to the Wanamingo site if Option 2 is selected?

A: Yes

Staffing and Financials

Q: Who would oversee the daycare initiative?

A: The Superintendent would seek grants promoting Goodhue County. The possibility of an outside agency renting the space is also being considered.

Q: Would FTEs be reduced?

A: Yes, due to declining enrollment, approximately \$350,000 in FTE reductions will be needed. Some reductions may come from contracted services such as food service.

Q: What would renovations cost?

A: Renovations may include a playground addition and a classroom divider. No other significant renovations are anticipated.

Community Concerns

Q: What is the downside of this transition?

A: Loss of Wanamingo's elementary school as a community hub, adjustment challenges for families and staff, economic impacts on local businesses, potential staff commuting issues.

Q: Are there enough students to support daycare?

A: Unknown at this time.

Q: Is the roof at the Wanamingo site a major issue?

A: Annual patching costs approximately \$20,000, older roof sections will need to be replaced in the future at a cost est. of \$1,500,000.

Additional Comments and Questions

- Mentorship with older students would be beneficial.
- Wanamingo is giving up more while Kenyon gains significantly.
- There is a strong need for daycare services in the area.
- We'd like Preschool to be in Kenyon as well.