



**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**  
 Reconfiguration and Redistricting in PBSB  
 January, 2018

1. Why are we reconfiguring and redistricting in the 2018-2019 school year?
  - a. The Board is required by state law to approve a balanced budget each year.
  - b. The district currently has a \$5.2 million budget deficit projected, with \$2 million in reserve for use towards the deficit for the 2018-2019 school year.
  - c. The district cannot borrow any money.
  - d. The results of the recent PASBO Facilities and Finance Study made the following recommendations to address budget shortfalls and build up the fund balance:
    - i. Close Regency Park Elementary at the end of the 2017-2018 school year
    - ii. Raise taxes - the most revenue that can be generated is \$1.5 million
    - iii. Reconfigure schools/redistrict students using existing buildings

Notes and Recommendations from PASBO Report:

The chart below shows the capacity of each building, including the total, if the School District closes Regency Park Elementary School. This information indicates that the School District has enough overall building capacity for close Regency Elementary School.

Building	Square Feet	Capacity FTE
Plum Senior High School (9-12)	295,404	1,607
A.E. Oblock Junior High (7-8)	121,073	883
Holiday Park Elementary School (K-6)	74,271	700
Pivik Elementary School (K-6)	74,271	700
Center Elementary School (K-6)	71,504	525
<b>Total</b>	<b>636,523</b>	<b>4,415</b>

**“Recommendation:** The existing grade structure should be fine, however the Administration and Board should consider the pros and cons of restructuring grade levels per building.

Option 1: Close Regency Park Elementary School. While building space for special programs may be limited, this option can be accomplished on a short timeline.

Option 2: Close Regency Park Elementary School and add space at Center Elementary School using existing funds in the Capital Fund. This option should be considered as a long-term solution and provide adequate space for special programs.

Option 3: Close Regency Park Elementary School and move 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the High School or 6<sup>th</sup> to the Junior High.

Option 4: Close Regency Park Elementary School and consider reducing kindergarten to a half day program. This option impacts the instructional program, but provides additional classroom space.” *End of quote*



2. Which option was selected?
  - a. Option 3: *Close Regency Park Elementary and move 6th grade to the Junior High* is on the January 30th Regular Voting Agenda to be voted on
  
3. What is the capacity of Oblock? Will the students fit?
  - a. There are two different definitions of capacity:
    - i. State capacity as calculated for reimbursement = 883
    - ii. Education capacity as calculated by multiplying the number of academic classrooms by 25 =  $(27 \times 25)$  675
  - b. Using the state definition, the current population of 6th-8th grade (866) will fit under these conditions:
    - i. All classrooms will be used every period.
    - ii. Some classes may be in the auditorium.
    - iii. Some classes may be in rooms originally designed for a different subject.
    - iv. More lockers will need to be installed -- there are currently 785 working lockers.
    - v. Some spaces may need minor alterations, i.e. take out shelving.
    - vi. A Junior High educational model (8 period per day schedule) will have to continue for all students 6th-8th.
    - vii. A Middle School educational model (Pods of classrooms by grade with block scheduling) cannot be implemented because there are not enough classrooms.
  
4. Will 6th graders have recess, go on field trips, and/or go to Washington, D.C.?
  - a. 6th graders will not have recess.
  - b. There are no plans to eliminate field trips or the Washington DC trip.
  
5. Will my 6th grader be in classes with 7th or 8th graders?
  - a. Only under the same circumstances that they would be in classes with them now, i.e. they are in an accelerated program, it is part of an IEP or GIEP.
  
6. Will 6th graders be able to participate in Junior High sports?
  - a. No. PIAA requires that they be in 7th grade.
  
7. Where will my elementary child go to school next year? When will I find out?
  - a. Davis Demographics Company is currently running projections for us. We will notify all parents by mail as soon as we receive this information.
  
8. Will the start and end times of the school day change?
  - a. No. There is no plan to change High School, Junior High or Elementary start/end times.



9. As a parent, can I be involved in the transition?
  - a. Yes. Parent Advisory Committees will be created in those buildings affected by the reconfiguration and/or redistricting.
  - b. Invitations to join the committee will be made available to all parents/guardians.
  
10. How can the reconfiguration and redistricting be completed by the first day of the 2018-2019 school year?
  - a. Planning for the transition will begin immediately upon the Board voting.
  - b. District administration has a timeline in place already, based on the last two redistricting efforts.
  - c. Advisory teams will be created and begin work immediately.