



# Mount Vernon Community School District

Twenty Year Facilities Vision

October 2, 2017

# The goal of the twenty year plan

- ▶ Honor the past
- ▶ Live in the present
- ▶ Build for the future

# Discussion of Facilities Needs

- ▶ “Facilities matter.” (GB)
- ▶ “While one size fits all schools are, in many parts of the United States, still part of the educational infrastructure, a new model of smaller, more diverse learning environments is taking hold and giving parents, teachers, and students more choice about what, where, and how learning takes place.”  
(Michael Blake)

# Trends in 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Design (Mark-Thomas.com)

- ▶ 1. Schools as center of community
- ▶ 2. Transparency as a means of security
- ▶ 3. Planned learning communities
- ▶ 4. Schools within schools
- ▶ 5. Toward sustainability

# Designing Schools for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning (School Construction News)

- ▶ 1. Teamwork, collaboration, critical thinking skills and problem solving
- ▶ 2. People learn in different ways
- ▶ 3. Flexibility, ability to move furniture around
- ▶ 4. Performance, moving around, experimentation
- ▶ 5. Natural lighting and healthy building
- ▶ 6. Common spaces
- ▶ 7. Mobile technology
- ▶ 8. Active problem solving, hands on
- ▶ “Architecture does not make good teachers, but we can do a lot to help support teachers do good teaching.”

# Four Elements of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom Design (Getting Smart.com)

- ▶ 1. A flexible layout
- ▶ 2. Furniture for utility
- ▶ 3. Technology integration
- ▶ 4. A light-filled environment

# Iowa Schools Article Des Moines Register

- ▶ 1. Open classrooms
- ▶ 2. Collaborative study spaces
- ▶ 3. Flexible furniture

# Ten Factors for Facilities Decision Making

- ▶ 1. Educational Philosophy
- ▶ 2. Curriculum
- ▶ 3. Scheduling Methodology
- ▶ 4. Technology
- ▶ 5. Space
- ▶ 6. Aesthetics
- ▶ 7. Function
- ▶ 8. Operations and Maintenance
- ▶ 9. Site
- ▶ 10. Budget



# Current Reality in Mount Vernon

- ▶ 1. High property taxes, low assessed valuation
- ▶ 2. History of excellence with modest facilities
- ▶ 3. One campus serves all
- ▶ 4. Future growth is coming
- ▶ 5. Excellence in academics, arts and athletics
- ▶ 6. An active community, students and adults alike
- ▶ 7. There are diverse feelings in the community related to previous decisions.
- ▶ 8. Other factors including Rockwell-Collins and farm prices need attention.
- ▶ 9. Sharing agreements with Cornell College
- ▶ 10. The school is the community and the community is the school.

# Functional Age of the Schools

- ▶ Washington Elementary: Original Construction = 1956; latest substantial renovation = 2011
- ▶ Mount Vernon Middle School: Original Construction = 1972; latest substantial renovations = 2006 and 2010
- ▶ Mount Vernon High School: Original Construction = 2006; latest substantial renovation = None

# In twenty years, the District will have . . .

- ▶ A fourth instructional building serving elementary age students including 5th grade students
- ▶ A new middle school or a substantially renovated middle school serving students in grades 6-8
- ▶ A new Performing Arts Center at the high school
- ▶ A new Activities Complex at the high school
- ▶ A new Tennis Complex
- ▶ Renovations to the current high school building as needed
- ▶ A Community Center adjacent to the campus that will be accessed by students and families, including being available for various district activities
  
- ▶ \*Students starting in Kindergarten this year are the Class of 2032

# Five Year Plan (2018-2023)

- ▶ Tennis Complex
- ▶ Auditorium (April or September 2018 Bond Issue)
- ▶ Classroom additions at the elementary, middle and high schools that will address future enrollment growth as well as creating new spaces for student interventions and student and staff collaboration (April or September 2018 Bond Issue)
- ▶ Playground improvements at the elementary school including making the playground more accessible and usable by students with disabilities (April or September 2018 Bond Issue)
- ▶ Middle School renovations including a secure entry way and flooring (April or September 2018 Bond Issue)
- ▶ Community Center adjacent to the campus (managed and operated by the city)

# The Why of the Five Year Plan

- ▶ Community support for an Auditorium is strong.
- ▶ All buildings are at capacity with classroom space, and additional growth is expected at all levels with proposed new housing developments.
- ▶ New classrooms can be built to support collaboration and flexibility with learning spaces, ideas that are seen as best practices in new school construction.
- ▶ The middle school is in need of renovations in several important areas.
- ▶ The current elementary playground is difficult for students with disabilities to enjoy.
- ▶ The current tennis courts are no longer safe for use and are aesthetically challenged.
- ▶ Student groups and families will be able to access a new Community Center on the school campus.

# Ten Year Plan (2023-2028)

- ▶ Fourth building for elementary and return of fifth grade to elementary level
- ▶ Activities Complex (Possibly Privately Funded) - This conversation should also address how the 1<sup>st</sup> Street Field may continue to be an asset to the community.

# The Why of the Ten Year Plan

- ▶ Enrollment increases necessitate a fourth building to serve part of the elementary population.
- ▶ The additional building will allow each building to have a facility that continues to meet the academic needs of students.
- ▶ The District will be able to move fifth grade students back into the elementary setting.
- ▶ The District will have its own Activities Complex for use by football, track and soccer teams as well as the marching band and other curricular and extra curricular groups.
- ▶ The District will be able to host competitions and events that it currently cannot.

# Fifteen Year Plan (2028-2033)

- ▶ Internal updates along with major external renovations to the existing middle school building
- ▶ The District could consider a new middle school if costs for substantial renovations would approach those of a new building.



# The Why of the Fifteen Year Plan

- ▶ By this time, the middle school will be at or near sixty years old and will likely have major areas that need renovation, especially exterior renovation.

# Twenty Year Plan (2033-2038)

- ▶ Upgrades and renovations to Mount Vernon High School

# The Why of the Twenty Year Plan

- ▶ By this time, the high school building will be at or near thirty one years old and in need of updates to serve learners at that time.

# Possible 2018 Bond Issue - MVHS

- ▶ Auditorium and Art Room(s) as part of a new Fine Arts wing
- ▶ Additional classrooms to meet current academic needs and account for future growth
- ▶ Renovate current art room into science room and fix ventilation issues for science rooms
- ▶ Address other issues as needed

# Possible Bond Issue 2018 - MVMS

- ▶ Secure entry way
- ▶ Flooring replacement throughout the building
- ▶ Air conditioning for Gym and locker room renovation
- ▶ New classrooms and an additional collaboration space for students; one new collaboration and meeting space for staff
- ▶ Address other issues as needed

# Possible Bond Issue - 2018

## Washington Elementary

- ▶ One new classroom to allow for five sections at each grade level
- ▶ One larger collaboration space that could be converted to two classrooms if needed
- ▶ New classrooms for special education and academic interventions
- ▶ Improved playground that is more accessible and inclusive
- ▶ Create new teacher work space
- ▶ Address other issues as needed

# SWOT Analysis

- ▶ Strengths
- ▶ Weaknesses
- ▶ Opportunities
- ▶ Threats

# Some key questions

- ▶ How often will we have the bonding capacity to complete projects?
- ▶ What will be the impact to taxpayers in the District?
- ▶ What can be covered by other District funds (PPEL, PERL, SAVE, etc.)
- ▶ What does the community want for its students in the next twenty years?
- ▶ What will increased enrollment look like in five to ten years?
- ▶ Where does private funding factor in?
- ▶ Educationally, where do fifth grade students best fit?



# Communication Plan

- ▶ Community Outreach
- ▶ IASB Survey
- ▶ Mission-Vision-Values-Goals
- ▶ Bonding Capacity Discussion