

Feedback from the employee forum held on October 24, 2019 regarding the potential move of 4th grade to IHGMS:

FACILITIES				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
Space - better learning environment based on physical space (LRES open concept)	Little kids here; younger children with older children in unstructured settings	Bringing 4th grade to IHGMS probably benefits 4th graders, at what expense to the 5-8 graders?		
Healthier environment for 4th grade - air quality, keep students from getting sick	Taking an overcrowded (LRES), moving students to make slightly less crowded, to create a 2nd less than perfect.	Moving classrooms, including furniture, books, and technology		
IHGMS better classroom setting	Building was built to hold 4 grades in pod environments - bringing 4th grade here would throw off this dynamic			
At LRES, some students would have less travel time to receive extra support	Housing MS special ed - doubling up rooms is not a good solution			
Removing portables would save money	Distrust from a taxpayer's point of view - when this building was built, it was built as a MS - 5-8, pods. Voted on after years and to change it to no pods and 4th grade included is not what was voted on.			
If portables are kept, LRES would have more space for instruction	Storage rooms - where would all supplies go?			
Better use of district space	This is just a bandaid, a short term solution to a bigger town problem; temporary fix; prolongs the urgency for a new LRES or extension			
Equitable spaces at LRES (shared rooms, currently) and IHGMS (not shared rooms, currently)	Sharing bathrooms grade 5-8			
	Pods would be disrupted			

FACILITIES - Continued

Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
	Playground appropriate for 4th grade			
	Extra wear and tear on building and equipment			
	Rushing into a decision without it being really thought through			
	LRES has more problems than the building			

BUSES				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
Potential easy pickup for students 4-8	Vaping by middle schoolers	How does the move affect bus runs?		
	Resulting in more pickups and dropoffs because parents will not want their 4th graders on the bus	Would 4th graders need a parent at the stop?		
	4th grade bussing with 8th grade			

STUDENT BEHAVIOR				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
	4th graders exposed to 8th grade behaviors; learn "bad" habits	Additional behavior management for admin		

CURRICULUM/PROGRAMS				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
4th grade could potentially have access to additional UA classes (not sure how the master schedule would work)	No more "all" school assemblies No space for assemblies 4th graders couldn't be invited to Ram Rally	Can the whole school still meet in the gym for Rams Rallies?		
May improve attendance at after school program	Loss of PLC time if the schedule changes	How will the move affect Unified Arts? Will 7th/8th grade UA 90 minute schedule diminish?		
	Special education support (20-25 per caseload) will not fit in a small group room	How will the move affect the master schedule?		
	Team building not possible for 7-8 because will be sharing a pod on a different teaching schedule	How does the move affect the after school program?		
	End of the middle school model which really benefits the education of adolescents	Grading - different report cards Different grading systems		
	No General Music 5-8, so no General Music for 4?	Summer programs relocated to an alternate location		
	Science - no showers, eye washes, no gas hookups downstairs for middle school science requirements by state	One UA has already been removed and schedule is currently a struggle		
	Schedule - lots of issues: less time with students, less planning time for teachers, 7th and 8th grade teachers lose planning time	Will 4th grade UA teachers come to IHGMS to teacher 4th grade UA?		
		Library could be forced to censor materials - new materials will need to be added/new curriculum.		
		MS teachers stressed with grading		

STUDENT SAFETY/WELL BEING				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
5th grade team would have easy access to 4th grade team with questions about students	5 lunches beginning at 10:30?	Will lunches be shortened?		
	Range of age groups could lead to bullying	How will the move impact ALICE drills, as they're somewhat different at LRES?		
	4th grade need to wear badges	ALICE rally point		
	Extra student load during drills/ALICE			
	Navigating throughout building will be difficult for 4th graders			
	Bullying			

STAFFING				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
	Supports overwhelmed - counselors, admin, nurse	Is the teacher contract affected?		
		CBA implications - guaranteed 50 minute planning time (shortening PLC times)		
		CBA - 4th grade schedule leaves earlier for teachers		
		Do UA teachers have correct certifications to teach 4th grade?		
		Does it count as an extra prep for UA teachers and will they need to be paid more? Or will UA teachers come up from LRES?		
		UA time for grading with added student load		

BUDGETARY				
Pros/Advantages	Cons/Obstacles	Things to Consider	Suggestions	NOTES
	Budgets will need to be transferred			
	Travel stipend for elementary teachers			
	Time and money, cost, to pack up and relocate classrooms, remove safety stations from science			