

# Year-Round Schools Discussion

## Board Work Session

October 19, 2021

# Today's Objectives

## WCPSS Staff and the Board will have:

- Increased alignment around vision for year-round schools
- Increased understanding of impacts with regards to year-round schools (overcrowded/underutilized schools)

# Running Summary

1. YR should be considered when needed to address **capacity concerns**.
2. **Capping** often negatively impacts transportation and other departments.
3. **Communication** with the public about the purpose for the YR calendar needs to be increased/improved.
  - We need to better educate parents who are moving in and researching WCPSS - with attention to understanding YR schools.
4. School **calendar choice** should be aligned with and support district goals.
5. **Track out care and before/after care** concerns need to be addressed for some families assigned to year-round schools.
6. The cost of operating an underutilized school is not effective.
7. Alignment for grades 6-12 should be considered if there are not enough proximate YR elementary seats in an area to fill a YR middle school.

# Building Alignment

Do these high-level summary statements accurately reflect your conversations?

- What might need to be added?



# Exploring Decision Impacts through Scenarios

## Scenario Activity

Staff will review solutions that have been used to address crowding concerns at schools and the impacts associated with them.

We will then review two hypothetical situations for overcrowded schools and discuss which solutions you could support using for each situation.

We will repeat this exercise with two hypothetical scenarios for supporting underutilized schools.

This exercise will attempt to create alignment, and uncover misalignment, around solutions used by staff that the Board will support.

# Possible Solutions

- ❑ Place an enrollment cap on the school
- ❑ Convert the school calendar to multi-track year-round
- ❑ “Domino” reassignment
- ❑ “Leap-Frog” reassignment
- ❑ Other

# Understanding Decision Impacts on YR: Scenario 2

- Traditional MIDDLE school with a crowding of 110%
- Expected to grow by 60 (4.5%) students over the next 5 years (same growth rate as surrounding schools)
- There are no new schools currently in the CIP that will assist with the crowding in the area
- The surrounding schools have some available seats:
  - ◆ School A: (Multi-Track Year-Round) has a crowding of 90% and is 2 miles away
  - ◆ School B: (Traditional) has a crowding of 95% and is 5 miles away
  - ◆ School C: (Multi-Track Year-Round) has a crowding of 88% and is 10 miles away
  - ◆ School D: (Traditional) has a crowding of 87% and is 17 miles away

- Based on the information provided, could you make a decision? Why or why not?

And if you can see a solution, for which decision, if staff presented it to you, could you provide the most support?

- Place an enrollment cap on the school
- Convert the school calendar to multi-track year-round
- “Domino” reassignment
- “Leap-Frog” reassignment
- Other (explain)

# Understanding Decision Impacts on YR: Scenario 3

- Traditional ELEMENTARY school with a crowding of 115%
- Expected to grow by 70 students over the next 5 years (surrounding schools only expected to grow by 15 students over the same time period)
- CIP plans for new school to be built within next 3 years that should address the crowding and growth
- The surrounding schools have some available seats:
  - ◆ School A: (Traditional) has a crowding of 101% and is 3 miles away
  - ◆ School B: (Traditional) has a crowding of 108% and is 10 miles away
  - ◆ School C: (Multi-Track Year-Round) has a crowding of 88% and is 15 miles away
  - ◆ School D: (Traditional) has a crowding of 92% and is 19 miles away

- Based on the information provided, could you make a decision? Why or why not?

And if you can see a solution, for which decision, if staff presented it to you, could you provide the most support?

- Place an enrollment cap on the school
- Convert the school calendar to multi-track year-round
- “Domino” reassignment
- “Leap-Frog” reassignment
- Other (explain)

# Reflecting on Decision Impacts Activity

## Council:

What stood out to you as you worked through the scenarios?

What are the main points staff should take into consideration after these conversations about overcrowded schools?

# Possible Solutions for Underutilized Year-Round Schools

- ❑ Convert the school calendar to traditional
- ❑ Convert the school calendar to a three-track year-round
- ❑ Convert the school calendar to a single-track year-round
- ❑ Increase the base attendance/calendar application area

# Understanding Decision Impacts on YR: Underutilized 1

- YR MIDDLE school with a crowding of 68%
- The school does not generate enough calendar application requests to fill the remaining available seats
- There is no expected growth in the area (enrollment expected to decrease over next 5 years by 65 students)
- The feeder elementary schools are also underutilized
  - ◆ School A: (Traditional) has a crowding of 89% and is 4 miles away
  - ◆ School B: (Multi-Track) has a crowding of 65% and is 5 miles away
  - ◆ School C: (Multi-Track) has a crowding of 99% and is 10 miles away
  - ◆ School D: (Traditional) has a crowding of 107% and is 17 miles away

- Based on the information provided, could you make a decision? Why or why not?

And if you can see a solution, for which decision, if staff presented it to you, could you provide the most support?

- Convert the school calendar to traditional
- Convert the school calendar to single-track year-round
- Convert the school to calendar three-track year-round
- Increase the base/calendar application area
- Other (explain)

# Understanding Decision Impacts on YR: Underutilized 2

- YR ELEMENTARY school with a crowding of 70%
- The school does not generate enough calendar application requests to fill the remaining available seats
- There is no expected growth in the area (enrollment expected to remain stable over next 5 years)
  - ◆ School A: (Traditional) has a crowding of 96% and is 2 miles away
  - ◆ School B: (Traditional) has a crowding of 88% and is 8 miles away
  - ◆ School C: (Traditional) has a crowding of 89% and is 9 miles away
  - ◆ School D: (Multi-Track) has a crowding of 85% and is 16 miles away

- Based on the information provided, could you make a decision? Why or why not?

And if you can see a solution, for which decision, if staff presented it to you, could you provide the most support?

- Convert the school calendar to traditional
- Convert the school calendar to single-track year-round
- Convert the school calendar to three-track year-round
- Increase the base/calendar application area
- Other (explain)

# Reflecting on Decision Impacts Activity

## Council:

What stood out to you as you worked through the scenarios?

What are the main points staff should take into consideration after these conversations about underutilized schools?

# Recap

## Summary

- Summary Statement Activity
- Scenario Activity
- Future Discussions Timeline

## Next Steps

- Meeting schedule
- Additional Data to consider
- Stakeholder feedback

# Future Discussions

## **Future Session Focus 1:**

- Increased alignment around vision for year-round schools
- Clarity around “Year-Round with a Purpose”
- K-8 vs 6-12 calendar alignment
- Building new schools and renovating existing schools

## **Future Session Focus 2:**

- Reporting out of feedback from stakeholders
- Reporting out of data and cost analysis from staff
- Any remaining questions staff needs answered from Board

## **Future Session Focus 3:**

- Alignment around vision for year-round schools (Staff will bring synthesis of Board’s discussion as a presentation of key areas they will support in recommendations made by staff in the future- what the Board wants to see as the “ideal” situation for year-round)

# Closing Thoughts or Questions?