ANSWERS FOR QUESTIONS
Asked at the June 25 public meeting at Palmyra

Comment: August 11 date needs to change –

> The August meeting has been changed to 7 p.m. August 6

Comment: Bus lane needs to be on south side of gym. South option involves water main/fire dept issues as well as fiber optics

> We are aware of limitations of additions to the south which could add cost. This is one reason why many patrons seem to prefer Option C.

Question on Option C: What would happen to the storage space that is now in the 3rd floor of 1930s bldg for the stage floor, props, lights, sound, equipment, etc.?

> This is a valid consideration. The design team will analyze this as they plan the theater room and backstage area

Do the bleachers on the side next to the stage slide in?

> Yes, all bleachers are assumed to be telescoping.

What will be done with the existing Pre-K building?

> The board has discussed using the building for after-school programs, or leasing it to a day care provider. The house also could be sold and moved. Many options are available, but no decision has been made on which will be pursued.

With state aid being cut and other things being reduced, what percent of a new bond would be financed with real estate tax? Where is the money coming from?

> The Bond Fund shall be used to record tax receipts, investment interest, and the payment of bond principal, interest, and other related costs (i.e. trustee fees). Proceeds from a bond issue shall be deposited into the Special Building Fund to be expended on the actual building project. The bond is repaid entirely through property tax receipts.

> State Aid is available for two years based on this formula: 1st year - District Basic Funding per formula student X (.20 X Estimated Student Capacity); 2nd year - District Basic Funding per formula student X (.10 X Estimated Student Capacity).

Option C: Was there any thought of extending upward the new area for ag, career center, to add more space without spending more money? Could we build that facility to be expandable to go upward in the future?

Adding on top of the existing IT area was not considered, as additional investigation of the structural capacity of the existing structure will be required. The new classrooms could certainly be designed for the addition of classrooms above if this is a direction that is desired by the community.

Are there still going to be schools in each community? Is the option for a central site now off the table?

Based on what appears to be the wishes of the community, the current options developed would maintain the elementary school in Bennet, and the secondary school in Palmyra. No plans for a central site are currently under discussion. There was a perceived lack of support for centralization by the community, so the board has explored the possibilities for expanding and improving the current locations instead.

If the football field stays where it is, what would you do about the poor condition of the concessions and restrooms at the field?

This would depend on whether, and how soon, a new field would be built. If the community does not approve the development of the new site, the school district could possibly look at options for improving the existing concessions and restrooms. However, due to their size and location, few options are available for improving the track and field. The track cannot be expanded or surfaced for competition; improving drainage of the field is also very expensive. Any support by the community for improving these amenities would likely lead to the creation of a new field and track elsewhere.

Comment: From a concessions standpoint: At Friend, concessions are separate from the gym. At Neb City Lourdes, the concessions area has a window where you can see into the gym. For those working, it's a nice benefit

This is a great idea, and something the design team will take under consideration.

Comment: Restrooms at the new football field: Sewer would have to run a long distance

The design team will look into the availability of utilities and report costs.

In regard to the front circle at Palmyra – what happens to busing and handicapped, etc.? We need more than one handicapped stall.

Changes to the building would require compliance with the American Disabilities Act. We will need to supply adequate stalls and resolve the busing situation to provide safe travel for all students.

If we need more classrooms, is there space for that at both Bennet and Palmyra?

All of the options provided at this time offer opportunities for future additions beyond this immediate projects. At Bennet, the school could be further expanded at a later date with four additional classrooms. At Palmyra, the current 1950s building could be replaced with a multi-story classroom structure.

What is the student capacity of Option C? What is the square foot per student?

> A general guideline used in planning new schools is 108 GSF per student for Elementary, 156 GSF per student for Middle, and 175 GSF per student for High School students. (The actual ratio will vary depending on the specific curriculum, class sizes, and plan efficiency of an individual school.) Based on these guidelines, Option C at 93,200 GSF could have a capacity of about 530 students and Options A and B at 100,000 GSF could have a capacity of about 570 students.

Regarding the overall process, after you gather feedback, how do the pieces and parts come together, and how does this result in the board's recommendation?

> The board is inviting community input and evaluating options over the summer. In response, the design team will continue to evaluate costs and make refinements during this time. In August, the board will decide which option is preferred and whether they are ready to recommend a bond election in November. If so, the resolution will be voted up or down at a board meeting on August 18th for a November 4 election.

Comment: I think MindMixer is great but may not meet everyone's needs. What other mechanisms will gather that feedback?

> Five community meetings are planned for June, July, August, September, and October. At each meeting, participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions. We will have comment cards at each meeting for those who wish to provide their comments in writing. In addition, people may contact Superintendent Hanger or any of the school board members to express their support or their concerns. (Email contact information is provided at the end of this document.)

Comment: I think it would be good to synthesize what you gather from MindMixer and present those results through the newspaper or through the web site

> A Mindmixer summary overview will be provided at each community meeting as part of the project team's presentation. All the presentation materials will be posted on the District's website.

There are a lot of absentee landowners who own property in the district but can't vote; however, this still impacts their taxes. How will you contact and involve those stakeholders?

> Due to the breadth of absentee landowner locations, we may not be able to reach all of those taxpayers who live outside the district or out of state. We will send press releases regarding our intentions to the local newspapers, the Hickman Voice and the Lincoln Journal Star. However, we cannot require the media to cover stories.

Comment: Mail was a good way to contact people. Might be a good idea to have it on the web page, MindMixer, etc. to reach more people

> We notified patrons of the July 16 meeting via the web page and with posters throughout town. For the August meeting, we plan to hang posters around the towns and post meeting information on our web site. We also plan to send email invitations to those who have provided email addresses. In addition, we will provide updates through the newsletter.

Comment: Boards would be good to display in the banks, grocery stores, and the vestibule of this building

> Another good idea. The plans are available on the District OR-1 web site, as well as on the MindMixer web site. The boards prepared for Community Meeting #1 are available for viewing at the school. As the project continues, we will ask various locations in the area if they would like to display boards, to help ensure the public is as informed as possible.

What do you do if the MindMixer site becomes contentious?

> MindMixer is serving as an online town hall meeting that encourages civil discourse and allows people to share their opinion. We are interested in hearing our patrons' honest feedback and we want to hear from as many people as possible including those who have differing views. We want to understand issues of concern and we welcome suggestions that can lead to better decisions. We invite people to ask questions of the board and each other to create a productive conversation. This will allow people to explain their ideas in more depth and shed more light on issues that we may not have fully considered.

> Along the way, we will attempt to clarify any misconceptions and correct any misstatements of facts as necessary. The website does allow us to intervene if personal attacks, off-topic criticisms of contributors, inappropriate language or threats are posted.

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