

Lockport Reorganization Study

Executive Summary

WHY WOULD THIS CONSOLIDATION BE APPROPRIATE?

Why is this an improvement upon the current district organization?

1. Curriculum

- a. The curriculum can be enhanced by exploring the Junior High curriculum at Oak Prairie to be sure both sites offer the same programming (i.e., Spanish, STEM courses, clubs, and sports). Review the curriculum and course offerings in the following areas:
- b. Accelerated courses in Math, Science, and Reading in grades 6-8.
- c. Math and Reading Intervention for Tier III students in grades 6-8.
- d. Add Spanish and Cultures classes to grades 7 & 8 at Kelvin Grove JH.
- e. Add Band and Chorus electives to Kelvin Grove JH.
- f. Match technologies (one-to-one devices) in all buildings.
- g. Match online textbooks and Google Classroom hardware in all buildings.
- h. Explore special education needs and staffing for optimal use of resources.

2. Student enrollment

- a. Is declining at a small but consistent rate.

3. Buildings

- a. All maintained at a high level
- b. All are full
- c. No buildings would be closed if this reorganization occurred

4. Transportation

- a. No changes to the current situation unless:
 - i. The new district went to attendance centers
 - ii. The parents in District 91 wanted transportation because those in District 92 get it
 - iii. The second issue could be mostly deflected because of the 1.5 mile requirement to transport

5. Finances

- a. Both districts are financially sound and should be for the coming years.
- b. It must be understood that a new tax rate would be determined after a successful referendum.
- c. The level of the new tax rate is undetermined and would be determined by the Committee of Ten.
- d. A projected tax rate of \$3.16 has been determined for the newly reorganized district not counting the bond and interest amount for either district.
- e. This compares to \$3.73 for SD 91 and \$3.17 for SD 92.
- f. These rates are not recommended by the authors. Rather, this is the rate it would take to generate the same dollars at this time. The final decision would rest with the Committee of Ten.

6. Incentives

- a. EBF differences combined amount to \$26,216 annually. Therefore, the difference combined is negligible.
- b. Deficit Fund Balance is zero
- c. Salary difference per year estimated to be \$619,030. This remains the largest financial issue, other than the tax differences for the two districts.
- d. The \$4,000 incentive is \$748,000 to be paid at the end of the second year.

7. Reorganization options recommendation

- a. A combination of two elementary districts requires a positive vote in both districts.
- b. A new school board is elected, collective bargaining agreements are voided and will be renegotiated.
- c. Names of the district will be changed.
- d. Bond payments for each district will remain with each district and will be assessed by the county clerk.