



Date: March 14, 2012

To: County School Board of Albemarle County, Virginia
Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent

From: Long Range Planning Advisory Committee

Re: Request for Further Direction

The Long Range Planning Advisory Committee has convened again for a new session. The goal of this committee is to provide a recommendation in July to the Superintendent & School Board for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). To make the work of this committee useful to you, we would like to receive some direction before proceeding.

1. In the strategic plan, goals #4 & #5 (world-class education system vs. efficient systems...) can often be at odds with each other. Keeping these goals in mind what strategies are you willing to consider for long term facility planning:
 - A. Maintenance of existing community schools & recommendations (i.e. additions, redistricting, etc.) once more seats are required
 - B. Strategic consolidation of schools for more efficient operations. Are you willing to reconsider the closing of small schools at this time especially with the increasing costs of maintaining these schools?
 - C. Strive to achieve parity between & modernize existing school facilities.

Example: Last year we recommended a renovation and addition onto Red Hill Elementary. This project had to do with parity not capacity, but was removed from the capital plan. Should this project be considered again or was this removed for other reasons?

2. Goal #4 in the Strategic Plan states: "Achieve recognition as a world-class education system". What would you consider a world-class education *facility*? Do we have one (or part of one) now in the county? If so, where and should it be implemented elsewhere?
3. What is an acceptable percentage (i.e. 5%, 10%, 15%) over capacity and for how long before action is needed?
4. As we are analyzing capacities, how should we take into account trailers? Sometimes it is an inevitable solution, but how long is too long to rely on trailers?

Examples: Stony Point has multiple trailers which are at least 10 years old. The presence of the trailers affected the redistricting committee's recommendation to not take action.

Scottsville has multiple trailers which are at least 15 years old.

5. Last year the board expressed the willingness to consider redistricting to utilize existing seats rather than building seats. We are working under the assumption that this is still the case. Related, are you willing to consider split feeder patterns to efficiently use existing spaces?
6. If more high school seats were deemed necessary, how large are you comfortable making Albemarle High School? Related, for long term planning we would like to investigate land acquisition for a future school site in the northern part of the county. Please let us know if you would like us to proceed with this study.
7. Last year we recommended an addition onto Henley Middle School to provide additional gym space. It was removed from the CIP along with the other additions. Should we consider this project again or was this removed for other reasons?