



Chairperson Lunt, School Board Members and Superintendent Maguire.

I'm Kim Riesgraf, Assistant Superintendent of Administration serving as the project manager for our grade span change.

Tonight is the 6th monthly school board update on grade configuration.

During this report I will review work completed since last month

Priority Result

Beginning the 2015-16 school year, the grade spans for the school district will be:

- elementary PreK/K-5,
- middle school grades 6-8, and
- high school grades 9-12.

Planning for New Grade Spans Board Update

10/21/2014

Key message:

Grade configuration will be preK/K-5, 6-8, 9-12, effective Fall 2015.

One of our key strategies is to create transformational system change to ensure equitable student achievement. Equitable student achievement means that ALL learners are performing at high levels and that we are accelerating the learning of students for students who are not yet meeting our highest expectations.

Early learning is a proven accelerator to close learning gaps. The expansion of all-day kindergarten programming is one of the changes that we have made in the area of early learning. Now that all Kindergarten students are participating in all-day programming, we need more space at the elementary level.

The need for additional space led us to a decision to change our grade spans for the start of the 2015-16 school year. The school board has identified preparation for a change in grade spans as a top priority for this school year. An important part of our planning this year will be to incorporate middle level design and World's Best Workforce requirements, such as literacy by grade three and career and college readiness.

Month in Review

- ✓ Summer 2015 Facility Use Plan
- ✓ Division of Leadership, Teaching and Learning Staffing Plan
- ✓ Department and Site Transition Plans submitted

Planning for New Grade Spans Board Update

10/21/2014

In addition to the work of the Project Teams, key accomplishments this month include these three things.

In recognition that the summer of 2015 presents some unique challenges due to construction at all three of our high schools we began working on a Facility Use Plan in September. We know that engaging children and youth over the summer during out of school time is a key component in accelerating our work to close the achievement gap so we wanted to develop a plan that will accommodate summer learning and ensure that construction, remodeling, cleaning and classroom moves are accomplished in a timely manner. Summer activities include things like Kidstop, Camp Rocks, targeted services, 21st Center Community Learning Centers, open gyms, coaches clinics and Freedom Schools. We have reviewed how spaces were used last summer and identified spaces that will not be accessible for the summer of 2015. On Thursday of this week we will be talking with Learning Leaders to gather suggestions to ensure the effective implementation of the facility use plan. We will also be working closely with city partners like Parks and Recreation and others who are heavy facility users as the facility use plan evolves.

The Division of Leadership, Teaching and Learning provides staffing allocations to sites in February of each year. The team in DLTl has been analyzing data on how the change in grade spans will impact staffing allocations. We gathered input from the steering committee today and on Thursday of this week we will gather input from Learning Leaders. Since August, each Department and School Site has been working on a transition plan for staff, students and families. It was exciting to read these plans as they were submitted last week. There are some really innovative ideas among our sites and Learning Leaders have had and will continue to have opportunities to share ideas and make changes to their plans as the needs of their site evolve.

Middle Level Design

- Determine gr. 6-12 course sequence
- Complete work on academic interventions
- Identify core and exploratory courses
- Determine schedules

Sept & Oct 2014

Planning for New Grade Spans School Board Update

10/21/2014

The middle level design team has worked throughout September and October on:

- grades 6-12 curriculum alignment and course sequence in all content areas plus gifted education and special education;
- Completing work on academic interventions;
- determining core courses and electives (which are called exploratory courses in the middle school model); and
- determining the middle school schedule.

The middle level design team added a meeting in October in order to complete the work on the middle level schedule. This meeting is scheduled for next week.

High School Programming

- Gr. 6-12 course scope and sequence
- Daily schedules
- Course verification

Sept & Oct 2014

Planning for New Grade Spans School Board Update

10/21/2014

During September and October the High School Programming team worked in collaboration with the middle level design team and curriculum and instruction staff on the Grade 6-12 curriculum alignment.

At the October meeting, the team agreed to the following:

- Osseo Senior High School and Maple Grove Senior High School will continue with the same 6 period schedule that is currently being used. Park Center High School is still working to determine how best to accommodate the requirements of the IB Middle Years Program for 9th graders into the schedule.
- All three high schools will have 4 lunch periods to accommodate the addition of 9th grade.
- High School start times will remain the same.
- Elective courses at the high school will be offered to students in grades 9-12. 9th-grade students will be eligible to take elective courses for which they have successfully completed the appropriate prerequisite coursework (e.g., If a student wants to take Spanish II as a 9th grader, he/she must have successfully completed Spanish I prior to the 9th grade year).

High School Facilities

- Finalize financing plan
- Complete construction documents
- Begin bidding process

Sept & Oct 2014

Planning for New Grade Spans School Board Update

10/21/2014

The High School Facilities team finalized the financing plan with the school board in September and completed the construction documents so that the bidding process could begin.

Financing Plan

Date	School Board Action
Sept. 9, 2014	Intent: capital facilities bonds
Sept. 23, 2014	Intent: certificates of participation, capital notes, alternative facilities bonds and the pay-as-you-go levy
Oct. 21, 2014	Award bid package #1 for earthwork at 3 high schools Award sale of capital facilities bonds and certificates of participation Action on school names
Nov. 17, 2014	Award bid package #2 for construction and remodeling at 3 high schools
Spring 2015	Award sale of capital notes
Spring 2015	Award sale of alternative facilities bonds

This slide shows the important dates when the school board has taken or will take action on the financing and construction for the three high schools.

Sept 9 - Resolution of intent to issue \$5,770,000 Capital Facilities Bonds, Series 2014A and providing for Credit Enhancement

Sept 23 - Resolution of intent to issue Certificates of Participation, Resolution of intent to issue of Capital Notes, Resolution of intent to issue alternative facilities bonds and the pay-as-you-go levy

Oct 21 (tonight) - Award Bid Package #1, Award Sale of Capital Facilities Bonds, Award Sale of Certificates of Participation, School Names

Nov 17 - Award Bid Package #2

Spring 2015 - Award Sale of Capital Notes, Award Sale of Alternative Facilities Bonds

Human Resource Staffing

- Meetings with staffing project teams
- Implementing communication plan
- Board Action Teacher Retirement Incentive

Sept & Oct 2014

Planning for New Grade Spans School Board Update

10/21/2014

The Human Resources/Staffing Project team met in September and October. A labor management committee is meeting later this week to discuss teacher transfer. Communication plans are finalized and communication is being developed.

Early Retirement Incentive Memo of Understanding between the Independent School District 279 School Board and Teachers

Earlier notice of retirements will help ensure that administrators will be able to make staffing decisions using the most complete information possible regarding which positions will be open for the following year. Conducting the staffing process with more complete information will help reduce the number of changes made over the summer, when it would be more challenging to onboard staff in our secondary schools most affected by the change to new grade spans.

Stay informed

[ISD 279 - Osseo Area Schools - Home](#)

The screenshot shows the Osseo Area Schools website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About Us, Teaching+Learning, Schools, Students+Families, Services+Departments, and Community Ed. Below the navigation bar is a main content area. On the left, there is a sidebar menu with links for Annual Report, Corrections & Clarifications, District Profile, Grade Span Changes, Points, Grade Span Changes, School Board, School Locator/Maps, and Strategic Plan. The main content area features a news article titled "BOARD REVIEWS FACILITIES PLANNING FOR NEW GRADE SPANS" updated on September 17, 2014. The article text includes: "In a September 9 work session, school and members reviewed the facilities and landing plans for work to be done at the district's three comprehensive high schools part of the planning for new grade spans that will begin in the 2015-2016 school year." and "Board members heard about three key components of the work: • the facilities plan, which includes building additions and repurposing/remodeling space to accommodate the addition of 9th graders (approximately 500 students) in each building under the new grade spans;". To the right of the article is a sidebar with language options for Español and Hmoob, and a "KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION FAIR" announcement for Saturday, October 11, 2014, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. Below the fair announcement is a logo for "Helping Kathryn Regel Achieve".

Planning for New Grade Spans Board Update

10/21/2014

As I reported last month, a good place to stay informed about the planning for new grade spans is on our school district website.

The website has home page links to the project overview, project management documents and previous updates.