

Amherst Public Schools

Potential Restructuring Scenarios for 2009-2010



Scenario 1: The Pairing Option

This scenario would pair the four elementary schools as follows:

- ❑ Marks Meadow School—grades K through 1 (or 2) and Wildwood School—grades 2 through 6
- ❑ Crocker Farm—grades Pre-K through 2 and Fort River—grades 3 through 6

The Pairing Option:

Fiscal/Personnel Implications:

Potential Savings:

- Reduction of two classrooms (108K)
- No reduction of other staff in year 1, but possibly in year 2

Potential Added Costs:

- Added bus costs (193K)

Transitional costs:

- Moving materials/packing (70K)
- Prep day for teachers (55K)

Potential Net Savings/(Costs):

- Year 1 (\$210K)
- Year 2 (\$ 85K)

Some Other Implications:

- Some bus runs may be lengthened up to 17 minutes (problematic on early-release Wednesday)
- May require MS/HS dismissal time alteration to accommodate longer transportation times or adjustment of start times
- Increased transitions for children
- No redistricting required



Scenario 2: The 5-6 Option

This scenario will keep all four elementary schools open and will create one grade 5-6 school, as follows:

- ❑ Crocker Farm, Fort River and Marks Meadow Schools will all be grade K-4 schools (with Pre-K remaining at Crocker Farm).
- ❑ Wildwood will become a grade 5-6 school, serving the entire district.

The 5-6 Option

Fiscal/Personnel Implications:

Potential Savings:

- ❑ Reduction of 2 classrooms (108K)

Potential Added Costs:

- ❑ Added bus costs (163K)

Transitional costs:

- ❑ Moving materials/packing (70K)
- ❑ Prep day for teachers (55K)

Potential Net Savings/(Costs):

- ❑ Year 1 (\$180K)
- ❑ Year 2 (\$ 55K)

Some Other Implications:

- ❑ Some bus runs lengthened up to 23 minutes (problematic on early-release Wednesdays)
- ❑ May require MS/HS or elementary dismissal time alteration to accommodate longer transportation
- ❑ District special education programs may require additional staffing due to less flexible age clustering
- ❑ Requires redistricting of all K-4 students



Scenario 3: Close Marks Meadow (A)

This scenario will have the following impact:

- ❑ Marks Meadow will be closed and all students will be redistricted to Crocker Farm, Fort River and Wildwood.
- ❑ Crocker Farm, Fort River and Wildwood will remain grade K-6 schools (with the preschool remaining at Crocker Farm).

Close Marks Meadow (A):

Fiscal/Personnel Implications:

Potential Cuts

- ❑ Reduction of 4 classrooms (216K)
- ❑ Administrative/Support savings (135K) – 1.0 principal, 1.0 secretary
- ❑ Other staff (336K) 1.5 custodians, 1.0 ELL, 1.0 SE, 1.0 Intervention, 1.13 paras, 1.0 LPN, 1.0 librarian, 1.0 therapeutic para

Potential Added Costs

- ❑ Added bus costs (16K)

Transitional costs:

- ❑ Moving materials/packing (70K)
- ❑ Prep day for teachers (55K)
- ❑ Move modulars (140K)

Potential Net Savings/(Costs):

- ❑ Year 1 \$406K
- ❑ Year 2 \$671K

Some Other Implications:

- ❑ Some bus runs lengthened by approximately 10-12 minutes
- ❑ Moving of modulars required
- ❑ Impacts possibility for growth/expansion
- ❑ Requires redistricting of all students



Scenario 3: Close Marks Meadow (B)

This scenario will have the following impact:

- ❑ Marks Meadow will be closed. Grade K-5 students will be redistricted and assigned to Wildwood, Fort River and Crocker Farm.
- ❑ All sixth grade Amherst students will be moved to Amherst Regional Middle School.

Close Marks Meadow (B):

Fiscal/Personnel Implications:

Potential Cuts:

- ❑ Reduction of 4 classrooms (216K)
- ❑ Administrative/Support savings (135K) – 1.0 principal, 1.0 secretary
- ❑ Other staff (264K) – 1.5 custodians, 1.0 ELL, 1.0 SE, 1.0 Intervention, 1.13 paras, 1.0 LPN, 1.0 therapeutic para

Potential Added Costs

- ❑ Added bus costs (10K)
- ❑ Shared cost (1/3) for principal (30K)
- ❑ Space Rental ???

Transitional costs:

- ❑ Moving materials/packing (70K)
- ❑ Prep day for teachers (55K)
- ❑ Move modulars (140K)

Potential Net Savings/(Costs):

- ❑ Year 1 \$310K minus space rental
- ❑ Year 2 \$575K minus space rental

Some Other Implications:

- ❑ Some bus runs lengthened by approximately 10-12 minutes
- ❑ Grade 6 students on secondary buses
- ❑ Current grade 5 students early transition to MS
- ❑ ARMS teachers will no longer have their own classrooms
- ❑ Requires vote of Regional School Committee as per Regional Agreement
- ❑ Impact of move by Pelham, Leverett and Shutesbury
- ❑ Requires contract negotiations regarding Wednesday early release, since 6th grade teachers will be on secondary time and calendar schedule
- ❑ Requires redistricting of all students