

## FAQ

1. What is the project cost for 2 new schools?

A: To be conservative, the assumed construction cost for each elementary school is \$29,750,000. The balance of the \$72 million is for other smaller projects. The project will not result in a tax rate increase.

2. It was stated in the recommendation that 1,300 students would have shorter bus routes if the two new schools are built, but what is the impact of this closure on transportation routes for students who live in the current Orchard Park Elementary district?

A: Most of the students currently at Orchard Park Elementary will be closer to their new school. Forest Dale Elementary will be the closest school for the approximately 335 students living in the Home Place neighborhood. If they are districted to Forest Dale, many will be as close to Forest Dale Elementary as the current Orchard Park Elementary. The maximum additional distance for any student in the Home Place neighborhood is approximately 1.3 miles or about 2.5 minutes.

3. Q. Since Orchard Park Elementary has the largest Title I programming participation in the district, how will the recommended closure impact the Title I programming that is currently in place at Orchard Park Elementary?

A. Assuming Home Place neighborhood attends Forest Dale Elementary, which is their closest school, these students will continue to receive Title I services.

4. Q. Why did the recommendation split the district East and West on College Ave, an arbitrary line that adjusts with each presentation?

A. College Avenue is not an arbitrary line; it is the approximate North-South center of the district.

5. Q. Why doesn't the school use the City district divisions utilized in city planning documents that split the district as West, North Central, South Central and East?

A. Carmel Clay Schools has no reason to use a planning document created by the City. Carmel Clay Schools is focused on where schools are located in relationship to where students live.

6. Q. How does moving a school from the South Central District to the West District even out the schools in the district? It simply moves "the hole" to a different part of the district?

A. There is no "hole" created by building a school on the near west side. In fact a school on the near west side will fill a hole.

7. Q. Why are we choosing to build new over renovation? Wouldn't renovation save the district millions of dollars?

A. Renovating Orchard Park Elementary or Carmel Elementary School would not even come close to the same standard as other Carmel Clay Schools buildings, and Orchard Park Elementary is in the wrong location.

8. Q. How will this impact the after-care programming that is utilized extensively at Orchard Park Elementary by the stakeholders in South Central Carmel due to the socio-economic need for this service?

A. All Carmel Clay Schools elementary schools have after school childcare available on site.

9. What are the likely impact on the elementary school day and the timing of the recommendation?

A. This topic has no impact to the school day. After the schools are opened approximately 1300 students will be closer to their school, and that will have some impact on ride time.

10. Currently \$25 million is budgeted for elementary school renovation/replacement in the 2020 bond projection. How will the recommendation affect this and/or future bond offerings? How about the impact on the tax rate?

A. The bond issue will likely be in the \$60 million range for 2 elementary schools. Other debt will be coming off the tax rolls therefore, there will be no tax rate increase.

11. Will the renovation of Carmel Elementary School and the construction of the new Orchard Park Elementary be conducted simultaneously?

A. Yes

12. How will renovation affect the operation of Carmel Elementary School?

A. A new building will be constructed on the current Carmel Elementary School site. The students will not be affected by the construction.

13. It has been stated that renovation is 80-90% the cost of a new building, but that is still less than building a new building, so why new? What will we get in a new building that isn't in the old one? We will get a facility designed from the ground up based on the most current thinking?

A. We will likely have a "green" building which reflects a responsible solution in the interest of the planet. We will have a building in the right location, which will meet the needs of the community and on sufficient acreage. We will invest all tax payer funds in new construction rather than a significant amount in demolition. We will not subject children and staff to the negative conditions of a renovation.

14. Why close Orchard Park Elementary since it is the biggest district as reported in the 2016 Carmel School Demographic Study?

The Orchard Park Elementary district does have the largest total population and it is the largest district geographically. However, even though it is the largest district in total population and geographically, the school has only 675 students. College Wood Elementary, on the other hand, is geographically one half the size of Orchard Park

Elementary, it has a total population of 4,150 but a student population of 755. The Orchard Park Elementary district has the lowest population of students in proportion to its total population and in proportion to its geographical area. To the extent possible, the location of the school needs to be in proximity of where the students reside, thus the recommendation for a school on Clay Center Road.

15. Will all Orchard Park Elementary students and staff move to the new school on Clay Center Road?

No. When the new school opens the Orchard Park Elementary students will be redistricted to other schools. Some Orchard Park Elementary students may attend the new school, but for many Orchard Park Elementary students other schools are closer to their home. For example, Forest Dale Elementary is closer for students living in the Home Place neighborhood.