

Annotated by SFC: Aug. 20, 2009

Updated: August 2, 2010

Albany County School District #1
District Facility Plan Vision Statement

March 3, 2009

A. Grade Configuration

i. Current

Laramie Elementary Schools, Harmony, Centennial	K-6	
Cozy Hollow & River Bridge Isolated Schools	K-8	
Snowy Range Academy Charter School	K-9	
U.W. Lab School	K-9	
Laramie Jr. High	7-9	
Rock River School		K-12
Whiting High School	9-12	
Laramie High School	10-12	

ii. Future

Laramie Elementary Schools, Harmony, Centennial	K-5	
Cozy Hollow & River Bridge Isolated Schools	K-8	
Snowy Range Academy Charter School	K-8	
U.W. Lab School	K-8	
Laramie Jr. High	6-8	
Rock River School		K-12
Whiting High School	9-12	
Laramie High School	9-12	

Upon completion of a new LHS facility, the District will be able to move forward moving the 9th grade to the high school as a transitional academy and research the possibility of a transitional 6th grade academy at the Jr. High. However, the modular classrooms at Linford Elementary are necessary to address current capacity issues.

B. Summary of School/District Operations Significantly Impacted by Current Facilities

Linford Elementary is at 101% of capacity and Laramie Elementary Schools collectively are at 94% of capacity. At Linford, this severely limits their ability to address the increasing number of Emotionally Disturbed students that are entering their population. Linford Elementary and Spring Creek Elementary schools lack space for additional students that are moving into the more affordable housing that is being built on the South and West sides of Laramie. An addition of four classrooms by adding two modular buildings at Linford Elementary next school year is vital in order to ease the overcrowding and address greater behavioral challenges at that school. An addition of two classrooms at Spring Creek Elementary in the near future is necessary to address the lack of space.

Laramie High School's health and safety problems with poor air handling systems has been established with the SFC since 2005 with the air quality study which indicates it does not meet standards particularly in the Science classrooms. In addition, Laramie High School's classrooms are educationally unsuitable as evidenced by their 53 score on the functionality index. A new high school facility is necessary since replacement of the air handling system and remodel of the classrooms is logistically not feasible.

Summary of Issues and Concerns Arising from Facility Condition

The primary facility condition issue is the poor air quality at Laramie High School which is due to the outdated air handling system which is in the raceways beneath the educational wings and cannot be easily replaced or repaired. A new high school facility is necessary since replacement of the air handling system and remodel of the classrooms is logistically not feasible.

Summary of Issues and Concerns Arising from Capacity

Linford Elementary is at 101% of capacity and Laramie Elementary Schools collectively are at 94% of capacity. At Linford, this severely limits their ability to address the increasing number of Emotionally Disturbed students that are entering their population. Linford Elementary and Spring Creek Elementary schools lack space for additional students that are moving into the more affordable housing that is being built on the South and West sides of Laramie. An addition of four classrooms is necessary in order to adequately address the lack of space at Linford Elementary. An addition of two classrooms at Spring Creek Elementary is necessary to address the lack of space.

Summary of Issues and Concerns Arising from Functionality

The primary facility functionality issue is the poor educational suitability (53 score) of Laramie High School which is due to the outdated design of the building which was first constructed in 1960 and has had 8 additions for a larger auditorium, music room, cafeteria, more classrooms, agriculture shop, auto shop, locker rooms, and a second gymnasium. The building functionality is not conducive to innovative education in the new millennium.

C. Planned Disposition of Facilities or Property

No disposition of facilities or property is planned at this time.

D. Strategies to Address Commission Goals:

i. Reduce Condition Items rated 1 or 2

Currently all the items on the facility assessment that were rated one or two are scheduled on our master facilities plan. Some of these projects have already been addressed most notably the cooling system at LJHS and the security issues at the Lab School, other projects will be addressed in the coming months and years. Some of the projects will be faze projects because of time constraints and will be completed over more than one summer. The only exception is the 1's and 2's at the Lab School. Since this is a leased building we cannot address these issues.

ii. Make Progress toward Achieving Allowable square footage

Laramie High School has excess capacity due to a shrinking student population and the number of additions to an outdated design. The inefficiency of this facility cannot be easily remedied; a new high school building will allow Albany County School District 9th grade students to be educated at the high school level in a more efficient building configuration.

iii. Make Progress toward Achieving Allowable acreage

The majority of Laramie schools are at or below SFC standards for site acreage. No reduction is necessary.

iv. Make Progress toward minimizing renting or leasing facilities

Albany County School District minimizes leasing facilities to strategic partnerships with the University Of Wyoming College Of Education, Big Brothers Big Sisters of South East Wyoming and the Snowy Range Academy Charter School. The lease for the U.W. Lab School is no cost; the Albany County School District does not have capacity at the elementary level to absorb 100+ students. Big Brothers Big Sisters leases the Nellie Iles facility which is heavily used by Elementary and Junior High age students after school reducing the latch key population. Their lease payment supports major maintenance costs for the facility. Snowy Range Academy Charter School has a 10 year lease with Wal Mart and has expanded their facility for their middle school and 9th grade. All of these leases are necessary to the success of Albany County students.

E. Other Information for the Commission

Albany County School District does not have any project enhancements.

SUMMARY

SFC recommends the district work with the WDE to reconfigure the high school now to a 9-12 configuration. Once the high school is reconfigured any capacity and functionality issues will be more readily identified which will enable the SFC to address the need for a new high school in this district.

The district disagrees with the formula to calculate capacity. The district also disagrees with the current calculation which indicates the high school is at 65% capacity. The district states the current high school cannot house the 9th grade students (approximately 250 students). The district doesn't believe the current infrastructure of the high school will allow 9th grade students to move into the high school.

The district disagrees with the capacity calculation which indicates Linford ES has a capacity of 70%. The district stated they have over 248 more students attending Linford ES. The district planned to use general funds to purchase a portable. Ken D. informed the district they did not need to use general funds and that the SFC will work with the district to provide a portable at Linford ES for the 2009-10 school year. The SFC will allow the district to use major maintenance to prepare an existing site for the portable and will provide for the lease payment from current unobligated capital construction funds (approximately \$35K for site work and \$1k/month for lease). The SFC will re-evaluate Linford ES for capacity.

The district also disagrees with the capacity calculation for Spring Creek ES. The district would like to build 2 classrooms at Spring Creek ES by using major maintenance to build one exterior wall. The SFC informed the district that under current law major maintenance funds cannot be used because the construction of an exterior wall will increase the square footage of the building. The SFC will enable the district to use component capital construction funds to build the wall. The cost for the addition is approximately \$600K including \$44K in design.

The district will complete the master plan report and provide a copy of it to the SFC. Once the master plan is reviewed by the SFC a determination will be made whether renovation of the high school with major maintenance is possible. A major renovation of the high school will address numerous component scores of 1 and 2.

Date August 2, 2010

Name Brian Recht, Ed Goetz, Mike Moeller, Suzanne Perry, Nancy Nuttbrock, Jim Lowham, Sen. Phil Nicholas (by telephone)

(i) A full description of the District's long-term goals and strategies related to its facilities, including disposition of facilities and modification of grade configurations and school boundaries;

Changes or modifications:

(District entry) It is the goal of ACSD #1 to have facilities that allow flexible use of instructional space and have good day lighting to improve student achievement. We want our facilities to be inviting and engaging instructional spaces with ventilation and heating that meets current health and safety standards. Our district's capacity and projected enrollment will not allow modification of grade configurations or school boundaries with existing facilities.

See electronic copy from ALB01. The district has, but has not confirmed with the community, a desire to configure as K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. The district has discussed this with the secondary schools and will discuss this with the elementary this year.

(ii) An inventory of all existing facilities and the current and anticipated future use of each facility, including grade configuration and student population, if applicable;

Changes or modifications:

(District entry) Our present facilities prevent reconfiguration of grades until the Laramie high school is modified to allow moving the 9th grade.

Closed Cozy Hollow ES since last year. Shown on AssetWorks.

(iii) A full description of all anticipated new or replacement facilities to be funded for the district over the next ten (10) years with a thorough explanation of the reasons supporting the perceived need for the new or replacement facility;

Project List Items:

(District entry) Add a phase 1 wing to LHS which would allow grade configuration changes and relieve crowding at the elementary schools by moving the 9th grade. Inadequate ventilation at LHS continues to be a serious concern that cannot be addressed within the current facility.

Add a wing to Laramie HS, renovate HS, and review capacity at the elementary, junior high will need routine and MM but probably not a major renovation.

The district is proposing a major renovation at Slade ES to address the need for a pitched roof, day lighting, HVAC.

Linford ES—the original design included adding two rooms. This would be similar to the addition at Spring Creek.

(iv) A full description of the anticipated impact of maintenance or renovation of facilities on the district's long-term goals and strategies, including non-construction alternatives.

Project List Items:

(District entry) Retrofit Slade Elementary School which was built in 1955 to incorporate the goals of flexibility and day lighting which conceptually can be done with a redesigned pitched roof.

Add two permanent classrooms to Linford Elementary to eliminate the two temporary modular classrooms

Major Maintenance Items:

Major Maintenance Expenditures Locations		2011-12	2012-13
Administration		\$ -	\$ -
Beitel		\$ -	\$ 260,000
Central Cafeteria		\$ -	\$ 200,000
Centennial		\$ 245,000	\$ -
Harmony		\$ 55,000	\$ -
IPES		\$ 60,000	\$ 50,000
Linford		\$ 10,000	\$ 150,000
LHS		\$ 415,000	\$ 120,000
Deti Stadium		\$ 55,000	\$ -
LJHS		\$ 275,000	\$ 225,000
Maintenance & Operations		\$ 88,000	\$ 88,000
River Bridge		\$ -	\$ -
Rock River		\$ 35,000	\$ -
Slade		\$ -	\$ 50,000
Spring Creek		\$ 60,000	\$ 275,000
Thayer (Whiting High School)		\$ 60,000	\$ -
Whiting (Special Services)		\$ 20,000	\$ -
Grand Total by Fiscal Year		\$ 1,378,000	\$ 1,418,000

(v) An inventory of all real property owned by the district along with an explanation of the current and future use of the property. District owned property shall be considered, and if possible, used for all construction projects prior to new property purchases being considered or approved;

Changes or modifications:

No changes

(vi) Identification of all local enhancements and community facilities which are capable of supporting any aspect of the district's long-term goals and strategies, including any current use of such facilities;

Changes or modifications:

No local enhancements.

(vii) Student enrollment projections for the district and each facility within the district in accordance with W.S. 21-15-116(a) and these rules and regulations;

Changes or modifications:

See SFC projections

District believes the projection is accurate.

(viii) Projections for acquisition of land in accordance with the district's long-term goals and strategies and the subsections of this rule;

Changes or modifications:

(District entry) Acquire land in the Turner Tract in east Laramie for a new elementary school. The City is experiencing significant growth in single family on the east side of Laramie.

The district has a mid-range (approximately 5 years) need for property east of Laramie. They are suggesting the Turner property.

(ix) Cost estimates in current and future dollars for the facility remedies proposed in the facility plan;

Project List Items:

(District entry) Laramie High School new wing and renovation \$61 million.

(District entry) Slade Elementary retrofit \$2.5 million

(District entry) Linford two additional classrooms \$645,000

Laramie HS new wing and renovation—the district estimates this at \$61M. John Quest will present a master plan to the SFC in September.

Slade ES renovation not well-defined, but may be near \$3.8M

Linford ES to add 2 additional classrooms \$645,000

Other

(x) Identification of all leased spaces, including the identity of the lessee/lessor;

Changes or modifications:

No changes

(xi) Cross-reference to any appropriate additional source of relevant information, including computer databases maintained by the Commission;