

Annotated by SFC: September 2009
Updated: June 2010

Niobrara County School District #1
Facility Vision Plan
May 7, 2009

Niobrara County School District #1 is a county-wide school district that encompasses Niobrara County and some 40 sections of Goshen County. It is roughly 75 mile long and 40 miles wide. The Union Pacific railroad runs through the district east and west on two sets of tracks which can also impact transportation of students. Niobrara County is a huge sparsely populated county making transportation of students to and from school a major issue. Currently there are schools in the town of Lusk, a K-5 school, a 6-8 school and a 9-12 school, and a K-8 school in Lance Creek, Wyoming. Lusk is over 50 miles from Douglas to the west, 90 miles from Newcastle to the north and 60 miles from Torrington to the south.

Lusk Elementary School is a self-contained two-section school. We utilize some pull out special education classrooms, some Title 1 classrooms and share a gymnasium, art room, music room, library, cafeteria and commons area with the Lusk Middle School.

Lusk Middle School is basically a two section middle school with classrooms for 2 sections of 6th, 7th and 8th grade classes and the shared areas mentioned above.

Lance Creek School is a two-room modular that houses students in grades K-8 and has a gymnasium on site as well.

Niobrara County High School is a 9-12 building which houses a comprehensive high school.

Our facilities are in excellent shape with the single exception of the all-weather track at NCHS. We have taken care of all 1's and 2's with the exception of the Lance Creek Gym which we will not spend a considerable sum of money to improve. We are working to find a method to rebuild the track facility. School configurations will remain the same in the foreseeable future and that the school locations will remain the same as well. There are no planned boundary changes. We have no operations that are impacted by current facilities nor do we anticipate any at this time.

We also do not anticipate any capacity issues in the near future. The women's prison has doubled in size and the staff has been hired there resulting in a small student gain for the district but will not impact the current facilities. We now have about 375 students and will drop to 365 next year, but should maintain that number for the next several years.

Niobrara County School District will continue to use major maintenance funds to maintain our facilities and provide a quality education in high quality, safe buildings. The maintenance committee meets at least annually to discuss long term maintenance issues and has planned the expenditure of major maintenance funds through 2012. Our planning also includes requests for minor cap money to assist with major projects such as heating and cooling system upgrades as major maintenance money is not always adequate for those kinds of projects.

On September 10, Rick Luchsinger, Superintendent, and Bonnie Zowada, Business Manager, met by telephone conference with SFC staff to discuss the facility plan.

- i) Vision statement
 - a. Grade configuration is as shown in the WDE directory.
 - b. The district has an 8 lane all weather surface track that is deteriorating. SFC standard calls for a 6 lane asphalt track. The district is not sure what they will be able to do. One end of the track is 4 feet lower than the other end so significant civil work would be required to correct this elevation change.
 - c. The district does not own the ground under the building at Lance Creek.
- ii) The inventory of facilities was correct
- iii) No new or replacement facilities are projected
- iv) See Maximus for MM
 - a. Other work to be undertaken
 - i. HS—tile in the science room
 - ii. Parking lot maintenance
 - iii. Play ground work
 - iv. VOIP in elementary school
 - v. Carpet replacement
- v) The real property inventory is correct
- vi) There are no enhancements
- vii) Student enrollment is flat
- viii) No land acquisitions are contemplated
- ix) See MM
- x) The district leases the ground under Lance Creek School.

Date June 21, 2010

Name Rick Luchsinger, Bonnie Zowada, Nancy Nuttbrock, Merle Smith, Jim Lowham

(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;

Verified _____

Changes or modifications:

No changes

(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;

Verified _____

Changes or modifications:

No changes

(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:

No changes foreseen

(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:

Major Maintenance Items:

Repair ceiling—current funding

2011

- VOIP in grade school
- Playground
- Carpet in HS

2012

Carpet in ES

(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;

Verified _____

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;

Verified _____

Changes or modifications:

8 lane all weather track needs repair; this should be considered in the 2012 budget as it is an enhancement

(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;

Verified _____

Changes or modifications:

Enrollment is flat—there was a large increase in the number of virtual students

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

Verified _____

Changes or modifications:

None needed

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

Project List Items:

Track renovation should be considered next year. The cost would exceed the MM account.

Other

MM will fund the maintenance taking place in the district.

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

Verified _____

Changes or modifications:

The land on which the Lance Creek School sits is leased

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

Verified _____