

## KIEL AREA School District

**KIEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT** 

# COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP

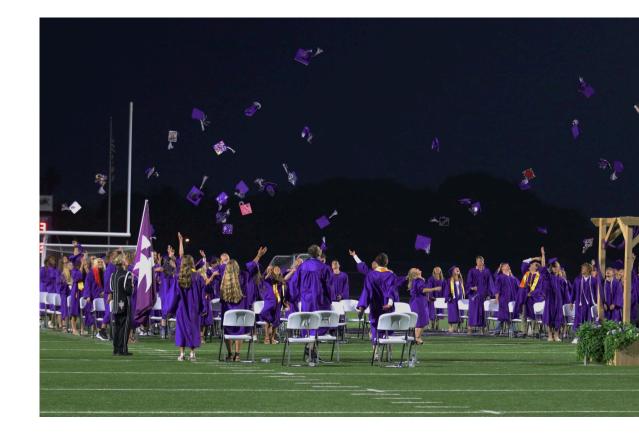
Board Presentation | February 7, 2024

**BRAY**ARCHITECTS



#### **Agenda**

- 1. Community Focus Group summary
- 2. Master plan pathway summary
- 3. Community Focus Group feedback
- 4. Next steps





## COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP SUMMARY



#### **COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP SUMMARY**

#### **Participants**

- 28 community members representatives from the general community, staff / teachers, parents (past & current), graduates / alumni, etc.
- District administration, building administrators, and facilities team members
- Board member observers
- Partners Bray Architects & CD Smith Construction

#### **Structure**

- 4 meetings + 1 follow up discussion + survey
- 3 building tours
- Multiple small group breakout sessions with large group discussion





#### **COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP SUMMARY**

#### Meeting #1 – September 25, 2023

- 1. Background and timeline
- 2. Facilities study and master planning
- School district finance 101
- 4. Middle School building tour

#### **Meeting #2 – October 23, 2023**

- High School building tour
- Debrief on tours and recap meeting #1
- 3. Option / solution exploration master plan pathways
- 4. Small group breakout session provide feedback on pathways



#### **COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP SUMMARY**

#### **Meeting #3 – November 27, 2023**

- 1. Zielanis Elementary building tour
- 2. Debrief on tour and recap meeting #2
- 3. Option / solution exploration concepts and budgets

#### Meeting #4 – December 18, 2023

- 1. Recap meeting #3
- 2. Small group breakout session provide feedback on concepts and budgets
- 3. Discuss School Board presentation by Community Focus Group

#### **Meeting #5 – January 30, 2024**

1. Review draft School Board presentation by Community Focus Group





For more information on the facility assessment and master planning process, please visit the Kiel Area School District website:

https://www.kiel.k12.wi.us/community/facility-assessment-master-planning.cfm

#### **Capital Maintenance and infrastructure (from Facility Study)**

- Zielanis Elementary
  - \$6.1M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure
- Kiel Middle School
  - \$8.3M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure
- Kiel High School
  - \$10.2M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure

Poor condition - total budget of \$24.6M



#### **Pathway 1**

#### **Addition & Renovation at Current KMS**

Kiel Middle School

- \$13.2M Addition to existing KMS
- \$16.5M Renovation of existing KMS
- \$11.2M Capital maintenance and infrastructure
- \$40.9M Middle School total District Office
- \$2.2M Addition to KMS or KHS (or reduce KMS renovation and keep existing)

**Total - \$43.1M** 

### Capital Maintenance & Infrastructure

Zielanis Elementary

- \$6.1M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure Kiel High School
- \$10.2M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure

**Total - \$16.3M** 



#### Pathway 2

#### **New Middle School on Current KMS Site**

Kiel Middle School standalone building

 \$66.1M – New building on existing site (with 2court gym)

District Office, Technology Department, BTLVA, Greater Options

\$4.5M – Addition to KMS or KHS

**Total - \$70.6M** 

## Capital Maintenance & Infrastructure

Zielanis Elementary

- \$6.1M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure Kiel High School
- \$10.2M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure

**Total - \$16.3M** 



#### **Pathway 2a**

#### **Middle School Addition on Current KHS Site**

Kiel Middle School attached to Kiel High School

- \$62.5M Addition to KHS (with 3-court gym) District Office, Technology Department, BTLVA, Greater Options
- \$4.5M Addition to KMS or KHS

**Total - \$67.0M** 

## Capital Maintenance & Infrastructure

Zielanis Elementary

- \$6.1M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure Kiel High School
- \$10.2M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure

**Total - \$16.3M** 



#### Pathway 5

## High School Addition to KHS & Convert Portions of Existing KHS to Middle School

Kiel Middle School

- \$6.2M Renovation allowance to convert portions of existing KHS to Middle School Kiel High School
- \$62.5M HS Addition to current KHS (with 3court gym)

District Office, Technology Department, BTLVA, Greater Options

\$4.5M – Addition to KMS or KHS

**Total - \$73.2M** 

## Capital Maintenance & Infrastructure

Zielanis Elementary

- \$6.1M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure Kiel High School
- \$10.2M Poor condition capital maintenance and infrastructure

**Total - \$16.3M** 





#### Takeaways from KASD background information

- 1. The District provided thoughtful planning to get to this point via the 10-year capital plan and the projects that have already been completed and are planned to be completed
- 2. The District can't undertake a larger project, such as addressing the long-term solution for the Middle School, without a referendum.
- 3. The KASD master plan has been an ongoing effort for several years, worked on by several past and present school board members.
  - August 2021 B&G committee began discussion about whether or not to continue investing more money into the MS prior to doing a facility assessment.
  - March 2022 B&G recommended partnership with Bray & CD Smith to full board to conduct a facility assessment district-wide.



#### Takeaways from building tours and facility study

Zielanis Elementary School (built in 1962, 2 additions)

- 1. The windows are original to the building and cause heating and cooling inefficiencies.
- 2. Many original items have outlived their useable life and need replacement floors (asbestos), doors, cabinets, lights, restrooms.
- 3. No Air Conditioning in the majority of the building.
- 4. The roofs have been maintained well and have exceeded life expectancy but need replacement. As a result of mindful budgeting, they're intended to be replaced soon.
- 5. Safety concerns over security at cafeteria doors cafeteria also houses Full Circle Care.



#### Takeaways from building tours and facility study

Kiel Middle School (built in 1928, 9 additions)

- 1. Although there are multiple concerns with this building, we are ensured students' / staff health, and safety is still upheld and adequate. As the building continues to age, this becomes more and more concerning.
- 2. Safety, Security and Accessibility limitations throughout the building.
- 3. Existing accessibility and layout of building poses numerous challenges that can't be fixed with an addition or remodel cost out ways the benefit.
- 4. Elevator is the only means of egress for bound students/staff with mobility issues and has a history of breakdowns (3 in the last 10 months).
- 5. Visible structural and foundation flaws; front entry stairs are failing and should be made accessible. Water infiltration issues because of cracks and window wells.
- 6. HVAC systems are 30+ years old with no air conditioning, making it difficult to keep consistent temps throughout the building during all seasons.



#### Takeaways from building tours and facility study

Kiel Middle School (built in 1928, 9 additions) continued...

- 7. Standing water in the sub-basement and at times the basement floods during spring thaw and heavy rain events causing mold.
- 8. Insurance issue
- 9. Poor interior conditions crumbling plaster, asbestos ceiling/floor tiles, lead paint
- 10. Non-working showers in locker rooms + poor ventilation = strong aromas
- 11. Leaking pipes in basement
- 12. Small classroom size makes teaching and learning difficult.
- 13. 7th graders are primarily located in the Lower Level with limited access to daylight during school hours
- 14. Clock system is not in sync on all floors

Children experience many changes during 'Middle School' years, and their environment can have a major impact!



#### Takeaways from building tours and facility study

Kiel High School (built in 1968, 4 additions)

- 1. Secure entry with visibility for office personnel needs to be addressed.
- 2. Mechanical upgrades and new additions have enhanced the school positively, but there is still more work to be done on mechanical upgrades.
- 3. Older restrooms and locker rooms need to be remodeled and made ADA accessible.
- 4. Locker Room ventilation is terrible on warm days, the smell permeates.
- 5. Pool structure has ongoing risk as it ages and pool is undersized and therefore cannot host swim meets.
- Tech Ed and FFA wing is limited on storage currently using empty student lockers for project storage



## **Poor condition / high priority capital maintenance and infrastructure items**Opportunities

- 1. Increased Safety, Security, and Accessibility for all students and staff.
- 2. Many items listed are original to the buildings (exceeding life expectancy).
- Upgrading or replacing older equipment will likely lessen operating costs by providing efficiencies.
- 4. Proper HVAC systems improve overall environment for staff and students, physically and mentally.

## **Poor condition / high priority capital maintenance and infrastructure items**Challenges

- There is still a cost for doing nothing. Over time, Fair condition items become Poor condition items. Poor condition items become Failing items.
- Without referendum approval, some of these maintenance needs cannot be addressed with budgeted funds.
- 3. We've reached a critical point in time, where if we don't address concerns at the Middle School, there will be greater health and safety concerns. We need to decide: Do we invest dollars into a <u>96 year old</u> MS, or invest dollars into a <u>New</u> MS.

## Pathway 1 – Addition & Renovation at Current KMS Opportunities

- 1. Creates more space for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (currently utilize the smallest classrooms)
- 2. Centralized learning organized by grade
- 3. Improved entry
- 4. Least expensive option

#### Challenges

- High mileage on the existing building with future costs for capital maintenance
- 2. Still an old building
- 3. ADA challenges throughout the existing building
- 4. Accessibility / traffic flow



## Pathway 2 – New KMS Building on Current KMS Site Opportunities

- Fixing problems, not just a band aid
- 2. Fresh start for capital maintenance with a new building
- 3. Keeping middle school and high school grades separate
- 4. Better accessibility
- 5. Demolition of existing building included in budget

#### Challenges

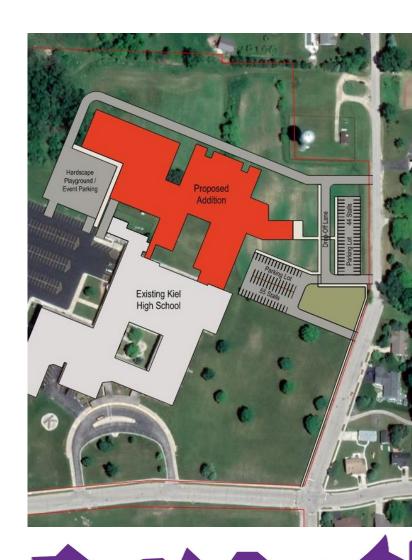
- 1. Still need to bus kids between middle school and high school for advanced classes
- 2. No shared resources between middle school and high school
- 3. Land-locked on existing middle school site
- 4. Higher initial cost



#### Pathway 2a – KMS Addition to KHS

**Opportunities** 

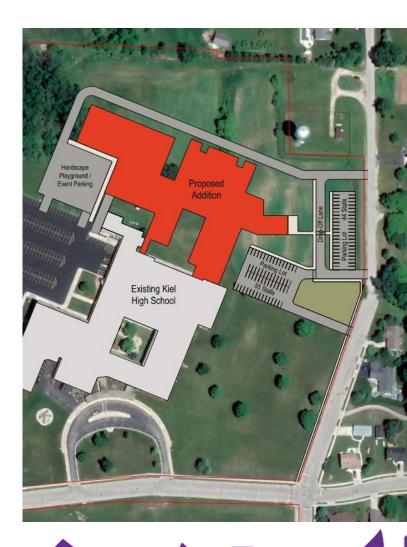
- 1. More building for lower cost (than pathway 2)
- 2. Ability for shared spaces between middle school and high school, but maintain separate identity
- 3. 3-station (court) gymnasium would allow for broader district and community benefits including physical education, athletics, tournaments, etc.
- 4. Easier to share resources and staff between middle school and high school
- 5. Easier access to advance classes for middle school students
- 6. Fresh start on capital maintenance with the addition (new construction)
- 7. Mentorship opportunities between middle school and high school



#### Pathway 2a – KMS Addition to KHS

#### Challenges

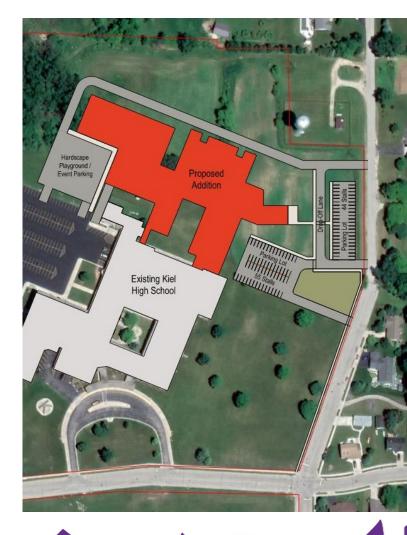
- 1. Initial cost and tax impact
- 2. Does it inhibit future growth at the high school?
- 3. Getting the community on board with the combined campus and cost of the project
- 4. Safety of students walking to school / getting younger students to the site / crossing Park Ave.
- 5. Potential for unwanted interactions between older and younger students



## Pathway 5 – High School Addition to KHS & Convert Portions of Existing KHS to Middle School

**Opportunities** 

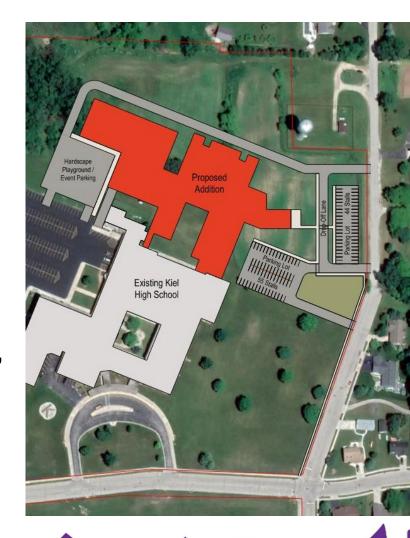
- 1. Potentially the most future proof option with oldest students in newest space
- 2. Newest technology for high school students to support real world / career readiness



## Pathway 5 – High School Addition to KHS & Convert Portions of Existing KHS to Middle School

#### Challenges

- 1. Higher initial cost and tax impact
- 2. Existing high school works well, and might not have as much space / flexibility in "right-sized" school
- 3. Potentially not enough perceived value for the added cost
- 4. Moving / recreating spaces that work currently (science labs, classrooms, etc.)
- High school students and staff would be further from the pool, performing arts center, weight room, and other high school focused spaces and functions





#### **Summary**

- There is a lot of analysis that's been done and documented. Before coming to a conclusion, we urge the board and community to do their research and ask questions.
- 2. Learning and teaching environments have changed as time goes on exponential changes since 2020.
- The "Poor" listed items are NOT because of the lack of maintenance done by KASD.
- 4. Budgeted amounts are high level, NTE (not to exceed) costs that assume bidding in 2025.
- 5. Kicking the can down the road would place the burden of replacement on future generations.
- 6. There is still a cost for doing nothing.



#### **COST OF "DOING NOTHING"**

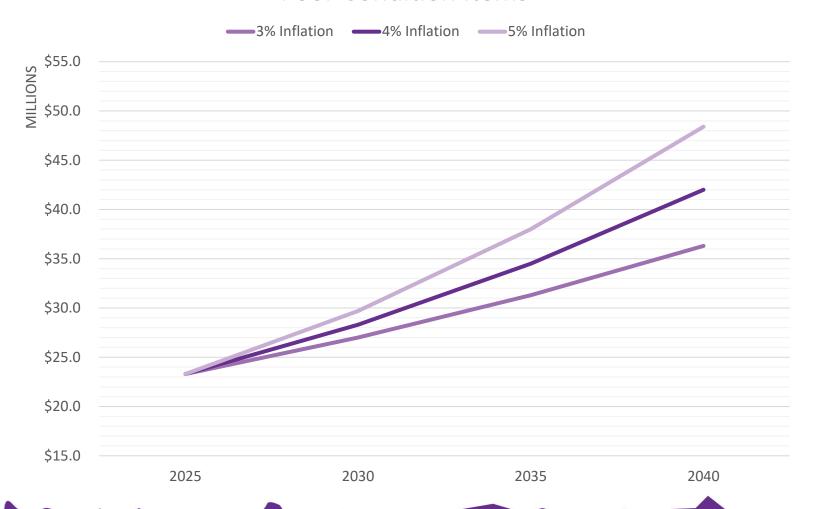
#### **Considerations**

- 1. Educational impact on students
- 2. Professional impact on teachers and staff
- 3. Accessibility and equity impact for students and staff
- 4. Poor condition items / immediate needs continue to age, cause problems, and / or potentially fail
- 5. Fair condition items / emerging needs continue to age and eventually become more immediate needs
- 6. Construction inflation / cost increases for both infrastructure and capital maintenance items and addition (new construction) and renovation work (examples on following slides)



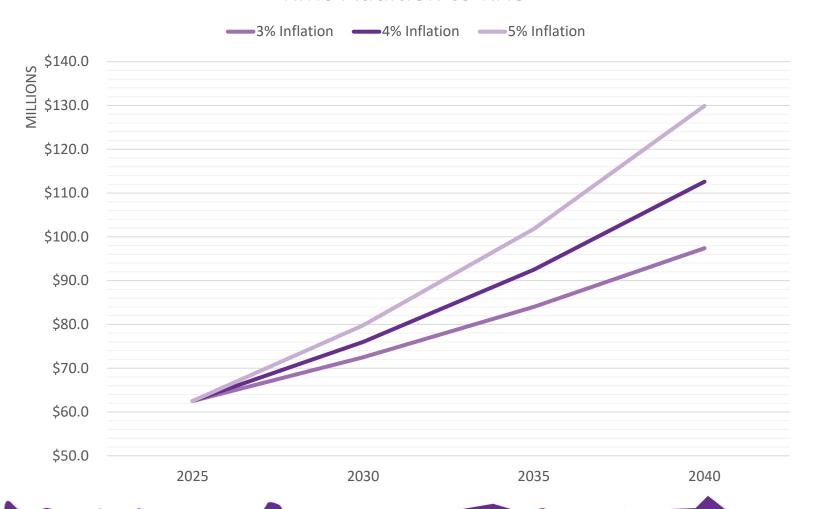
#### **COST OF "DOING NOTHING"**

#### Poor Condition Items



#### **COST OF "DOING NOTHING"**

#### KMS Addition to KHS



#### **Call to Action**

As a group, we URGE the board to:

- Send out a survey and host community open houses
- Review and analyze the results
- If favorable, seek viable options for referendum
- Stop spending unnecessary money on the Middle School building

#### **Our Recommendation**

 Based on what we know today, the majority of our group is recommending proceeding with some version of Pathway 2a. Pathways 2 and 5 are still viable options for consideration, but based on our findings we recommend 2a. We realize there are tax implications on <u>all of us</u> if the community decides to go this route, therefore we invite the community to provide constructive feedback via survey.



## **QUESTIONS?**



#### **Next Steps**

- 1. Timeline
- 2. Community survey
- 3. Open house / building tour opportunities

#### PRELIMINARY TIMELINE

#### Hypothetical November 2024 Referendum

2022 2023 2024 Phase / Task Project initiation Facility, capacity analysis, and educational needs verification Educational needs assessment Building + Grounds Committee | Progress updates Board presentation | Progress updates Option / solution exploration Community focus groups / engagement sessions Refinement of options / solutions based on community feedback Preparation Community survey ------ Printing / deployment Results School Board finalization of referendum scope based on community survey School Board adoption of referendum resolution(s) 0-0 Referendum information campaign / continued community engagement Potential referendum date November 5, 2024



## THANK YOU!

