

## **Decision Driver Comments**

From forms submitted on paper and online

- Academic Excellence
- Cost
- Community Values
- Safety
- Future
- Other

## **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

Keep our stop students. Brain drain will really hurt the district. On technology you need to have power available throughout rooms and under floors.

Give students of Fairfax more opportunity to grow academically. I always hear of “more opportunities” in way of after school activities or PTO driven activities) for reasons of enrollment.

Keep a school in Fairfax. It doesn't make a difference in what sort of configuration.

Blend students earlier for improved academics and diversity.

Peer mentoring – which happens best in a K-5 age group rather than splitting K-2, 3-5, etc.

Parental Involvement – K-2, 3-5 makes it very difficult to have the parental involvement as strong as it is

Information sharing on students will be better on K-5

Students needs to feel secure and safe and loved – a K-5 with 700 kids is too large to offer this.

Important – yet we must do project correctly.

My “gut reaction” to this list is that we need to take care not to over value the importance of technology—this category is huge and it can also be very east for a school district to spend time, money, resources that only duplicate what students can learn elsewhere. Lab space, in other words, seems much more important that laptops.

I think most people would agree that this is the most important driver.

Important to consider space for the arts—music rooms that don't have to get up and taken down wasting valuable class time

Technology – fibre optics/10GBT1 line (internet)

Dedicated Space – dedicated gym, auditorium, cafeteria

Athletic facilities for junior high

Dedicated space – yes

Nice to have separate gym, lunch & auditorium, maybe use other districts to view as examples

Heating/cooling can affect attention & learning appropriate space for learning (i.e. tutoring)

Keeping small class size

Student/teacher ratio

Student/teacher ratio

Conditions are affecting learning, i.e. noisy air conditioner, condition may be keeping new families away

Lap tops a must for high school, maybe even JH

Expected, I don't think the excellence of school district will be impacted by any change. It will be here regardless.

Conducive learning environment—how bad can it be if our kids are doing so well, we have been “excellent for over 20 years”—let's not go overboard

I feel the district would staff excellent no matter what is done, class size? – would this increase class sizes, expect good learning environment, technology

I feel confident this will be addressed appropriately. By the way, I'm not a fan of “flat screen learning” and jamming a screen in front of very student

Teacher appropriate space, what is best for class, what other technology exists, what do other skills-thin client technology

Overall learning experience – not just test scores. Beyond smart board/wireless technology—this will be outdated

What do the educators want to need to enhance the learning environment

What do the educators want; highest greatest education; how can sr. hi concentrate in math when gym is happening, stairways small

Avoid educational fads

Flexible, adaptable class space - Global idea, not just “hard class walls”

Structural flexibility in entire learning environment—can fix an entire space as needed like an office, desks that accommodate technology

High priority to continue to be recognized as a Blue Ribbon School

Most important

Nothing has affected learning before, we currently and consistently get “excellent” ratings from the State of Ohio, with the current facilities.

Change “academic excellence” to “learning environment.” “Academic Excellence may lead people to think we need to improve or we are not already academically excellent.

While I agree with the bullet points, I believe the title could be changed. The current heading has a hint of fear with it. As in, we will lose our excellent rating if these things are not addressed.

These are very important to me

How have other handled this, i.e. older universities and institutions worldwide that have managed to maintain excellence in extremely old buildings, much older than Mariemont

Important to consider in the planning as long as it’s acknowledge that are schools can maintain excellence without everything being perfect or brand new

Am not aware this is a major problem now—tho certainly important

Multi-use spaces may be more economical and provide some level of functionality

Given

This is very important, but is affected by all the other parameters.

I think it is very important to environments 9 no air conditioner/heat going off, etc.)

I feel academic excellence is and should be the paramount objective for the district.

All very important

Technology – very important, technology is a must for our students to stay competitive

Expect excellence

The learning environment is very important, we need to improve the building

Should be able to have smaller classes for regular students if necessary so they do not go to private schools. (which is where some go as they want more one-on-one attention).

This is most important driver in my opinion—to have excellent facilities to assist learning

Property values include expectation of community school. Landscaping –not necessary. student personal space – not necessary

Student/teacher ratio should remain low

Academic excellence – very important

Science lab facilities especially important, quality of program most important—if spend too much on facilities, academics may suffer

Excellence is key but see facilities being key only for environment, heat, light

Languages (foreign language programs) – strong academic opportunities

Use mission to drive plan: Students today/Leaders tomorrow

Student/teacher ratio, maintain small class sizes, want earlier tracking for math, science, English, more foreign language options

Student/teacher ratio

This (for me) must be at the top of the list of decision drivers. Consider in “flexible space” special ed., gifted students needs. The cafeteria in many of our current schools are hot and loud

Ease of use to child’s age

I am from a small school and I want every learning opportunity to be available to my children

Transfer of info to teachers. Parent involvement. Moved to Mariemont for the excellent schools (paid twice as much for a lot less square footage to be in Mariemont community.

Our fine arts (orchestra in particular) is poised to be a key differentiator for our district. If we can’t tackle this, everything else could a moot point

Loot at how successful our schools have been considering the physical plant condition. A building does not make the educational excellence. However, it must technically responsible.

Focus on small class sizes

Class size based on amount the levy or dollars proposed?

Having a more expensive school may take away from academic excellence

Anything will be an improvement on physical building. Technology should be a big focus, as that will be critical to future academic excellence

Class size?—ok explained well – thanks!

This is very important and attracts new families to the neighborhood. To ensure enrollment, stay at our above current levels, this must be maintained.

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Extensive research has shown no link between type, size and extent of educational facilities and student achievement. Does someone really believe that spending millions of dollars to upgrade facilities will improve the current educational performance of Mariemont students.

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Technology will be about more than smart boards and wireless. Anticipating technology access to greater class room instruction scenarios should influence how the space is configured. I heard an acronym on NPR last week - - a science friday show - - I think it was GWY - - Google / Youtube / Wikipedia. It referred to the role these information vehicles will have in addressing the shortage of instruction staff in the hard sciences (one that will apparently grow much more severe in the next 20 years).

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No one can argue that the classrooms need to be a good learning environment, but it should be kept in mind that we are a small school district and want to keep it that way. As a result, we may need to over lap some of our space needs. Dedicated space (labs, instructional storage, “specials/electives”, recreation (recess, sports), fine arts)

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Providing a conducive learning environment is second only to the quality of the teachers and administrative staff to support them. We have lived (and learned) that the open classroom (pod) environment is not an ideal teaching platform. Given the design of the current HS, we are stuck with the physical structure until major construction project is approved. MHS has received Academic Excellence rating in the past with the current setup. We should be able to do it again and it should be repeatable.

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students can learn in less than perfect physical environments.this is self evident thru history.concentrate on the most current technology that is portable and energy efficient.don't worry about the other things in this driver category

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New or improved facilities DOES NOT equal academic excellence!!!

The quality of our schools is due to the values of our residents and quality of teaching staff--not more of our tax dollars.

## **COST**

Balancing short and long term cost – focus efficient operational cost, energy use, not just LEED.

All the options are close enough in cost as you are talking about such large numbers.

This seems a very appropriate category and well thought out.

I see cost as the constraint... now can we satisfy all the 4 drivers and have it be financially viable. I think there also have to be put into context...e.g. what's the capital or ongoing cost. . . at per year over the life of the building and how much does that equal per resident. Probably 3<sup>rd</sup> most important to me after academics and safety...it has to fit and make sense and to me that means community schools.

Most important

Before and after school care –nice for children/parents in community

Landscaping – not on my list of great important

Day care for teachers/staff

Cost of broken or inefficient buildings – can far out weigh the cost of new and efficient and environmentally responsible.

Any future improvements should include reducing operating costs, i.e., staffing, transportation, utility, etc.

I am not cost sensitive to any of these plans—willing to pay whatever

Would like teachers input in this area

Constant cost that has highs & lows based on year

All costs being considered is important, but willing to pay more to get academic excellence, safety & future planning

We need to keep our taxes affordable

If I had to rank these drivers, this would be my first priority

I don't want to spend so much on “buildings” that we can't maintain competitive teachers, programs, etc.

Would add: Impact on property values to drivers. In town of Mariemont (and perhaps also in TP, FX) families pay a premium to be in a “walkable town,” which includes kids walking to school. Without walkability, my not move to Wyoming, Madeira, Loveland, etc., - more house for the money.

Comfort – AC – Heating – ADA standards

We've been taxed already and have had a budget cut since then. Where will the money come from?

Impact on property value and the desire to move to Mariemont in the future must be evaluated

Temporary space while renovations are done

I believe a long-term view needs to be taken with respect to cost control. If it is determined that long-term maintenance expenses would be more than modernizing facilities, then new facilities should be phased in over time.

I believe that we need to look at all operational costs

Expect reasonable costs, but will accept more costs than in Lakota, for instance

Take one building or project at a time and start now with along term plan

Need to keep up on modernizing building equipment and updating when necessary

Future relevance in all headings in order to sustain long term

Property value being affected, how the schools are affected

Very Important

I have concerns regarding improving our buildings to state standards for new construction, tax burden/affordability

Affordability must be evaluated in terms of impact to tax vote

Unavoidable, important, but shouldn't be primary driver of the plan

Green?

Cost is vitally important, but educational is critical

I appreciate the open dialogue with budget in the forefront

How often a proposed bond issue will the Bd. of Ed. come back to the voters looking for additional money?

Willing to pay more for better for keeping #1 & #3

You are probably over-estimating long-term savings by updating the building

Cost is not the most important option, balance against cost constraints

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Still a mystery why maintenance costs are not impacted differentially across the options - - or is this embedded in the staffing impacts?

And what about potential sale of the unused locations to help fund the construction at the other sites?

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It would be extremely helpful to see an aggregate budget for the 5- and/or 10-year costs of operating under each of the options. Only when you look at the long-term implications of staff, transportation and utility cost additions/savings per year do you truly understand the differences of each option. Without these figures presented publicly it is difficult to fathom the vast differences between the plans.

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In light of the long term nature of the project, I would like to see what impact these numbers have on a year by year basis for a \$300,000 house. These numbers are usually what are used when trying to pass or defeat a levy, so I think it would give people a better understanding of what the cost would be for the projects.

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Surely the cost of on going renovations should be considered whether you go with a new building vs keeping the old buildings. I would have thought that the upkeep of new buildings would less expensive than the old buildings - even if you spend a lot of money now to renovate.

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Does the Mariemont School board actively pursue any and all government grant programs? I know other schools have personnel dedicated to this process. Have you spoken with Lakota?

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design the budget so you can operate on only 60% of funds .invest the remainder and grow an endowment.if and when economic times are booming increase expenditures to no more than 75% of revenue.when adopting new expenditures plan a yearly maint cost in to the future as part of actual cost. eliminate transportation and adopt a community run shuttle service with a small portion of original budget.eliminate 75% of grounds care buy adopting natural areas.small grass and landscaping taught as a class to students. take some open spaces and put in new energy technologies taught as a class and partnered instruction with the private sector who wins the contract.

run the school on a longer schedule with staffing in offset shifts. hire the BEST teachers and staff and expand the concept of the building to include daycare with classes in that skill.built in tutoring before and after school.adult education. business sharing the space and teaching students of all ages their trades and skills. get the school board to adopt a working plan with the business sector to concentrate on expanding corporate participation in schools as part of their commitment. get business in our community.! lobby the state to allocate huge sums of revenue from gas,liquor.lottery and soon to be gambling and take the burden of education and place it more equally across the board ,thus relieving the individual taxpayer.

75% of revenue

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The cost of maintaining the structure of the district is far more beneficial in my opinion than brand new buildings with the wrong configuration.

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We are not in favor of our young elementary student being bussed out of Mariemont for this reconstruction.

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We all agree in these tough economic times that we need to be fiscally prudent. However, this is a long term decision which will effect our villages for years to come. As tough as these times are it will be temporary, we will bounce back. I would still pay more in taxes to offer the educational environment that our children currently have, there are very few experiences left like ours in the entire country.

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While I appreciate cost and discipline fiscal responsibility, the difference in these choices on an annual basis per household is nominal vs. what we get (I'm thinking the mastercard commercial...you can enumerate all the costs involved the having a school system that reflects the community values that are Mariemont, instills academic excellence and supports our home values is simply priceless

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We are OK with rebuilding or upgrading buildings depending on the more cost effective option. Key considerations are that the buildings support all curriculum and activity needs, E.G. lab space, auditorium, athletics. These buildings are very much a part of the fabric of the community. The buildings need to remain pedestrian focused and maintain a classic architectural style.

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Agree. I am surprised that none of the options have lower utility bills vs. today. With all of the old and deteriorating infrastructure, I have to believe new or renovated buildings would be more efficient. eg. Taking advantage of natural lighting, high efficiency heating and cooling (geothermal?), etc.

A\_4292009105704PM.TXT

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As with anything, the plan needs to be affordable.....and to me that means we should focus our funds on what matters....and only what matters. I would be happy if our schools looked like rectangular cement boxes on the exterior if what goes on inside the building achieves excellence. In this time of fiscal crisis in our community, let's not go overboard with the niceities that have little to nothing to do with Academic Excellence & Community (from the standpoint of building successful youth with strong character). Lower the priority for landscaping, Tudor sytling, bronze plaques commemorating the day we broke ground, and other optional fluff .

## **COMMUNITY VALUES**

Architecturally, appropriate context, before and after school care are important to me, Separate community schools are not.

Architecturally historic context – strongly agree

Concerns regarding changing “community school” and how this could impact property values. Many families purchased homes in these three communities based on proximity to school—pay large/high price for homes.

Community Schools – Mariemont is an award-winning planned community that has a lot to do with village, walking, community, etc. An elementary school that is walkable is core to that

Landscaping – good but lower priority.

Not just community schools – Mariemont Elementary in the community village

Appear to fit in – don’t need historic building if it’s no longer functional.

Sense of relationship building by walking, hanging around school— kids feel a part of the school before they are even there!

Community schools is not as important to be than the academics. Landscaping is not so important. Before and after care in the district is costly.

Community schools – Important!

Community schools – walkability

Architecturally historic context – at least for those on main road near square

Unique district model versus surrounding communities

Some elements here need more clarification. Do all of the communities value the same things?

Infant/toddler care for teachers (to keep great teachers in the system)

“Community Schools” is an open-ended statement—does it mean an elementary in each village or only a school building

Community schools – is this an elementary in each community or a school in each community

Combining communities at an early age

Property values

Community schools – does this mean one school per community, joining up of kids between communities at an earlier grade, property values how will these be impacted, equity among the communities, why ME loses out and TP mean

Value merging community students at an early age

How will this impact property values

Mariemont is truly a community school—please keep it

Important to keep each village with a school due to older/current residents, however, would not be an issue as time goes by

Feel it is “Mariemont Community Schools”—students should be combined K-12

Architecturally historic – very important

Has to fit look of each village, everyone whom I have talked to wants community schools.

Community schools – negotiable, Architecturally historic – important, before & after school – at a cost to individuals

Does this look like a Mariemont School (not Mason), green design – lead, silver, like that you can walk K-5 to school

This is the most important category to me. I move to TP because of how the school looked. If I wanted an ugly mega-crowded campus, I would have gotten a helluva lot more house for my money in Mason

Mariemont residents want and enjoy a walking community. We want to walk our children to elementary schools.

Before/after school care – does not seem to be much of a priority, community schools – makes community unique

Add: what value does a community school provide to property values

Before after school care – a must

Landscaping – I would make this part of plan but labor (major cost) to come from the students & community

Neighborhood elementary schools are important! PTO's can pay for landscaping

Very important, what to be able to have elementary school age children to be able to walk to school

These are the main drivers for those who will be willing to spend the money

These community values are why people move into Columbia Township, Fairfax, Mariemont, & Terrace Park versus a northern suburb like Mason, West Chester, etc. We are unique and need to keep these values.

Important to have a school building in the community but not necessarily an elementary school.

I agree that this should be a factor, but as far as a priority, it should be low on the list.

Maintain the feel of each village.

We are a community of sacrifices, this community and school are like no other . . . and that's okay.

Maintain the uniqueness of the Mariemont community vs. just any other strong suburban school district needs to be an important consideration

Landscaping – less important

Keeping community school in all village grade schools. Keeping historic facilities

I am a firm believer in the community schools. I love my K-6 school in TP. I love the thought of the old school, but realize that my child's education comes first.

These are not as important as safety, academics and cost

Very important for TP - one of the main reasons we chose this area when we moved from Virginia. I think it is important to have K-5/6 for relationship/mentoring

I believe having a school in each area in the current configuration is valuable

Walking to school, small class sizes – important when children are small, difference in maintaining old building to state of the art vs. new building completely

Walk to school

Should be weighed highly, walking to school, walking to school is unique and a major reason by Mariemont property values are holding up

The tradition of walking to school and the effect of removing that on property values—needs to be considered

It is very important to me to have neighbor kids be same kids who are in class together—closer friendships, confidence going into new class each year, walk to school, property value – I just moved in the summer and paid a lot extra for location (walking distance to elementary & JH)

Most important—why I chose Mariemont

Important

Community Schools – yes, keep

Architecturally historic – maintain exp. for Mariemont

Before/After School – great outreach program

Landscaping – Important, can be done by volunteers so little cost

Bldgs. must have welcome atmosphere!

Arch. historic – This is important for preserving arch. significance with Mariemont Bldgs.

Elementary level (K-5) schools important in at least two communities

Community Schools – balanced with overall costs, if keeping 3 community elementary schools is ridiculously expensive, every effort should be made to consolidate.

Maintain property values/community schools, before/after school – preschool?, landscaping –luxury

Bus/parent pick up – luxury, student personal space – luxury

Landscaping – seem excessive/luxury

Nice

Each community has its own school or one in a community, landscaping—not important, having the 3 communities come together in one community school

Definitely like composite idea—before& after school care & landscaping, important to some

Arch. correct—even if new buildings should fit in to community; landscaping—should look will kept not a major priority; decision should not be driven by need to have a school building in each community. Centrally located building have very real advantages.

Before & After school care – year; landscaping – least important.

Don't forget the importance of socialization among each community's students

Arch. historic – very important to Mariemont where 70% of residents don't have kids; landscaping – not important; property value –protect these in Mariemont; walkability to schools very important

Community schools – for elementary schools, landscaping – not as important/not a key decision maker; property value should remain the same

Can this be done in a way that brings our 3 communities together in more ways than just schools

Mariemont is a walking community and we should have an elementary school here. I like having all 3 schools in Mariemont like other districts (i.e. Madeira, Indian Hill)

This is inter-related to all cost, will people want to live our communities, pay taxes, etc, but top driver for future; impact on property values

Our life style values are top priority; property value affected by changing the community school status, especially in Mariemont village with “walk to banking/food, shopping. . .schooling

Don't want to change community, that's why we moved here

This will cause the most debate, since losing an ele. school will be a big issue in any neighborhood.

Community schools – yes, ability to walk to school, arch. historic – yes, fit within the town

Community schools – walk to school or provide info to families on how this might work

Ability to walk to ele., junior high, & high school; main reason we bought a house in Mariemont. If you change this, you change the spirit of the neighborhood

Community schools were a large draw for us to move here; community garden, green house – ideas; landscaping – such as flowers, bulbs, etc—can be done as side projects

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As for architecture, I am more concerned about fit with the balance of the neighborhood than I am about replicating the existing style of the buildings.

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A neighborhood school is extremely important to my family - we moved to Mariemont four years ago and have two young girls who will be starting school in the next few years. If we do not have an elementary school for our children in Mariemont, we will feel betrayed by the school system; i.e., part of what we paid for when we bought our house was a neighborhood school. If this goes away (at the elementary school level), housing prices will likely decline, as will our desire to remain in Mariemont. I trust that this is part of what is meant by "Community schools" in this section.

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I understand each community wants a school, but I feel that in a small way Mariemont is getting the short end of the stick and potentially negatively impacting our home values at the same time. Currently each town has their own Elm. School then when the kids join together, they come to the middle of the district. If we move the Jr high to Fairfax, Fairfax gains more options for their kids and gets the Jr. High nearer to them, Mariemont on the other hand loses the ability for our kids to walk to Jr. High and to sporting events. These are things people take into consideration when they buy a house. We did.

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Before and after school care should be considered at all schools - not just mariemont

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Second to Academic Excellence. Very important, given the close proximity the schools have with their respective neighborhoods. If we build it, let's build it right.

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repair the cuurent schools and put money into teachers and teaching our students. adapt our community to a new sustainable vision of the world order and away from our current obsseion with an unsustainable

americian vision. we talk about teaching our children to learn to cope and succeed in the new world environment. we must be their leaders! if we build new schools they should be cutting edge technologies tied together with simple technologies to create green buildings that will last well into 2125. our current buildings were cutting edge and lasted a long time. our new buildings should be earth sheltered, passive, active, solar geothermal green tech spaces, and our concern for that traditional surface should be abandoned. the future is upon us and if we don't act upon it it will pass US by.

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This is the most important decision driver for me. Most people, my family included, selected Terrace Park Elementary School because it is truly a neighborhood school. The ability to walk to school, the school's proximity to home and a school made of neighbors is paramount. Should the district decide to eliminate the neighborhood schools and select one elementary school, or alter the grade configurations too much, we will most certainly explore nonpublic school options for our children.

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The original face of the villages needs to be maintained properly & any new additions should definitely remain in scale. Tradition is what the Mariemont community has thrived on for 80+ years & people are willing to pay the higher prices for the homes/taxes of this Village for the look & feel of the home lifestyle provided beyond the school yard, yet this is a truly tangible element in the attraction of community members & future families to the district. The schools are outstanding, but the value of the memory of living in a true walking community is a priceless gift to our children in a world where everyone lives out of their cars.

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It is important to specifically state the following criteria:  
walking and biking distance from home to school

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One aspect of community schools that is core is walkability - particularly in the primary grades. It is a characteristic that makes Mariemont schools unique.

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When my wife & I were relocated to Cincinnati years ago we came here on what we envisioned a short term move from the east coast, "kicking & screaming" is the way my wife refers to it. It would help in career progression & then we would move back east the first chance we had. We searched for houses all around the area including Symmes, Mason, Loveland, Montgomery, Anderson etc. To say my wife was dismayed at the choices would be an understatement, I however figured this would be temporary anyway. We just needed to find something we could sell again in a few years, our kids were not even school age yet so the schools were important mainly in resale. The realtor suggested we "checkout" this community a little further out. I still remember the first time we came under the bridge into Terrace Park & drove past the horse farm. We drove up the hill and came right past the school on a beautiful spring day. The lawn was littered w/ bicycles & kids were running everywhere at recess. My wife simply said this is where I want to live. It was done, we

bought a house in Terrace Park. Fast forward seven years, we are now in our "forever" TP house, we have 4 kids, 2 in TPE & 2 more to come, riding their bikes down the street to school. We have had multiple opportunities to move back east now & choose to stay here because i can't imagine being able to find a community like this one anywhere else. Had we moved to one of those other communities I'm positive we would be gone by now. The community school is the heart of this experience. The involvement of the community in our childrens lives & education is like nothing else. It is a private school opportunity in a public school system, but even better without the drive.

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- Equitable and balanced impact as much as feasible across the district communities

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I'd put community schools and all it represents as so critical to this decision. I came to Mariemont and cherish Mariemont for what the local elementary represents: great schools in the heart of our walking community, safe, close and quick travel to/from school, closeness/community, school spirit. Any choice that doesn't protect this is a no go for me.

I'd also not brush past the impact of our beautiful buildings standing empty in the heart of Mariemont on the healthy of Mariemont. My three favorite days of the year: first and last day of school with all the parents, the cameras and the students walking to/from school and of course, Halloween parade. That is Mariemont.

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Maximize the presence of schools in the village of Mariemont. Keep the district as neighborhood and pedestrian based as possible. Do not force us to go to Terrace park for extended care. It is too far and adds to commuting time. Make room for a school based pre school option. There seems to be positive results from the pre school in Fairfax. Even if this is not a school district run program it supports student achievement once they are in school. Buildings could be rebuilt if this is more efficient but they need to maintain a similar exterior feel.

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I think we should run our schools in the most cost efficient manner. If we would have to close and merge elementary schools to do this it should be done.

I do want to keep the architecture of the historic buildings as they are now and I realize this could cost more money but all of the old buildings are beautiful and should be saved.

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Let's position our schools to be successful for the next 100 years, and not worry too much about the past 100 years. If the physical school buildings have outlived their useful life, let's not waste resources trying to salvage them.

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Let us do what we can to preserve the unique, distinctive character of this village. Like many of the other younger couples (relatively speaking!) with children who have moved here recently, this is in large part the cause of our choosing this place.

We would prefer to keep the current schools if that is not prohibitively expensive. If one must be retired, then let us ensure that it can be converted into something that suits the aesthetic and social integrity of the community. Let us rework or renovate before plowing and rebuilding. I have little confidence that replacements would improve on the originals.

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With limited parking and difficult drop off procedures at most of the schools - the ability to walk to the schools should also be a HIGH priority. I am shocked it is not on this list. Mariemont and surrounding areas take pride in calling themselves pedestrian friendly would we not expect the same from our schools! I care way more about this than the size of someone's locker!

A\_51200952913AM.TXT

Let's not mix drivers here....Community values and community "feel" (being able to have kids walk to school, being close to friends and neighbors in the villages (read as no bussing please)---- have nothing to do with landscaping and "architecturally historic context" in my view. The kids don't care either....and if we have to choose between a beautiful building facade that our kids are shuttled to by bus, over a basic, functional structure that is and feels like part of the communities, I'd define the latter as the essence of community. I think this driver mixes very different elements and I'd assign them very different weights.

## **SAFETY**

Student personal space (wider lockers to keep personal belongings safe) – good but lower priority

This seems on in the same with academic excellence.

This should be an assumption, obviously, no negotiable.

Along with academic excellence, this has to be the most important driver ...but within the driver some things are less important (i.e. lockers instead of security), so these need to be prioritized.

Student personal space - will they be used?

2 entries

Student personal space—waste of money

Old buildings are presenting numerous safety issues.

Is it safe to let K-6 leave for lunch—just walk home

Student personal space—not needed, things like lockers are “wish list” items

Fluff

I'm confident this will be addressed appropriately

Wider hallways

Student interaction & plans, monitor cameras, access cards

Student personal space – not important; passes for all current parents; open space to ensure appropriate/safe kids interaction

Very important, current ME set up is fine with me and consider it to be safe

Crime is up. This is important.

This is important and will be addressed no matter what

These really impact day to day issues that we are experiencing

Student personal space – Kids carry stuff due to short time between classes. Locker use (or lack of) seems unrelated to size

Bathroom in Dale Park, TP

Very important – unacceptable for bad air quality

Given

It is expected that these things will be addressed on a continual basis.

Environment/health – very important

Safety is a given and should be a top priority no matter what

Security of children, more green environment for school

All is critical

Expect safety

In today's world security is very important

Bus/parent – has been worked out, working well.

Child performs well at school when they feel safe

Security increasingly important in today's culture

Please have a program to prevent bullying. Extra attention to integration of students and inclusion in groups

Personal space – seems excessive/luxury, low on priority list

Primary interest in security/health

Security – yes; bus/parent pick up and drop off – important

Eco-friendly—would like to exceed LEED standards

This has to be there anyway, more relevant to cost in my mind

Student personal space – should be under academic excellence; bus Fairfax & Mariemont kids to TP—not appealing

Security – a must; environment seems to be a baseline, given; bus/parent pick up—follow rules and not needed.

Fluff; security/safety is a given need

Running hot water & updated bathrooms in TPE and JH

How would the potential merger with the Little Miami FD affect anything from a school construction standpoint?

All schools must be safe!

Riding a bus—not as safe as dropping child off (should be a given that any decision includes safety

A must for all to some level—minor vs. major decision for me; student personal space –going to be less discussion

Communications – facility wide; ADA compliance needs more attention/importance (especially given one plan to keep facilities)

Environment/health – this shouldn't be the only “green” feature/reason

Safety is becoming increasingly important

A\_3262009110732AM.TXT

This would seem to be relatively inexpensive to include in the design of new facilities, but should definitely not be overlooked.

A\_326200972319AM.TXT

wish list items such as lockers in our old schools as part of a budget in our current economic environment is unimportant.

A\_412200932702PM.TXT

Some of these concerns can be addressed without renovation or alteration, such as equipping all teachers with walkie talkies, especially those supervising outside recess, to facilitate communication during a natural disaster or intruder emergency.

A\_413200944017PM.TXT

I do not know where this thought falls in the planning of each facility, but I have never felt that "wall to wall" carpet should be placed in the classes or hallways. Although this is great for reducing noise levels, this provides an excellent environment for germ growth (kids throw up on the floors year in and year out, in addition to hard to get rid of pests, ie: lice) and allergens embedded in the carpets greatly affect the health of many kids yet are not adequately cleaned.

A\_415200940213PM.TXT

Crossing guards at every busy intersection adjacent to each of the schools.

A\_415200945727PM.TXT

I would like to add:

Cafeteria space to allow for healthy meals and quiet times (reduced noise level)

Bike racks/shelters

Library

A\_4192009110514AM.TXT

Many of the plans that are outlined will increase the traffic in our communities, especially busing students in. By closing Fairfax or Mariemont elementary those students will need to jump on a bus & drive into Terrace Park or other villages, all those kids on bikes are now dodging yellow school buses. We have forever changed the village experience

A\_420200940640PM.TXT

small community schools are one of the most important ways of achieving safety/ security- intruders, parent drop off/ students watching out for one another because they know the other children.

A\_42200943134PM.TXT

I am confident all choices can deliver this and if we can't give wider lockers, that's life.

A\_4262009103917PM.TXT

All buildings should have safe well designed options for bus dropoff, parent drop off with cars, and drop off and pick up for extra curricular activities. The buildings should still be very pedestrian friendly and pedestrian focused, but provisions need to be made for cars and buses. Keeping the buildings neighborhood and pedestrian focused will help with safety.

A\_452009110012PM.TXT

These are for the most part suitable goals, but again, what kinds of deficiencies sparked a discussion for a large overhaul, as opposed to more piecemeal repairs?

A\_51200952913AM.TXT

Of course this is important.....but I think this is a red herring.....no option we choose will be an un-safe one. Further, if there ARE safety issues (intruder protection, air quality or whatever) these can and should be addressed now, separate and apart from this study. I would move this driver to a "given" ....and not have it cloud the true options/ choices.

## **FUTURE**

This would be the most important Decision Driver

I like Option B the best. It keeps communities together and school size small.

We do need a future vision.

This seems sound as well.

I don't think this should be a critical driver . . . . it should be approached as have done make sure we don't screw ourselves later with a chose we make today.

Green building tax credits

Leadership in energy and environmental design, fiscal responsibility, environmentally sustainable, energy efficient

Have to be flexible for future needs

Need to take in account that enrollment would increase, would the school be prepared for a full day K-class.

Future technology – more technology is not always a good thing. Flat screen learning has its drawbacks and limitations.

Structure that becomes available as community resource center

Lifetime learning/adult ed. – important to get bring in from community that does not have children

While I think this is important, it is not my top priority. I think our kids will and can learn with or without a lot of bells and whistles

Lifetime learning – Important, not sure how, why linked to changes in facilities

School District Population – 10/20/30 years; State Funds, Stimulus, green buildings

Incorporate future planning across these categories

I think future technology is very important. Our children need to be up to par with competing schools.

The concept of “future” must be at the forefront of every decision.

This should be part of each decision

Anything we do to make changes should be done in a forward looking manner and a cost efficient manner

Mariemont property values... big plus to live in Mariemont—we are new to area and this is the reason we chose to live here

Don't work too hard – it all changes

Lifetime learning –should not be “bullet-pointed”

We can't afford it at this time

Fix the above & future takes care of itself

Can district apply for funds for ADA

Keep neighborhood elementary schools in each school district-vital

Tech. is the future aid to learning

Make all efforts to improve technology in our facilities

Make as many of the facilities available to the older residents.

Multi-use facilities

Before/after school care space

Important to see all surrounding communities have updated buildings—we need to act

Can predict 20 yrs. out. Provide for wireless access as broadly as possible. Note – we can meet academic, community and security w/o major construction

Thanks for thinking of this as well. Lifetime learning – not important for kids, but important for those w/o kids.

How can we bring some of the future benefits to the kids during the transition.

Choices we make today will help out future costs

I think this relates to cost and future sustainability—maintain (obtain) support from everyone in community and provide some value at all levels.

Lifetime learning – 70% residents with no children

This seems like it should be included in academic excellence

Feels built into the others

Property value – how to maintain them as it relates to schools

Green

What about green buildings

A\_323200983846PM.TXT

This is some of the most important and most difficult work. We need to evaluate the options against a wide range of potential outcomes. with our investment we are buying "options" to deal with the unknown and we need to make sure we buy as much flexibility as possible. I have not seen a listing of what the key variables should be for this scenario work. I would assume something along the lines of 1) student enrollment by age and neighborhood over time; wage cost scenarios; utility cost scenarios; technology scenarios and how they impact location / space configuration / need for "in person" attendance (remote learning); community use options; etd.

A\_3262009110732AM.TXT

Facility sharing among other local districts should be considered to help reduce redundance. Indian Hill, Madiera, Forest Hills?

A\_412200932702PM.TXT

Again, radical renovation or alteration is not necessary to allow district residents to use the school buildings for lifetime learning/adult education. The same goes for updating or equipping classrooms for current and future technology.

A\_413200944017PM.TXT

I honestly believe that this could be far over thought...each village is a landlocked area with only so much potential growth. I believe that Dale Park should remain "open" as an option for the possibility of expanded enrollment.

A\_416200951001AM.TXT

As we think about the infrastructure changes - are there ways that Mariemont schhols can be designed to be more ecologically sustainable that will result in lower energy usage and be positive for fiscal impact (reducing costs over the long term).

A\_416200951041AM.TXT

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A\_4192009110514AM.TXT

We can argue about progress all we want but sometimes we need to look back at the way things used to be in simpler times to see how they should be now

A\_4262009103917PM.TXT

Identifying ways to utilize the school buildings both by the school and by the community adds to the base of support.

A\_4292009103548PM.TXT

I wouldn't get carried away with designing to the extremes. They should be considered, but not necessarily brought in scope. e.g. A town plans for the 100 year flood, not the 1000 year flood.

A\_4292009105704PM.TXT

I wouldn't get carried away with designing to the extremes. They should be considered, but not necessarily brought in scope. e.g. A town plans for the 100 year flood, not the 1000 year flood.

A\_452009110012PM.TXT

The best future is to ensure the continuity of this community in the areas at which it excels -- elegance, aesthetic integrity, social simplicity, walkability, and low costs relative to the benefits of these things.

Were I seeking a community of people stuffed into overlarge gaudy box homes, busing their children inordinate distances, shelling out huge sums to receive overpriced playtime in tacky tech warehouses, there are many many such choices.

Let's keep Mariemont Mariemont. There are very few places like it.

A\_51200952913AM.TXT

It's not unimportant, but let's not get carried away here. Let's solve the core problems first. Forget adult education in this context....that can be done in other ways/ places....and adults can pay for it as a choice, outside the public domain.

## **OTHER**

A\_323200983846PM.TXT

Affordability. At some point this must cease to be a conceptual exercise. While the high school has been excluded, most of the options will not allow breaking the capital cost into more than a few years. Even with Bonds stretching this out over 30 years, someone needs to do the math on what is feasible. A quick cut of \$35,000,000 over 30 years at 5% is an annual payment of roughly \$2.2 million. I guess that is doable assuming we can get it at a reasonable interest cost. If memory serves, that is about 10% of the current operating budget and you would get some savings (I would hold those in a reserve and not promise them).

A\_324200913800PM.TXT

All around learning environment:

A good education is not limited solely to the class room experience. We decided to live in Mariemont because our children would benefit from a small community that would enable us to participate in their education (particularly during the formative early years). Spreading children out to more and/or to further locations will not significantly improve their class room experience (which is already very good) It can however, limit parent involvement in the schools. Many families have multiple children. Parents will be challenged to reach all the first days of school, mystery reader activities, holiday parties, Grandparents days

etc. Parent participation in these and many other events have a significant impact on a child's feeling of self worth. These events keep children excited about school. Hundreds of research studies show that when parents get involved, children do better in school.

Dramatic changes may result in less parent involvement in the individual class rooms as well as from the PTO level. With out PTO assistance, our children would also have less out of classroom experiences which enhance their in classroom learning. Teachers would have fewer opportunities to get needed items for their class rooms, and our children end up with a less all around educational experience.

Property values

Consolidated schools will negatively impact property values in Mariemont and Terrace Park. Moving the Jr. High will have the same effect on Mariemont. People are willing to pay for their children to be able to walk to school. We did and many others in Mariemont and TP agree with us. Mariemont schools are good, but not so good that I am willing to spend \$100,000 more for a house then in Madera. Location is key.

A\_324200964337PM.TXT

regardles of any of the options where are you planning on getting 50-75 million \$ in a contracting economy ?

A\_326200972319AM.TXT

Thanks

A\_416200951001AM.TXT

As work is done for identifying what makes a 21st century education are there any new resources or facility needs that need to be considered?

A\_416200951041AM.TXT

As work is done for identifying what makes a 21st century education are there any new resources or facility needs that need to be considered?

A\_4192009110514AM.TXT

As I've said this is about our overall community experience not just the facility itself. Our childrens education is not just in the facility but throughout the community & at home. I can walk over to TPE & have lunch on the lawn with my kids on a spring day. I can stop in & be a guest reader for my 2nd grader's class. It is a normal occurance to see Mom"s & Dad's walking the halls of TPE & saying hello to teachers & students alike. Everyone is involved & familiar with each other.

We must find a way to maintain this experience, i know i am speaking from a terrace park perspective but have heard from many residents of Mariemont that they maintain a very similar sense of community from their elementary school.

There is something special about this environment that is not found elsewhere, a tutor for one of our children that lives in Milford commented to us that there is something about the involvement that her Terrace Park kids parents have in the education of their kids that is above & beyond what she experiences in other schools. She asked us why that is & we simply figured that we live in a community in which there are highly educated parents themselves that are deeply involved. She said that other communities have that same common denominator even her own. There is something else that differentiates the kids & families her & she wants to tap into it for other kids. Looking at this facilities issue i think it is the community school that adds

to the educational experience in our village. You can build the biggest best facility you want but if you take away the community feel, the community involvement then you've lost the X factor.

A\_42200961021PM.TXT

Location is also a key decision driver. One reason we chose to move to the Mariemont School District was the convenience of having our kids walk to school. Other comparable school districts, including Madeira and Wyoming, are not as "walker friendly". Neighborhood schools definitely make our school district stand out amongst others for prospective home buyers and positively influence property values.

A\_4262009103917PM.TXT

Thank you for the broad community discussion. Placing the documents and video on the district web site made it much easier for us to be more fully involved in the process. Our biggest concerns are that the buildings fully support the requirements of both school and extracurricular activities. Keep the schools centered in Mariemont, pedestrian and neighborhood focused. Minimize the need to bus children. Minimize the need for families to have children at multiple buildings that are physically separated. Minimize the need to drive to Terrace Park due to travel time and traffic issues. Thanks again for soliciting detailed and broad based community input.

A\_4302009113935AM.TXT

The footnotes indicate that Silver LEED will be attained on all buildings. Why is this a "given"? It is generally understood that LEED certification results in higher construction costs (not to mention the extra payments to the cottage industry that has arisen for LEED consulting). Ongoing operating expenses have not been proven to be lower for LEED buildings. This assumption needs to be revisited as it will clearly impact the proposed project costs.