

# MuncieCommunitySchools

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*Prepare Now - Anticipate the Future*

ATTACHMENT NO: 69G

Potential motion: Proceed with the planning and implementation process to initiate a new set of middle school program delivery models for the 2018-19 school year.

Recommended action: Approve the motion

## **Summary:**

MCS convened a Facilities Planning Committee in October 2016 to begin addressing MCS's need to reevaluate the physical footprint of MCS schools. The committee's final report was presented to the Board in the spring of 2017. At that time, the Board took action to close three elementary schools for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Based upon the pending sale of Northside Middle School by the Emergency Management Team, staff recommends the following four program options be developed for the 2018-2019 School Year. These options also take into consideration the recommendation in the 2015 Performance Services Report to provide more diversity in academic programming:

- ✓ a single traditional middle school located at the Southside Campus
- ✓ an honors middle school program inclusive of an early high school or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Academy option
- ✓ an innovative blended instructional middle school program in conjunction with several partners including the City of Muncie; potential motto being *Innovative learning in Today's Environment*
- ✓ a purely virtual school option for interested children and parents from around the region in partnership with an outside vendor

It is recommended to initiate an implementation plan for these new enrollment models for the 2018-19 school year. Next steps and projected time line will include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Constitute an Innovative Service Delivery team under Mrs. Shipp to continue to plan the innovative blended instructional program
- ✓ Meet with the High Ability Broad Based Planning Committee to discuss all aspects of planning and programming process.
- ✓ Schedule parent planning and information session to be hosted at MCHS no later than January 31, 2018 to gather input on options.

- ✓ Coordinate course requests forms from current students, working with both middle and high school guidance staff and Principals, High Ability Coordinator, and Director of Secondary Curriculum.
- ✓ Extension and follow-up planning meetings for stakeholders will be scheduled as necessary.
- ✓ New program welcome/open house events in May 2018.

We do anticipate that there will be some level of fluidity between the program offerings for students. Currently through an extension of the MCHS Alternative Program we are providing a virtual high school experience for approximately 15 students. Initial summaries of the potential programs are in draft form and will be further reviewed with a variety of stakeholders over the next 60 to 90 days if the Board approves moving forward.

One of the key concepts that has come out of the initial discussions around the Honors Academy is the need to not simply look at which students need our services but “What services our students need?” We believe this is a strong step in the correct direction for the future.