

The Provo Board of Education is considering restructuring elementary schools because of overcrowding and inadequate buildings. These options may result in boundary changes, school closures and building of new schools.

THE PROBLEM IN NORTHWEST PROVO

Westridge Elementary is overcrowded because it is accommodating students from the Carterville and Lakeview neighborhoods. Lakeview doesn't have an elementary school.

THE PROBLEM WITH TIMPANOGOS ELEMENTARY

Timpanogos Elementary School is one of the oldest buildings in the Provo School District, and it is cheaper to close the building than to repair it.

Proposed options for northwest Provo

The Carterville neighborhood is close to Grandview Elementary, so students from Carterville transfer from Westridge Elementary to Grandview Elementary.

PROS: This option is the least expensive and requires the least movement of students and boundaries.

1

CONS: 650 students in the Lakeview neighborhood still must ride buses to Westridge Elementary. Transportation costs are expensive for the district, especially since the price of gas has risen.

A school is built in the Lakeview neighborhood on the land the district owns at 1375 N. 2800 West. Some 350 Westridge students then go to Lakeview. The Westridge population drops. Then, Grandview Elementary closes. Grandview students and faculty transfer to Westridge. About 200 students from Amelia Earhart transfer to the new school.

Then, Amelia Earhart receives students from Sunset View.

2

PROS: There would be a school in the Lakeview neighborhood for the students there.

CONS: Grandview would close, which may upset residents.

The district builds an elementary school in the Lakeview neighborhood. Grandview and Westridge elementary schools remain open. Students from Amelia Earhart Elementary transfer to the new Lakeview school. Amelia Earhart Elementary receives 200 students from overcrowded Sunset View Elementary.

3

PRO: The Lakeview neighborhood would have a school, students would not be bused, and no schools would close.

CONS: There would be a tax increase to cover the increased cost. The district would need \$350,000 more a year to operate the schools.

Proposed options for Timpanogos

The district knocks down the building and rebuilds on the same property.

PROS: The public gets a new school.

CONS: The property is small, and the location along busy 500 West may be unsafe for children.

2

The district knocks down Timpanogos Elementary and moves students and faculty to the Dixon Middle School building. The district builds a replacement middle school.

PROS: Elementary students would get a new building, and the middle school students would get a new school.

CONS: Building an elementary school is estimated to cost \$8 million to \$10 million. A middle school costs \$15 million to \$18 million.

Residents will vote in June on a bond issuance that would finance the elementary school changes. The amount on the bond has not been set.