



20/20+

EnVision

A Community Discussion on the Future of Education in Brownsburg

Growing a Brighter Brownsburg



# EnVision 20/20+ Commission

- Representative of the community
- 80 members



# The Purpose of the EnVision Commission

- Develop financial and programmatic options and explore consequences
- Engage the community in understanding the options and the consequences
- Develop community priorities
- Make recommendations to the Board of School Trustees

# EnVision 20/20+

The Commission and community are participating in an “*envisioning process to determine the community expectations for financial and programmatic issues for the BCSC.*”

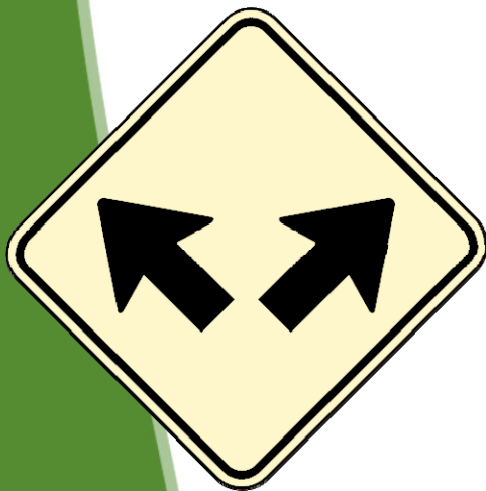
We are NOT being asked to make the tough decisions about who and what to cut or who and what to maintain.

# Calendar

February 2	EVC		Purpose and charge of the commission, baseline information
March 9	EVC		Additional information, ID community data collection method
March 16	EVC		Prepare for community gathering #1
March 23		Com	Gathering #1 Issues and Priorities
April 13	EVC		Review community gathering #1, identify information and communication gaps
April 23		Com	Gathering #2 Priorities and Alignment
May 11	EVC		Review community gathering #2, develop options, alignment of resources and expectations
May 25		Com	Gathering #3 Narrowing the options
June 8	EVC		Review community gathering #3, development of draft report
June			Community survey + online survey
June 22		Com	Gathering #4 Presentation of draft report
June 29	EVC		Final review of report and associated recommendations
June 30-July 25	EVC		EnVision Commission meeting(s) as needed to finalize report and develop presentation - core group of presenters from Commission membership
August 9	EVC		Commission report and recommendation presented to Board

# The final report

Pointing us in a direction...  
But it's not yet a road map



The Commission recognizes and appreciates that the District and staff have been proactive in anticipating changes in funding – and have accepted freezes and benefit reductions.

# Parameters

## Regarding saving money

- BCSC should explore and implement all other reasonable cuts before making cuts in academic programs that are in high demand and that are highly beneficial to the students involved.
- To reduce operating costs as necessary, class sizes can increase only until reasonable limits in class size have been reached as determined by the characteristics of the students (age, etc.), the capabilities of the teaching staff, and the nature of the subject.
- Continued staff reductions are acceptable only as long as educational quality is maintained as determined by test results (NWEA, ISTEP+, etc.) and other critical indicators.

# Parameters

## Regarding saving money

- General fund revenues should be concentrated in academic areas; extra-curricular activities should be funded in other ways as much as possible.
- Extra-curricular programs should become self-supporting or evaluated for their cost vs. value to students. However, the district must still meet legal conditions for extra-curricular activities.
- Because BCSC has frozen some salaries and reduced benefits, the district should annually evaluate the competitiveness of BCSC employee compensation and benefits against surrounding (Marion and Hendricks County) school districts.

# Parameters

## Regarding saving money

- BCSC should add new academic programs only if there were:  
Available funds, and,  
A specific need (including maintaining academic competitiveness) or  
A state or federal mandate.
- BCSC should add new extra-curricular programs only if there were:  
Available funds or a method of being self-sustaining  
A specific need or a state or federal mandate (i.e. Title IX).

# Parameters

## Regarding generating revenue

- It is acceptable to institute or increase student fees and outside funding opportunities for extra-curricular activities as long as there are provisions for all students to be able to participate.
- BCSC should not consider initiating a referendum for operating funds unless there is clear communication and an explanation of the financial need and the true financial impact to individuals in the community.
- BCSC should not consider initiating a referendum for operating funds unless all other reasonable cost reductions have been explored and implemented to the satisfaction of the Board of School Trustees.

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# Parameters

Regarding generating revenue

- BCSC would only adopt a new method of revenue generation if:
  - The safety of students and staff is not placed in jeopardy;
  - The method is legal;
  - The method does not distract from the district's mission;
  - The method does not generate additional uncompensated work load for existing staff;
  - The method generates sufficient additional revenues, and/or provides additional educational opportunities.



# Parameters

## Regarding generating revenue

- If we expect BCSC to generate additional outside income, significant additional staffing resources may be required. Alternative revenue generation staff should be compensated on a percentage of the total funds generated, with the potential for an upper limit, cap or sliding scale.
- BCSC has an interest in activities that benefit K-12 students, and its facilities have been financially supported by district taxpayers. District administrators should have some flexibility in setting facilities use charges, whether that's free, covering operating expenses or generating additional revenue.

# Four general categories emerged

1. What the community values about BCSC now
2. What the community envisions for BCSC in the future (10 years)
3. Cost savings
4. Increasing/generating revenue



These items formed the basis for several survey questions

# What the community values about BCSC

## The Top 12

1. Reasonable class sizes
2. Quality teachers
3. Parent and community involvement
4. Safety within the schools
5. Affiliation with Ben Davis for Technical Education
6. Senior Academy
7. Quality of education
8. High standards set for the students
9. Curriculum choices at the secondary levels
10. Arts
11. High ability programs compared to other districts
12. Anti-bullying program



# What the community envisions for the future

## The top 11

1. Increased fiscal responsibility/vigilant in the expenditure of funds
2. Maintain current student/teacher ratios
3. Maintain a well rounded education, including the fundamentals and citizenship
4. Keep food service within the schools (don't outsource)
5. Electronic text books
6. Continuing current extra-curricular programs (sports, arts)
7. Continue the open and welcome classroom, maintaining partnership between parents and school
8. A different/better way of preparing students for the real world and different careers such as internships
9. Share facilities between schools as district grows
10. Maintain and improve parent involvement
11. Healthier lunches

These items formed the basis for several survey questions

# Cost-saving ideas

## The top 10 of 128 ideas

1. Investigate cost sharing with other school corporations (utilize common assets, facilities), be more "regional" with extra curriculars
2. Bus: reduce purchases, bus washing and reduce route, eliminate summer school transportation, transport fewer kids (encourage walking/bikes)
3. Reduce general fund athletic expenditures, cut \$150,000 from athletics
4. Look for free resources
5. Reduce use of paper, Styrofoam, color printing
6. ENERGY: Adjust set points for heat and AC, reduce electricity use, install sensor switches, reset door locks to avoid propping at dismissal, hire someone to evaluate potential energy savings, start school later
7. Develop a group of volunteers to help at schools and tutor; organize it, promote it, ask every parent to volunteer for some commitment
8. Continue to hold the line on benefits
9. Recycle
10. Eliminate "elective" lawn treatments

# Revenue-generation ideas

The top 11 of 58 unduplicated ideas

1. Charge for public use of facilities, rent to colleges, computer labs
2. Solicit corporate sponsors for teams, advertising, auction items, etc.
3. Charge fees for sports and extra-curricular activities
4. Rent space for cell phone towers\*
5. Generate fees from full-day kindergarten and preschool programs
6. Apply for grants
7. Generate income from farm land\*
8. Investigate school impact fees (for new development)\*
9. Charge St. Malachy & daycares for bus services (Indiana state law requires school districts to provide transportation for non-public schools if requested as long as the pickups and deliveries are on the district's way. Transportation to daycares is done routinely for families whose children attend BCSC.)\*
10. Sell old books to Amazon etc.\*
11. Referendum for operating funds

\* Items that have limited revenue potential or proved to be impractical.



# Two “big” ideas

That will require effort and staffing

1. Generating additional revenue through increased sponsorships/contributions
2. A coordinated volunteer program

(See parameter section for additional details.)



# Available in the full report

- Complete lists of all ideas by category
- Complete data from phone survey and online survey
- Details on Commission composition
- Financial data
- FAQs



**Questions?**