

Question #1

We have considered moving the preschool to GJSHS, alternate site, or using modular classrooms for preschool. What do you see as the potential benefits and challenges to this option?

Benefits	Challenges	New Ideas/Other Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Makes more sense, containable , more logical, high schoolers would look at the preschool , no bussing of preschoolers, ● potential students wanting to be a preschool teacher ● benefit would be more space ● keeps almost in same building ● benefit would be more space ● benefits would be HS students could volunteer in room ● Great option-learning environment is positive for students, families, staff, if at HS-older students can help with preschoolers in the building itself, ● -Student child study class ● -Student child study class ● -Work study ● -Older children behave better around younger kids ● -half day program would provide for flexibility at GJSHS ● -Help with pick up at the end of the day ● -More sense to have pre-K at GJSHS than 6th grade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● possibly hire additional OT PT Speech ● renovations ● sinks in each room ● renovating for bathrooms ● build a secure playground ● Modules don't have sinks or bathrooms ● Chicopee High/Comp has the program at the high school and it is a class that students take along with other cities ● PreK needs more accommodations. ● You'll have to reorganize the whole room at the high school. ● issues with financial to come up with money to support programming, if at high school-costs to adjust building structure to accommodate preschool needs, modular may be less costly option, do we have to offer preschool? ● Have to provide programming for those transitioning out of EI-services, may need to alter preschool programming to address need ● s, may send preschool children to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● possibly look at another location like old library,have preschool in town hall with senior center on West St site ● modular classrooms may work ● Grade 6 has already had formal schooling. ● lose one preschool classroom ● -Playground questions; this could be done over time; doesn't need to be for 20-21 ● -Outdoor equipment could be moved and at West St? ● -Modular classroom would work for the short term, but there is a cost issue there ● -More "push in" would open up additional classrooms and would increase our graduation rates ● -Make better use of the space we have ● could move them to the HS home Ec room ● possibly the music room ● someone had said the old library is an option because of the issues with pick up and drop off...I know it's money but

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I like the idea of preschool moving next door and there examples of area programs. like the student involvement...benefits older and younger students keeping them close by without the bullying efforts in the middle grades • -Make better use of the space we have • -Lots of benefits for our upperclassmen having pre-K at GJSHS • Moving them to HS could be feasible would be great idea • pr- k going over there the most, the 6th graders will be looked at the weakest link...they will be fine and we are nice to everyone..with preK there will be no hazing. 	<p>other towns if not an option,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Renovation costs • the cost for this could be a problem 	<p>it might benefit in two ways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I see the kids being picked on constantly • services could be given in modulars • cost of moving pre k over redoing the high school to accommodate moving the prek • moving lot old library removes collaboration with other students
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Question #2

We have considered **moving specials programming** (Art and Music classes) from classrooms. What do you see as the potential benefits and challenges to this option?

Benefits	Challenges	New Ideas/Other Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not an instructional space, does happen in other schools, • Specials are important and they help rest classrooms • break from class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is very limiting lose equipment like instruments, kiln • lose their effectiveness without the space • Kiln wouldn't be appropriate and the music classroom is already in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's an important part of their learning process. And it's the highlight of the day for some of those students. • can we move specials into the modulars? • Always learning with art and music.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • when they leave the room the special ends • Mr Walz creates a cool environment • Artists and musicians come from the love of these subjects when they are young. Teachers are fabulous. • difficult to capture on a cart • downward slope for program lose time • No art on a cart. • Music room is not a classroom • We don't ever want that. • The teachers and those students deserve those nice rooms. • Challenges setting up and breaking down of specials programming and other staff upset about specials being in the classroom, • scheduling issue with specials being on stages versus those using spaces at specific times-Sheryl check, • challenging to have quality programming if on cart, • lose some of the time for class • lose specials...not an option • -Space, but there are really no benefits to this • -Students and teachers need specific space for their specials • marginalizes the art experience • students do need to get up and move and get out of the classroom and if students aren't allowed to get a visualize a new space they won't get 	<p>Critical thinking is activated. Once we cut that out, we will go to other programs. It's the favorite among many students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could they close in the courtyard with a roof like an atrium? • Have we considered sharing in ELL or special education classes? They are not full size classrooms • move one arts programming on stage • instrumental on stage and music class on gym stage or go to HS for instrumental classes, • art could be moved out based on space and/or restructuring common area to be a classroom instead of putting specials on a cart,look at cost, check with fire chief if okay, • check square footage, music to keep space, art to stay in space, • be flexible to push in or move preschool out • -There are other rooms that could be used before putting art and music on a cart • -Too much "pull out"; review service delivery • -Could the "common space" become OT/PT and then utilize the OT/PT room differently • too many smaller classrooms • combine ABA and SEL learning
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	<p>a break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● doesn't support social emotional piece that schools need movement breaks ● breaking up the classroom and allows them a focus break on what they are doing ● shouldn't be sitting for too long...the brain goes to mush ● issue with the carts mr walls likes to do running games and xylophones. that are hard to move. You're in another person's classroom have to move desks... ● budget cuts they are always fighting for the specials...to cut them into two carts they are easy targets to get rid of in the budget. ● the art teacher doesn't just teach art they teach art history and about the art...the classroom allows her to do that ● art and music are deeply tied to newer technology and pulling away from those teachers will handicap those teachers. ● Opens up student that don't have the ability to experience...gives students more accessibility to explore that more like band and more art ● Kin would be a problem ● Teachers lose their classroom for prep ● It would change the way we do art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● don't understand why we need so many pull outs and why kids need breaks ● can you use some of the money that you do not have to report last year you had a balance ● any way to bring out the 2 special ed classrooms to be full size classrooms ● 1/2 day kindergarten ● when you have no money you get creative ● you have known this for years and we just found out ● why wouldn't you put the specials in the high schools? it's a migratory nightmare? Trying to trot first graders over to the GJSHS ● student prep 4,5,6 is a testament to what Mr. walls is able to create with the younger students...if it ain't broke don't fix it ● Can the common space be used as a specials class/art or music
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- Classes would be impacted... music is not an option as a content classroom there's no windows

Question #3

We have considered moving grade 6 to GJSHS. What do you see as the potential benefits and challenges to this option?

Benefits	Challenges	New Ideas/Other Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th graders are able to come down and talk to them • adding additional programs • offer a foreign language, after school clubs, middle school level sports, additional staff • programming for 6-8th with the standards • solve lack of space • Most cost effective • offer a good education program 6-7-8 • Sixth graders toilets are the same size. • The 6th graders know the 7th graders, through sports, etc. • It would be an easier transition for the 6th graders, and it is only 1 year difference • 7-8 could be more a model junior high so students can take more advanced math classes as students move back. • The younger students should be able 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kids too young • O reasons to move it • wont receive services • doctor told parent not to send her student to granby public schools send to Mcduffy or chinese immersion • on the bus with high schoolers • the maturity level of a 6th grader versus 12th • in the hallway with high schoolers • no more recess • Keeping them separate for lunch • Common hallways • early start day • one more year in this school- health reasons • mold and concerns about health violations • busing with older students • Do not like option moving 6thgrade at HS, studied FL schools, not mentally, physically prepared to be moved out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Can we remodel the "common space" outside the "pull out classes" to make bigger classrooms? • could we have one floating classroom to accommodate the bubble • how would school be set up 6-8 9-12 • 6th graders are already talking with hs students online texting etc • start time 7:30 could they start at separate time- problem shared services • additional focus groups to address displaced groups and concerns after decision is made • redesign and cluster the 6th - 8th • dont have to worry a whole lot about 9-12 • so much drama and nonsense that comes with middle school • one parent did 5-8 • would like to look at the [program • Would the 6th graders would be

<p>to take higher classes. That makes sense.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you can keep them separate, I'm all in for it ● 8th grade can still do JV. ● Middle school sports is a big plus - it's usually a coach who is a teacher. ● If parents become more invested in the high school, then our numbers may continue to stabilize and even grow. ● More flexibility in staffing. Standards associated 6-8. ● 6th grade would focus on math and ELA. ● keep small town atmosphere and keep small classrooms and be in the best interests of the child, ● curriculum strand 6-8th grade, double periods English, reading, math and math and science-learning about manipulating information, bell structure same but times of classes different, project lead the way, STEM classes, art, music, different PE, languages different than other grades, ● get recess also for 6-8th ● 6th grade would move into HS building, not modular, ● 6th grade would do well...over at the HS because the elementary is geared to the younger kids and they were treated like babies...not like they 	<p>of school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concern about where we would put the sixth graders ● concerns of 7th graders dating 9th graders, 9th graders with grade 11, 12 students in advanced level classes, ● concerns about language in hallways, ● challenges are putting younger ones on the bus for 630 am ● on bus for 45 minutes with seniors ● be alone from 2-4 ● mingling between not junior but high school and grade 6 students..developmentally ● main goal of the new building was to attract new families to granby to keep them in the school system ● That's part of the reason why we've school choices in ● building's amazing, it's not a building thinI worry about the culture being exposed to things they shouldn't be too early ● case to case forg it's the teachers ● I worry about the culture being exposed to things they shouldn't be too early ● mother of a 6th grader I don't want them together they talk different ● Not everyone takes the bus I don't want her on the bus with other kids...she's going next year..she needs that time 	<p>segregated from the older kids?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is there enough room for 5th eventually to keep growing? ● Where would they go in the high school? ● 6 in a portion of the building. (Pod of classrooms for 6th grade) ● Would they be able to link up with more elective classes? ● People are just being selfish. They came here as a kid. ● Would teachers move with students to HS or would we need to hire new teachers? ● How would lunches work? ● Can the high school support this? Roof-wise. ● If we talk about renovation wise - we could restructure the areas to more of a middle school and high school. ● What's important is what's in the inside. ● What happened to the big lab and the workshop? ● Programs were set up for big brother and little brother...to mentor taking them through the steps to prepare them. Standards that they had to teach....what to expect with the next four years. ● Sports... ● Talk to GAA ● I come from catholic school with
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would be thrown to the wolves and the schools would do something to help allocate the grade 6 into the school...literacy night and it didn't mean much to the older kids..i know there's issues but I feel they would get ironed out

- other options might cost more than anticipated
- currently jr/sr high school with grade 7 and 8 programming,
- -There are opportunities in the Middle school combined with high school model
- HS used to have more classes
- Maybe not in the beginning but by the middle they're ready to be social, independence, coddled...pendulum...walking around and talking.....
- middle school has been 678.. Teachers complain they are so talkative...they can't talk at lunch...in between classes kids are talking to their friends throughout the day..more social opportunities...
- Thought about grade 6 that's what feels like that's
- More opportunity..strives on recess and gym
- 7-12 is not uncommon,Macduffie has the kids in 6-12

- Now they're the older kids..they will have that next experience. They're not ready to be with older
- 6th grade joining with existing 7th-12th programming, moved 6th graders from out of town, helped with transition and had 6th grade in East Meadow, helps reduce growing up too young,
- bussing concerns-no oversight
- Bullying and meanness
- -Danger
- -School start/end time
- -Before and after school programming
- 6th grade would have to stay in GAA when I was a 7th graders we got bumped around a lot
- bathrooms are a nightmare
- Students do intermingle
- the language conversation...
- buses are an issue, but K and 6 have issue
- mentally could they handle
- activities for grade 6 are younger. Literacy nite? Grade 6 lost that opportunity...gain what the students are looking for as tweens.
- Some 6th graders are ready to move on from 4th and 5th graders, but going to a HS not a MS is concerning
- 6th grades need more direction..you still need be with them...watching my 7th grade is emotionally ready

classes of 30 plus, one teacher would teach two classes and they were all in one building...three subjects for each teacher

- Culture arts 7-12 last year was bumpy but this year there is a collective culture amongst the students and more mentoring i'm hoping for the differentiation of 6-8 but there are plenty of mentors for the students
- had two children together at MacDuffie with older sibling and integrating together and did okay through process,
- keep small town atmosphere and keep small classrooms and be in the best interests of the child,
- Hard to transition, bussing everyone together and start and end together at both schools instead of two different times,
- also gap between kindergarten and 6th grade,
- 7nd and 8th on lower part of café and 9th grade on stage,
- paths of walking around building, managing schedules to have 6-7, 8-9, 10-12 lunches, etc,
- escorting students around building,
- need staff to help escorting students, using the bathroom, Jr high bathrooms upstairs only, grade 7-9 bathrooms during lunch,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start time is an issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• have 15 minute gaps in-between lunch so students are not crossing paths, playing sports together-8th graders can play on varsity sports teams,• high schoolers only use certain stairwells,• Three different bus routes, start time upstairs 9-12 and 6-8 first floor• Have homeroom• Is there a trend in enrollment? Grade 6 to 7..is it now that we will lose kids in 6 as opposed to 7•• family requesting tour at high school,• HS students listening to music, only have 2 minutes to transition to classes,• allowed to listen to music in halls, not in the classroom,• trend in Granby of 6th to 7th moving to HS, lose kids to school choice or MacDuffie, need long-term solution to address issues of enrollment,• collaboration with MacDuffie?• Law can not use taxpayer money for private school monies, share teachers, resources, etc., able to barter instead of using money for resources, staff, etc.,• private kids do not take socio-emotional, special ed, and behavioral students,
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• have to test to get into MacDuffie, private schools known for exclusiveness,• have to ask for special expenditures at town mtg to use facilities with MacDuffie,• invest in people, does town have money or do they not want to spend money,• have services go back and forth, town people ask about town strategic plan, looked at regionalize, people not interested in travelling so far to Hadley, need help to marketing,• Looking to have a high school tour, put more information out there of facts of offering on high school, some testimony from students about their experiences, interactions with peers, students, families, focus groups with students, families, etc.,• understand the concerns of families of students transitioning, dual enrollment, condition of high school, curriculum, Tours-morning and night options, can start earlier in the mornings• -If Granby were to roll out an adequate Middle School model this would be an easier pill to swallow• -Hard to say if 6th grade would be appropriate without seeing what it would look like
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● get list of the grade 6-12 schools● is there a list of how many HS have Pre K in HS● in granby once students hit grade 7 there is a big decline● my son loves coming here but we can go to a private school at anytime● playground issues and bus issues● it is the town the time forgot● I would like to see state mandated size and specifications● not fair to say there are absolutely no options as we can change the current set up● I have no concern if it's 6-8...but there's no way to separate truly...there is lunch library● if they still stayed on em bus run, they would enter outside of the 7-12 and would have less interaction that way● could classes move so that middle school was more separate● we're accommodated for two years this year but maybe we need three rooms next year● sports are tryout but JV we take pretty much everyone● a couple have moved up to the varsity so our team is based mostly off 7th and 8th graders and that's hard...but to keep a JV program we needed all the 7th graders
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • same with the band...grade 7 is an integral part of what we do as would the 6th graders.
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Question #4

We have considered **keeping East Meadow pre-k through grade 6**. What do you see as the potential benefits and challenges to this option?

Benefits	Challenges	New Ideas/Other Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detrimental to students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • students need to be integrated with

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● staff already working so hard ● Max out the class size ● horrible to have that many students in a classroom ● larger sizes in those 2 classes ● harder for teachers to meet needs ● Easier to separate students who may need it. Too many kids. That's when people will start pulling their kids out of school. It's too much for the teacher. I have 3 children. 30? One classroom that has challenging behaviors, it may be more paras coming in to help the teachers - which is added salary. No one likes this idea. ● -classes of 30 would be a detriment to student learning ● -Smaller classes is preferable ● -DESE citation for too many students in classroom (SEL) ● I work with children and it is not feasible to have that many students in a classroom ● largest class size ● we definitely keep the class sizes smaller, my son being in grade 6 there are 25/24 and it seems like the teachers are struggling I think to go with any more with that would be challenging 	<p>peers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● could you sell it to the grade 5 parents by listing the possible extra classes they could have ● it is only a year and it might actually solve the program ● we would definitely like to hear more information about the programming ● foreign language would be amazing ● Sixth grade is currently at the max. ● 4th grade has 3 classes and as a class may have more needs. The intention is not to put any more in. ● I don't see it as a problem I went to school with 30-25 in a classroom ● I have worked in Holyoke and there are 27-28 students in a class and this would not be different we can go to 30 ● we do have some of the classrooms with lots of pullouts ● how many of those kids going into grade 5 would be in there all day ● try pulling kids for enrichment classrooms ● it almost feels to me like it is going to be a behavioral school ● our kids needs music art gym just as much as a special needs kid needs their special ed ● the amount of special ed classes seems excessive ● this is a different time and a different generation with different needs
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can sped teacher combine with general teacher, which frees up other classrooms. There's so many viable options but getting one that we all • grade 6 is the most cost effective, no capital expense it seems like an inevitability and seems like the most likely but pigeon holed a bit. that leads me to believe this is all well and good and the town will not throw money at it. • I think the school committee and finance and select board have been working together to make things work more... • People are concerned about the taxes. All of that is what leads me to say that going in front of the town won't pass
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Question #5

Of all the things that we discussed, what is the most important to you?

- address concerns about moving them over and put out additional information regarding what GRADE 6 WOULD LOOK LIKE OVER THERE
 - DESIGN OF BUILDING
 - break out the options and show the data and COST for each
 - keeping 2 classes for grade 4
 - specific information
 - GET INFO FROM GRADE 7 STUDENTS AND PARENTS ABOUT TRANSITION
 - ASK STUDENTS
-
- moving the students to the high school and exposing them to the high schoolers

- having 28 in a classroom
- positive would be that the students in 5th and 6th would go together
- I feel more open to all the options now
- no real major issues
- we know a bunch of the older students from church and basketball camp

- It all boils down to the cost of the townspeople.
- We need to do what's best for the kids and what's for the town. The town will never grow if we don't do best what's best for the kids.
- Laying out the different choices is good.
- Most don't make sense.
- I want to be there when the town hears all this
- The school wasn't a home run.
- I like the superintendent's thinking and what she's saying. Most of what you said about giving them better.
- What's best for kids.
- What's best for the children and their education.
- And ultimately the town.
- This was the right way to go about it.
- Maybe put all this on the school website.
- Modules are the worst idea by far.
- Tours of high school, reasons for fear of transitioning 6th to high school

- -Reallocate the space we already have; better use of the space
- -Reconfigure a larger space for all the "pull outs"
- -Why do we have an extra conference room? Could a wall be taken down or use it as a "pull out" space if you're going to continue that model
- -Need more information on space utilization; specifically in terms of "pull outs"
- -"Pull outs" to intervention classrooms
- -Don't want taxes going up again
- -Will bigger classrooms push people to private and/or school choice?
- Other ideas:
- -Send the school choice back to sending district?
- -How many are actually staying in the classroom with so many "pull outs"? (30 kids but 7 being pulled out then 23 is manageable)
- -What does Teacher contract say about class size?
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- use the school for what it is supposed to be used for if it has to be a larger class so be it
- same thing..i voted for a k-6 that is what it should be used for
- Initially it was voted for prek-6 keep it that way
- keep class sizes smaller even if it needs more classes
- working in the profession architects want to stand behind design
- reach out to other professionals to take a look
- if the grade 6 were to go over there would there be consideration for a true middle school it is behavior and intangibles that are important. must be some way to ensure the safety of all this
- have teachers been polled yet keep them happy
- keep this building what it is meant for
- n to
- at all cost keep it grade 6 here
- do you think we would ever trust another town official
- I believe that the school was built and I voted no I come from a generation of if you cannot keep what was given to you then you do not deserve more the school should fix what they broke and not come to the taxpayers
- I believe in pre-k through 6
- over next 3 years declining enrollment
- our HS will close in a few years

- where the 6th graders are going
- everyone coming to a middle..we aren't going to agree with everyone
- compromise
- 6th grade does not mix at all with high schoolers
- that kids get the best education they can
- maintaining small class size