

MHTN Recommendations:

While we would recommend replacing the three schools that are URM (un-reinforced masonry units) with new schools the current sites for these schools may be the best sites. At Red Rock Elementary School and Helen M Knight Intermediate School the schools could be rebuilt on the existing sites using phased reconstruction and temporary portable classrooms (for about one or two years). This would provide for long term use of the new facility with safe buildings that are fully Code compliant and maintain the desired site location. If phased reconstruction is selected a larger number of classrooms could be built in the first phase minimizing the number of portables used so that most students remain in traditional classrooms, this might require only about 8 portables. These could then be used on other sites as other schools are upgraded.

Another solution would be to seismically upgrade the classroom wings of both schools do some remodeling of the classrooms and provide Code upgrades along with mechanical and electrical upgrades for the classroom wings and construct new administration, multi-purpose wings with toilet rooms and support spaces as programmed to meet future needs. This would result in extending the useful life of the schools and some cost savings. It is our opinion that by reusing the existing site it will minimize costs and continue the 60 years of tradition of the schools in their historic locations. Helen M Knight has enough property on the site that a new school could be built while the current school is being used, the existing school could be demolished and site upgrade during the summer break. A similar strategy could be used at Red Rock elementary and would result in the School being accessed from Locust Lane.

At Grand County High school we would recommend two major additions; 1. construct a new vocational education center adjacent to the high school this should be design to maximize teaching stations provide additional vocational programs and serve both the high school and adult education. Much of the automotive equipment and wood shop equipment could be relocated from the existing facility. 2. Construct a field house to provide new larger gymnasium with additional locker rooms, team rooms, and official locker rooms. The field house should also contain wrestling room, fitness room, dance room and other programmed spaces.

At the Middle School we would recommend building a new larger Middle School that could house seventh, eighth and ninth grades. The newly constructed free standing lunch and assembly room could be maintained as well as reusing the existing vocational educational facility for middle school TLC, computer, Home Economics, sewing and other middle school program classes. The New larger Middle School if built to house the ninth grade would extend the useful life of the high school and allow it to serve increasing numbers of students in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades. We feel that there are very few redeeming assets at the middle school that would justify spending money to try to extend its current use. Another option for the middle school would be to build a new middle school on the property located near Spanish Valley. This would allow for construction to be completed while existing school is in use and then the old Middle school could be demolished and land could be used in the future to expand the high school campus. Long range plans 10 to 20 years may require that the high school be larger and require more athletic fields, parking areas and classroom space.

There are major issues with structure, accessibility, Code compliance, noise and plumbing and HVAC issues that due to the limitations of the low profile modernistic design would be very expensive to abate and the resulting building would still have many functional and operational compromises.

The District Offices need to be enlarged; suitable restrooms, conference rooms and additional offices and adequate board room meeting space need to be added. The building also has electrical needs and HVAC needs that should be addressed. The current site does not have room for meaningful expansion and The Office needs to be relocated. While District level administration does not need to relate or adjoin the teaching facilities there are two Recommendations:

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The Maintenance Building, Sundwall Preschool and the Shafer House could continue to operate in the current locations with minor revisions and repairs. At Sundwall preschool the office space in the trailer could be used by the school for storage and offices if the Staff there is moved to a new district office. This might provide additional space in the school building for more students. Minor Code upgrades, drainage swale and paving on the north side of the building and the addition of more office space by increasing the mezzanine size should extend the use and improve function at the Maintenance building. The Shafer house from information we were provided is under long term lease to a non-profit educational program (The Youth Garden Project) and does not require actions by the District until the lease term expires.

Further options and phasing possibilities will be discussed and incorporated into the Master Plan phase of the study after consultation with the School Board and Staff. This will include possibilities for what can be done and how it can be prioritized and how it can be scheduled to not only meet the School District needs but continue to serve the patrons and reduce the impacts and reduce construction costs for the overall project.