

Information Provided in Response to Community Questions

The following information was provided to members of the community in response to the recommended closure of PVES over the last several weeks.

Enrollment

- Is there a specific number needed to keep the school open?

125 to 135 (based on capacity)

- Enrollment from 2006 at PV

2006-7	120
07-8	121
08-9	113
09-10	99
10-11	96
11-12	94
12-13	86
13-14	70
14-15	68
15-16	56

- Number of Out of Zone (PV) to and from

From PV to Amelon	2
From PV to Elon	9
From PV to MHES	1
From PV to TES	1
To PV from TES	2
To PV from MHES	1

This includes 3 children of staff members who typically attend school of parent.

Transportation

- Appropriate length of bus ride

We strive to reach a bus ride goal of no more than an hour for our most far-reaching routes. While not always possible; that is our goal.

- How much allocated to bus fuel (how does cost affect PV)
\$656,216 / Fuel is purchased division wide and for all bus runs including sports and activity, so the impact would be difficult to assess by a single school.

Repurpose the School

- Elementary AEC
I would be very much opposed to an AEC program for children at the elementary level. This prohibition is also supported by research.
- Day Treatment Center
PVES could accommodate a Day Treatment program, but the location and travel distance make this undesirable.
- Sheriff's Office Sub-station
In the latest conversation with the Sheriff's Office, his staff of officers is down six positions. He is not in a position to open a substation at this time.

Future

- What will the community look like if 5 years?
Looking at this question historically, the area around PV is not growing at a rate to support the school (currently: few housing starts / 2.6 per household). The school has shown a decline in population over the last ten years, with no indication this is likely to change. Much of the property is unavailable for major housing growth as it is used for logging/ farming. The movement of students to TES will support that school for approximately 5-7 more years.
- Weldon-Cooper Study
To gather the most recent and detailed data, the school division contracted with the Weldon-Cooper Center at the University of Virginia to provide information as to growth patterns for the area. Upon completion this will be a division wide study. (The full study will be ready by 2 May). It should be noted that the forecast in the study indicates student population dropping in most all schools. I had asked that data affecting PV be prepared first for Board use at this time. A copy of the findings will be provided.

Program Options That Have Been Explored

- Magnet School
A magnet school would be challenged by the distance as well as the composition

of the program. As a magnet it would require competitive academic entry with staff endorsed and/or highly trained in gifted education. Additionally specific supplies/ equipment would be needed for the program. Also, this would not operate as a “stand alone” school. These exceptional students would not be drawn off their base school. To draw them off would deny the base school of some its highest achieving students that are used by the Virginia DOE in the examination of SOL rates and accreditation. This program would operate very much like the Governor’s School. Students would begin at a base school, travel to the magnet, and return to base. Distance would make this very difficult.

- On-site child care

Child Care through the YMCA program was pursued by the PTO at the school during the 2014-2015 school year and was dropped through lack of interest. As reported, a letter was sent home to all families at PV (K-4). Eleven families responded- one family wanted full time care, two were unsure, and six indicated no interest. The matter was dropped.

- Smart Start

Smart Start is a state funded program to serve at-risk students; not served by Headstart. There is no state funding for expanding the program (would require total local funding). Headstart was removed from PV by the federal government due to low enrollment (federal guidelines and outside our control).

Other Ways to Boost Enrollment

- What options have been explored?

Redistricting, magnet, AEC-type program, Smart Start, Headstart, On-site Day Treatment

- New housing (subdivision)

+ Housing starts

+2.6 per unit

The County Zoning Office reports between 2010 and 2015 there were 24 total housing starts. Additionally, large platted projects like Naola Springs show only 3 approved starts 2009 -2015

Long Term Impact

- Impact on TES and Elon?

At this time, and in the 5-7 year future, both schools will be able to accommodate the children to be relocated from PV.

Costs

- Per pupil costs (PV, et al) [Elementary]

Following is the breakdown of spending per child at each school (derived by taking the total cost of operation divided by population. This only includes school-based costs):

<u>School</u>	<u>Total Operation Cost</u>	<u>Per Pupil Share of Costs</u>
Amelon	\$3,002,382	\$6,321
AES	\$2,248,312	\$7,372
CES	\$2,488,855	\$7,519
Elon	\$1,940,719	\$6,624
MHES	\$2,976,830	\$6,014
PVES	\$707,169	\$12,628
TES	\$771,849	\$9,413

- What are the real costs of closing

Should the school close, the building would revert to the county once school property was removed. At that point the school would be repurposed, or if so decided; mothballed. This mothballing would likely involve securing windows, etc. to reduce vandalism. Limited electric service/ phone/ alarm (building security) would be kept in place as would minimal HVAC (mold prevention). These steps could be taken for a limited expenditure of a few thousand dollars.

- Savings through closure

\$483,068

The Building

- Who pays the gym debt?

All school debt is in reality county debt as they are the bonding recipient. The

repayment of any debt would fall to the county.

- How will the building be used?

The use of the building once all school property is removed is at the discretion of the County BOS.

- Capacity of schools

<u>School</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Suggested by Prismatic</u>	<u>Current</u>
Amelon	527	395	475
AES	510	383	305
CES	527	395	331
Elon	374	281	293
MHES	544	408	495
PVES	136	129	56
TES	136	129	82

Note: The capacity number was developed by using square footage with standard application of established space per child. Prismatic used 75% as their recommendation with PV and TES at 95%. Even so, the two schools are well below utilization capacity.

- HVAC info

Attached drawings from contractor

- Roof info

The school will have the rubber membrane portion of the shingle/ membrane roof replaced. This work will done by a licensed/ bonded roofing subcontractor

- Was the HVAC project vetted by outside consultant

Ameresco and Southern Air designed very similar projects for PV. The current project has been vetted by an independent engineering firm, MRG Consulting (Principal: William Gillespie).

- Original cost of gym/ remaining

\$831,150/ \$669,569

It should be noted that the cost shown above (\$831,150) included the gym, but also architect fees, converting steam to hot water heat, and other various upgrades. Of this amount \$669,569 is the remaining debt.

Day Care Related Issues

- Schools with Y or after school care

Elon, Amelon, MHES

Elon:	To Caterpillar	25
	To Amelon Early Learning Ctr	8
Amelon:	To Caterpillar	30
	To AELC	28
MHES:	To Caterpillar	25
	To AELC	21

CES has a very small day care arrangement.

- How does this operate (providing students)/ bus delivery of kids?

Students are taken to/ from various day care centers as a part of an existing bus route. Buses near the centers deviate the route to drop off/pick up to minimize costs/ disruptions. Bus routes have not been created to move children only to day care (costs).

Staffing/ Employment/ Reassignment

- No staff would lose job – reassigned

Teachers at PV would be relocated. Much of the shared staff would be assigned to TES and/or the base school.

- Tenure of staff at PV

Tenure AT PV

Teacher A	2 years
Teacher B	3
Teacher C	5
Teacher D	3
Teacher E	10
Teacher F	3

Some do have experience in other schools both in and out of county, but this is tenure at PVES. Approximate average: 5 years.

- Pupil Teacher Ratio (By School/ Building wide)

Amelon	18.66 to 1
AES	16.61 to 1
CES	18.5 to 1
Elon	15.63 to 1
MHES	18.75 to 1
PVES	10.17 to 1
TES	15.0 to 1

PPEA

- Costs of PPEA and roofing to PV

Cost of HVAC Project with Lighting:	\$1,058,253
Roofing Replacement:	\$ 366,000
Total Cost:	\$1,424,253

- If the school closes what will happen to the bond money for the PV part of the PPEA project (to replace HVAC and roofs)?

The amount needed for the PV portion (\$1,424,253) would not be borrowed, so the bond would be reduced by this amount.

Efficiency Study

- Recommendations

Prismatic (the company that provided the Efficiency Study) only recommended that the school division consider redistricting to add students to PVES. The examination was made, with distance being a prime issue, making it an unreasonable approach.

Community Requests

- On line survey

ACPS Technology Department provided full support for Task Force online survey

- If closed what should taxpayers expect to see in regard to savings

It is unlikely the public would see these savings as the funds would be diverted to other school division needs; primarily, facilities and the Capital Improvement Plan.

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