

ELEMENTARY FACILITY INFORMATION
JULY 16, 2015

Elementary facility timeline:

- Getting to the point of calling a bond election has been a five-year process, beginning with the District's strategic planning.
- The District hired DLR as the architectural firm to examine existing elementary buildings and develop design options
- The District hired Ameritas as the bond underwriter
- The District hired Caspers / Sampson as the construction manager
- The Board purchased 93 acres of land directly North of the existing High School about a year ago.
- DLR conducted a thorough evaluation of the existing building and looked at three different options:
 - Renovate/expand the existing buildings
 - Build a new K-5 elementary and renovate Lincoln for Pre-K
 - Build a new elementary building to house Pre-K through 5
- A series of informational meetings was held during the 2014/15 school year with a straw poll taken at the end, district staff was polled, and a formal sampling phone survey was conducted. The results were all similar; people understood something needed to be done with elementary facilities, and the single site pre-K through 5 option was the top choice.
- During a June Board meeting, the citizen committee made a recommendation to the Board of Education, reaffirming the original recommendation from the strategic planning committee, to build a single site elementary.
- At a special meeting on July 8th, the Board of Education approved a resolution by a 6/0 vote to hold a **September 15th** bond election. The 33.9 million bond is for the purpose of building a single site elementary facility that includes pre-K.
- While a final decision has not been made, the Board is looking at a bond term length between 20 and 25 years. This time frame would give an estimated bond levy increase of 13.1–15.6 cents at estimated current interest rates plus ½%, translating to an increase of \$131–\$156 dollars a year on a \$100,000 home. The ½% increase is seen as the worst case scenario.
- This bond issue represents an important season for Beatrice Public Schools. Similar to 60+ years ago when the community decided to build four new elementary buildings (reducing from seven).

Possible Site Layout For Elementary Facility And Long-Term Development



