

Extra-Curricular/Media-Communication

Sub Committee

Bob Doan—Arthur

Julie Kinert—Lovington

1. We recommend the name of the new school district be called Arthur-Lovington School District #305.
2. School colors will be Red and Gold. We would like to a student committee to help select the mascot, be made up of one girl and one boy from each of the 7th-10th grades, selected by building Principals. Include the current mascots (Panthers and Knights) among the list of 6 names, with the student committee developing the remaining 4 names. The list would then come back to the C-10 Sub Committee for a selection of 3 names to be voted on by all the students.
3. We recommend current trophies and class pictures stay in the respective communities at places to be determined by the individual boards.
4. We recommend the final output of this work be equally provided to residents of both districts via flyers, brochures, and media.
5. We recommend all existing clubs continue based upon student interest.
6. We recommend that Attendance Centers should be considered in all future planning for Arthur-Lovington School District.
7. Recommend the following sports:
 1. FALL—7/8 girls basketball; HS girls volleyball; HS boys football; HS boys/girls cross country; HS boys/girls golf; HS cheerleading
 2. WINTER— 5/6 boys basketball; 5/6 girls basketball; 7/8 boys basketball; 7/8 cheerleading; 7/8 girls volleyball; HS boys basketball; HS girls basketball; HS cheerleading
 3. SPRING— 6-8 boys & girls track; HS boys & girls track; HS boys baseball; HS girls softball.

FUTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED—Homecoming at Lovington and the continuation of the soccer program coop with Sullivan.

Finance Sub Committee

Scott Daily—Arthur

Ray Duncan—Lovington

1. Demolition— Using available funds, there will be a set-a-side for demolition of the Lovington High School & possibly gymnasium.
2. Bond—The only current bonds lie with the residents of Lovington. It is unknown at this time what the actual balance will be at the time of annexation or if there will be a balance at all. If the annexation passes on April 5, 2011, the Lovington board could exercise the option to pay off their bond indebtedness with the cash reserves. It is the intent for the newly formed district to not start out in debt. Following the annexation vote on April 5th, 2011, the current boards of education will continue to monitor the balance and will determine the course of action as needed.
3. Board Representation—By confirmation of both districts attorneys, the annexed district (Lovington) must assume the current annexing districts (Arthur) representation laws. Thus, all townships of the newly formed district are limited to a maximum of 3 representatives from any one township. As requested from the Lovington Board of Education ~ If any Arthur Board Member(s) were to step down after the annexation July 1, 2012, members of the prior Lovington Board of Education would be immediately appointed in succession to fill out the unexpired term(s) until the next election. Any further appointments would continue to be made from the prior Lovington Board of Education until 3 members have been appointed but with consideration made of the maximum of three members form township law. Lowe Township would be the only affected district by this consideration. After July 1, 2012 the board of the new district will appoint a committee to investigate and make recommendations for better representation options. If it is determined by the committee to change the current representation method the referendum would be placed before the voters at the next general election after July 1, 2012.
3. Scholarships—All scholarships and their current criteria are to be followed. The generosity of the scholarship donor has full right to establish the guidelines the recipient must follow. Arthur & Lovington are the benefactors of the generosity of the John E. Timm Trust. The guidelines for distributing the funds are established by the individual school districts which can be found in each district's student handbook. Currently, the districts receive the same amount of money form the Trust for the student scholarships. The class of 2015 would be the last class to begin their high school career in Lovington and Arthur as separate districts. For the classes leading up to the Class of 2015 the current criteria for the respective schools would continue. Beginning with the class of 2016, the Timm Foundation would determine the amount of money to be distributed to the new district with a school committee deciding the criteria that would be established in the distribution of these funds. The Cora Betts Scholarship has been reviewed buy counsel and it has been determined that the Lovington community will be able to maintain its current offering of this scholarship. The scholarship recipient(s) will be to student(s) who resides in the boundaries of the current (old) school district prior to annexation. The distribution and qualifications will be determined by the trustees of the Cora Betts Scholarship committee and its trustees.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR
POSSIBLE
ANNEXATION
OF
LOVINGTON
ARTHUR
SCHOOL
DISTRICTS

Vote

April 5th, 2011

Curriculum Sub Committee

Ryan Whelen-Arthur

Linda Casteel-Lovington

1. Continue the dual credit opportunities that currently exist in each building and expand on these opportunities when possible.
2. Recommend the investigation of the attached enhancements. See Flyer of Curriculum.
3. Allow collaboration time between the two high school/jr. high buildings to discuss textbooks for the combined school.
4. Recommend at the grade school, the books currently used be continues in each building as long as the same topics are covered. The departments or class levels should meet an agree on a course or grade outline to be used for both sites. If attendance centers are used then course outlines should be developed and utilized and textbook decisions should be handled as per the high school/jr. high.
5. Recommends selling of the unused textbooks to provide funding for the purchase of additional copies of preferred textbooks.
6. Recommend the continuation/expansion/carry-over of Lovington's calculator program to Arthur High School.
7. Recommend the districts continue to work together to assure every possible scholarship program currently offered at both schools continues in the combined district.
8. Recommend the transfer of credits and GPA always go toward the best interest of each student entering the new school. A student's GPA will not decrease. Follow the rule of "Do no harm".
9. Recommend that for the first two years of the new district, a valedictorian and salutatorian be chosen from each of the old high schools. This will allow students who have taken weighted classes to retain their class rank. After that, one valedictorian and salutatorian will be chosen.
10. Recommend upon merging of the two high schools libraries, that older, multiple, unused books are checked for value. Sell these to raise funds for new books for the combined library. Students on the library club will provide valuable input into new purchases.
11. Recommend the continued association with the Decatur Area Technical Academy (DATA). Research with Atwood-Hammond and Tuscola to possibly reduce transportation expenses as they currently have a transportation program in place for DATA students.

12. Non-Monetary Awards. If Arthur has the same type of award (based on personal character and reputation) then keep the awards separate, as the people the award was named for were known in the individual communities. Examples of this Lovington are the Al Best and the John Zancha Award. If Arthur does not offer this type of award then run the awards for 2 years as recommended earlier for the Valedictorian/Salutatorian awards and then phase them out.

Buildings and Grounds Sub Committee

Doug Kitchen—Arthur

Bill Harlin—Lovington

1. During the time between the referendum passage and the actual annexation, market the Lovington High School building or a portion thereof, after establishing usage limitations, to the general public. Should the district fail to find a suitable purchaser, a timetable will be established for demolition by the Lovington School Board.
2. Option one would be to demolish the entire high school structure leaving the athletic fields intact and maintained for school use and community use such as JFL games. Utilize the baseball diamonds for high school softball games and for the summer leagues such as Little League that currently or may use these diamonds in the future.
3. Demolish the entire high school as above except for the gym and maintain all athletic fields intact and in good shape. Save the gym for practices, possible games, or tournaments, and possibly rent it out for other use.
4. Prior to building demolition, possibly have an auction to sell any of the unused equipment, desks, chairs, etc. It may be possible to sell any building materials such as doors, woodwork, light fixtures, and any other materials if it is allowed in the demolition contract.

Transportation Sub Committee

Iris Dicks—Arthur

Jon Day—Lovington

1. Utilize Arthur's current contract carrier or a carrier of their choosing to meet the needs of the combined district.
2. Provide the carrier the right of first refusal to purchase the school buses owned by the Lovington District, buses 3, 5 and 16. Bus 2 will be on the termination end of a three year lease that may be extended if so desired or turned back in to the dealer without penalty.
3. Work out an agreement with the contract carrier to rent the existing bus barn and keep the Lovington route buses in Lovington.
4. We recommend that the new district consider entertaining bids for the contractual bus service that is provided for the new district in order to minimize expenses.
5. We recommend staggering the high school start time to allow the bus travel time from Lovington to Arthur. (15-20 minutes)
6. Lovington owns two Dodge Caravans used for student transport. One is a 2010 purchased with ARRA Special Education funding, the other is a 2008 and is outfitted for driver's education (although not currently utilized as such) and was purchased with district funds. We recommend these vehicles be transferred into the new district.
7. Allow the districts to investigate if the Lovington Activity Bus will be beneficial for student transport in the combined district. If it is determined that it would not be beneficial, the bus should be sold prior to the annexation date.
8. We recommend snow removal vehicles be left at Lovington school for snow removal duties.
9. We recommend the current driver's education Chevrolet Impala and the Chevrolet pickup truck owned by Lovington be rolled into the new district.
10. We recommend the new board re-bid the fuel contracts for the Lovington and Arthur fuel needs of the new district to minimize expenses.
11. We recommend that the new district utilize the trailer donation from the Lovington Community Club for the transportation of band instruments, etc. in the new districts.
12. We recommend the new district utilize Lovington current bus drivers and transportation director to help facilitate a smooth transition into the new district busing needs.
13. Dollar value estimates have been captured for school boards decisions of buses and other vehicles from Dr. Roy Smith.