

# Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Board Meeting Attendance Record

Date: Oct. 8, 2024

Name	Please check the boxes that apply		
	Aitkin County Citizen	Aitkin County Employee	Company Representative – Please list
Dan Stifter	yes		Aitkin Schools
Kent Roeritz	No		ICS
MARK Johnson		✓	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Jeanne Schram	✓		Aitkin Age
Liz Shurt		✓	PH
DJ Thompson		✓	Land



# **AITKIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **2024-2029**



#### **CORE VALUES**

- Excellence - empower students to be their best self
- Responsive - able to adapt to the changing educational environments
- Safety - provide for a safe school environment
- Respect - appreciate the uniqueness of each individual in our thoughts, actions, and relationships
- Integrity - doing what is right - even when it is not easy

#### **BELIEF STATEMENTS**

- We believe in academic excellence for all.
- We believe compassionate and curious minds are developed when students are engaged socially, emotionally, academically, and physically.
- We believe building caring relationships with students and families are the foundation for successful schools and communities.
- We believe in individualized and innovative educational experiences.

#### **MISSION**

To inspire and prepare our students with the tools and skills to succeed in an everchanging world.

#### **VISION**

Strong relationships. Innovative education. We are ISD #1.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS**

**Student  
Growth and  
Achievement**

**Staff  
Development  
and Support**

**Safe  
Learning  
Environment**

**Family and  
Community  
Outreach**

**Finance and  
Facilities**



FOCUS AREAS	GOALS	OBJECTIVES
Student Growth and Achievement	<b>Goal 1:</b> Continue with standards-based curriculum that will help all students achieve the goals of the World's Best Workforce (WBWF) at ISD #1.	<b>Objective 1.1:</b> We will annually assess to determine if we are meeting the goals of the WBWF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children are ready for school.</li> <li>• All third-graders can read at grade level.</li> <li>• All racial and economic achievement gaps between students are closed.</li> <li>• All students are ready for career and college.</li> <li>• All students graduate from high school.</li> </ul> <b>Objective 1.2:</b> Continue to utilize Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) programming districtwide to address the growth and achievement of our students. <b>Objective 1.3:</b> Annually create career pathways that target emerging workforces.
	<b>Goal 2:</b> We will achieve the goals of the Minnesota Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act for all students in the school district.	<b>Objective 2.1:</b> We will annually evaluate the success of meeting the goals of the READ Act. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every child reading at or above grade level every year, beginning in kindergarten.</li> <li>• Support multilingual learner and students receiving special education services in achieving their individualized reading goals.</li> </ul>
	<b>Goal 3:</b> Provide resources and curriculum that will improve learning opportunities to meet the individual needs of all students.	<b>Objective 3.1:</b> Annually increase our focus to raise student expectations on performance based on WBWF data. <b>Objective 3.2:</b> Continue to provide opportunities to foster an environment that promotes respect for all people.
Staff Development and Support	<b>Goal 4:</b> Meet the yearly growth goals of WBWF and use data to drive staff development.	<b>Objective 4.1:</b> Continue to provide ongoing support for professional development. <b>Objective 4.2:</b> Continue to review student data on a regular basis to drive instructional practices.
	<b>Goal 5:</b> Build and maintain a professional culture that will promote growth of both staff and students.	<b>Objective 5.1:</b> Continue to provide opportunities for staff development in the use of technology tools to enhance teaching and learning. <b>Objective 5.2:</b> Continue to provide opportunities for staff development for Minnesota state standards implementation to enhance teaching and learning. <b>Objective 5.3:</b> Continue to provide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) opportunities for students and staff to have positive interactions.
Safe Learning Environment	<b>Goal 6:</b> Grow a culture of safe learning and respect for all people.	<b>Objective 6.1:</b> Continue to review programs that provide a safe environment for all grade levels.
	<b>Goal 7:</b> Implement tools and systems for behavior and mental health interventions.	<b>Objective 7.1:</b> There will be a schoolwide effort to utilize our PBIS and our MTSS programs to address the needs of our students. <b>Objective 7.2:</b> Continue to work with local agencies and strengthen our supports for ISD #1 students.

ease note: All Goals and Objectives have timelines and action plans developed by administration. The work is scheduled out over 2024 - 2029



FOCUS AREAS	GOALS	OBJECTIVES
Family and Community Outreach	<b>Goal 8:</b> Increase community and business partnerships.	<b>Objective 8.1:</b> Identify community relationships that can support the district's ability to accomplish our goals.
	<b>Goal 9:</b> Implement and communicate the Strategic and Facilities Plan that support the district priorities and identify the needs of our district.	<b>Objective 9.1:</b> Develop a Strategic Action Plan and align it with the Facilities Plan. <b>Objective 9.2:</b> Share the Strategic Action Plan with the community.
	<b>Goal 10:</b> Promote the positives of ISD #1 on a regular basis.	<b>Objective 10.1:</b> Utilize a variety of communication tools to share our goals and success stories within our community. <b>Objective 10.2:</b> Develop a brand and marketing strategies.
Finance and Facilities	<b>Goal 11:</b> Address safety and facility needs and upgrades.	<b>Objective 11.1:</b> Work with recently created Facilities Plan to identify and address facility needs. <b>Objective 11.2:</b> Annually evaluate and update security and the safety plan.
	<b>Goal 12:</b> Promote financial stability.	<b>Objective 12.1:</b> Allocate resources responsibly to align with prioritized learning needs.
	<b>Goal 13:</b> Create a plan for the future of Aitkin Public School Facilities.	<b>Objective 13.1:</b> Meet with various stakeholders within the Aitkin community to move the discussion of building on the land purchased for building the future of ISD #1.

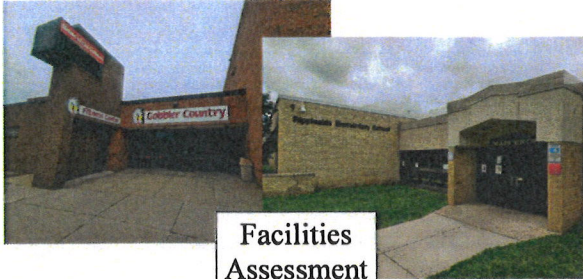
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# Aitkin Public Schools ISD 1



## Facilities Assessment

October 2022

Prepared by:



## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



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Facility Assessment Report



## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### PURPOSE OF STUDY

In order to accomplish long-range planning for future facility's needs, Aitkin Public Schools recognizes the importance of having current, baseline information concerning the status of its existing buildings and sites. Considering this, ICS has been retained by the District to conduct observations and develop evaluations of all buildings and sites being used for educational purposes. This report intends to provide an array of pertinent physical condition information for the buildings and sites in a way that is useful for District facilities planning.

The District clearly recognizes that school buildings are the backbone of our public education system, and that teaching and learning occurs more successfully in well-maintained buildings that meet the challenges of 21st-century education and its evolving needs to prepare students for not only post-secondary learning but for living in our global society.

In particular, Aitkin Public Schools is experiencing many of the dynamic challenges of a public-school district — aging buildings, shifting population and student concentration areas, evolving learning programs, and limited fiscal resources — all of which must be addressed within an integrated process of long-range planning which the Aitkin Public School district is undertaking. This report intends to support that effort.

## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



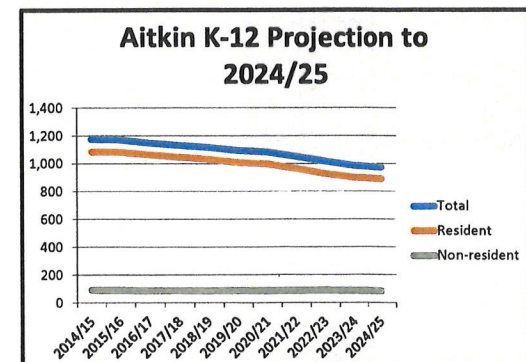
### AVAILABLE DISTRICT INFORMATION

#### Geographic Area and Population to be Served

Aitkin Public Schools encompasses a geographic area of approximately 424.1 square miles. The District has educational facilities located within the City of Aitkin while serving a geographic area with a much broader reach. The Aitkin school district has one of the largest (geographically) districts in the state. Which cover areas north of Palsade, east toward McGregor, northern Mille Lacs lake, Glen, Malmø, south nearly to Garrison, and west to Cedar Lake. The district falls mostly within Aitkin County with a small section on the west into Crow Wing county. Aitkin county contains about 16,000 residents and is home to 1015 Pre-K thru grade 12 students and their families.

Percurrent demographic information, Aitkin Public Schools is projected to experience a slight decline in overall student enrollment over the next few years.

Enrollment history, current enrollment, and projections are as follows:



A District Boundary Map has been included in Appendix A of the Report.



Facility Assessment Report



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### List of Existing School Facilities

Aitkin Public Schools' educational programs are housed in 3 facilities. The elementary has 551 students in grades Pre K – 6 and the high school has 542 students in grades 7-12. There is an Alternative Learning Center (ALC) that shares a site with the football field located a couple blocks southwest of the high school. A bus/maintenance garage and cold storage poleshed are also located just to the south of the off-site ALC and football field. Lastly, the main athletic fields (track, tennis courts & ball fields) are located just a block to the West. All the facilities are located in Aitkin, MN. The District has a proud tradition of excellence in academics, fine arts, community education, and extracurricular activities.

The existing facilities and sites are described below:

**Rippleside Elementary** 225 Second Avenue SW Aitkin, MN  
Grades: Pre K – 6  
Year Constructed: 1957  
Additions: 1965, 1981, 1988, 1992, 1995, 1999, 2001  
Square Footage: 78,532 District MDE LTFM Data lists the school's sqft as 92,694  
School Site Size: 18.1 Acres

**Aitkin High School** 306 Second Street NW Aitkin, MN  
Grades: 7 – 12  
Year Constructed: 1936  
Additions: 1957, 1959, 1976, 1979, 1992, 1993, 2001, 2005  
Square Footage: 187,988  
School Site Size: 4.7 Acres  
Off-Site Athletic Fields Site Size: 15.2 Acres

**Alternative Learning Center (ALC)** 12 7th Ave NW Aitkin, MN  
Grades: 7 – 12  
Year Constructed: 1948  
Additions: 1992  
Square Footage: 1,536  
Site Size: 3.4 Acres\*

**Bus/Maintenance Garage** 2 7th Ave NW Aitkin, MN  
Grades: N/A  
Year Constructed: 1950's (Estimated)  
Additions: Poleshed - 48' x 96' & 44' x 56'  
Square Footage: 4,600 (Bus Garage), 7,072 (Poleshed) Poleshed is not listed in MDE LTFM Data Sqft

Site Size: 3.4 Acres\*

\* The ALC, Off-Site Football Field and the Bus/Maintenance Garage share a building site.



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### List of Specific Deficiencies

#### Deficiencies of the Rippleside Elementary



1: Rippleside Main Entry



2: Newer Air Cooled Chiller



3: Bill Cline Baseball Field

The Rippleside Elementary school (Picture 1) was originally built in 1957 (18,790 sqft). The original 1957 section consisted of 10 classrooms, an office area and a gym. The school has had many additions: 1965 (37,274 sqft), 1981 (4,132 sqft), 1988 (861 sqft), 1992 (220 sqft), 1995 (101 sqft), 1999 (4,000 sqft) and 2001 (13,154 sqft).

The Varsity baseball field (Bill Cline Field) is also located on the northern section of the Rippleside Elementary site. This field is a partnership with the school district and the local community. Essentially, the community has paid for upgrades while the district has dealt with maintenance of this field. Currently, the community is addressing an issue with drainage that has plagued this field since being built. Drainage issues have limited the use of this field to just a few months out of the year (June – September).

#### Largest Deferred Maintenance Items for Rippleside Elementary:

Rippleside Elementary has needs with the big 3 categories:

- Mechanical Systems
- Pavements
- Roofs

These categories tend to have the largest costs when repairs or replacements are needed.



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### METHODOLOGY USED

In order to gather pertinent physical information about each building and site, the ICS research team conducted tours of every facility, observing conditions, recording notes and taking photographs for later evaluation.

For background to beginning our site visits, a "facility survey" was initially sent out by ICS to gain early insight into known conditions for consideration. Facility and administrative staff at each building were extremely helpful in providing this background information, clearly the District's staff — administrative, facility, and teaching — all take great pride in their buildings and recognize the role these facilities play in the District's success.

Also, an onsite assessment was performed, which looks at a comprehensive evaluation of the physical needs of major components, including site, exterior envelope, interior condition, mechanical & plumbing, electrical systems, and life safety/security systems.

As a result of the survey, site visits, and research the ICS team gathered relevant data, formatted it and provided it as usable information.

### Facility Condition Index (FCI)

The "Facility Condition Index" represents a useful measurement of the amount of facility needs compared to the insured replacement value for that building. Therefore, the higher this ratio value is, the more consideration should be given to replacing the facility versus investing significant repair dollars into it. A ratio greater than .6 (60%) typically identifies facilities where long term investments should be seriously considered before implementation. Of course, other factors weigh into whether a building will be upgraded, repurposed, or replaced, but this measurement is one that should be accounted for in any facility decisions

Facility	Deferred Maintenance	Building Insured Amount	Facility Condition Index (FCI)
Rippleside Elementary	\$4,490,346	\$18,332,879	.24
Aitkin High School	\$11,154,287	\$41,919,263	.27
Alternative Learning Center	\$126,905	\$167,027	.76
Bus/Maintenance Garage	\$169,721	\$500,240	.34



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### Deficiencies of the Rippleside Elementary (cont.)



4: Tiles and Mastic Containing Asbestos



5: Pooling water on Roofs



6: Bridging Roof Membrane with Numerous Repairs

The older sections (1957 & 1965) of the facility have areas with 9" x 9" tiles (Picture 4), mastic and some pipe insulation that contain asbestos. The district has made it a priority to remediate 1-2 classrooms a year between the 2 schools. However, there are still surfaces that need remediation in the elementary. Abatement is a large expense that needs to be planned for, especially if any of these areas are to be renovated.

The roofs are the biggest problem area for this facility. There are several sections that are in good condition: the built up roofing on sections J & K, and the glue down EPDM on sections A, B, C, D, E & I. However, these areas suffer from an issue that plagues all the roofing sections on this facility, Drainage. Water pools/pools (Picture 5) on all these roof sections, due to poor overall design. There are sections that are sloped incorrectly, areas of low spots prior to scuppers or down spouts, and even whole sections that have no roof drains to shed water. Many of these sections have low parapet walls, which limits the ability to properly slope.

All the ballasted EPDM (rubber) roofs have 45 mil membranes, which tend to have a short lifespan (7-12 years). With Minnesota's extreme weather changes Summer's which are very hot and humid to Winter's snow and sub below temperatures, this creates a lot of fluctuation in the rubber membrane. Due to the weather and medium to heavy foot traffic, these 45 mil EPDM roofs don't tend to last long. This is evident by the bridging (picture 6), waterlogged insulation, wet ceiling tiles and numerous repairs.



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1

### Deficiencies of the Rippleside Elementary (cont.)



7: Air Handlers Past Their Useful Life



8: Outdated Breaker Panel



9: Rotted Out Casement Windows

The mechanical system has had some updates over the last 7 years. Three Air Handlers (AHU) and a Air-Cooled Chiller were updated in 2014, a hot water boiler was replaced in 2018, and two Roof Top Units (RTU) were replaced in 2021. The school is just finishing up with all pneumatic controls being converted over to Direct Digital Controls (DDC) which links to the Compass program by Alerton. However, there are still 3 AHU's and 2 RTU's (Picture 7) that are well past their useful life and need replacement. Also, there is a Condensing Boiler that is nearing the end of its useful life and will need replacement soon.

Some of the electrical panels were updated with the mechanical upgrades but most breaker panels (Picture 8) and distribution panels will need to be updated. Old breakers may not properly disengage during a surge, which can present a safety concern.

Many of the 1957 & 1965 classrooms have been updated with new carpet tiles and LED lighting. Casework is in fair condition but the wood doors and sills are dented, scraped, and chipped. The windows in these classrooms are a residential style double pane, aluminum clad wood window (Picture 9) that have cracked and rotting wood. Due to this, these once operable windows no longer open or close correctly.

All individual and group restrooms have damaged toilet partitions and manual operation plumbing valves. Valves should be updated to an automatic operation to reduce water consumption.

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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1

### Deficiencies of Aitkin High School



10: High School Secure Entry



11: Cosmetic Updates to Cafeteria



12: Mini Split System used for Cooling

Aitkin High School was originally built in 1936 in the center of downtown. The original building had a 3-story wood structure for classrooms that was connected via a tunnel to the gym and auditorium. The wooden classroom structure was demolished when the 1957 & 1959 additions were added. Other additions followed in: 1976 (100,285 sqft), 1979 (20,880 sqft), 1992 (140 sqft), 1993 (700 sqft), 2001 (3,600 sqft), and 2005 (1,503 sqft). The school recently had a large renovation that included a new secure entrance, mechanical upgrades and cosmetic updates to the cafeteria, hallways, and select classrooms & restrooms.

#### Largest Deferred Maintenance Items for the Aitkin High School:

The high school's mechanical systems are a combination of Air Handlers, Roof Top Units and Mini Splits that attempt to meet the needs for heating, cooling and ventilation. However, many areas in the school do not cool properly or have no cooling what so ever. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors, most rooms have no cooling, while select rooms (Science, Media Center & Technology) have Mini split systems (15 units). These Mini Split systems tend to be loud, finicky and have short lifespans (7-10 years). Also, these units are serving areas far too large for their intended purpose. Oddly, these same rooms are being heated and ventilated by air handlers, which begs the question: why is there no Chiller system in place? A Chiller system would allow all rooms served by air handlers to have cooling.

Facility Assessment Report

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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1

### Deficiencies of the Aitkin High School (cont.)



13: Air Handling Unit Well Past Its Useful Life



14: Ballasted EPDM Roof with Many Repairs Done



15: Heavily Deteriorated Tuckpointing

With the recent renovation (2021), several Air Handling Units have been updated (AHU's: 6, 9, 10, & S6). All the remaining Air Handling Units (12 units) are well past their useful life and need replacement. Roof top Units provide DX cooling to select areas throughout the school. A couple units have been updated but 5 units are past their useful life and need replacement. Pneumatic controls are in the process of being converted over to Direct Digital Controls that are accessible by Alerton's Compass program.

Ballasted EPDM (Rubber) roofing on sections: A, B, C, E, F, H, I; are in poor condition. Like the Elementary, these sections of the roof have 45 mil membranes too. There are many repairs, which is common with the age of these membranes and the amount of foot traffic across them. Several sections (K, L, M, Q, R, S, T) of the roof have a Spray Polyurethane Foam (SPF) roof system with a silicone coating. This system may need to be re-applied in the future.

The paving onsite is starting to dry out and crack, with the North lot also having several pot holes. Replacement of both lots will be needed over time. The Northeast lot is gravel and needs to be graded to eliminate the holes and low spots that have developed. Concrete sidewalk panels are heavily cracked around the entire site and some have heaved to create tripping hazards.

Tuckpointing on the exposed 1936 section is heavily deteriorated and needs replacement soon. The 1950's and 1976 sections have begun to discolor and deteriorate in areas as well.

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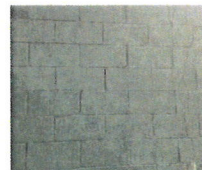
### Deficiencies of the Aitkin High School (cont.)



16: Well Preserved 1936 Auditorium



17: HID Stadium Lighting



18: Heavily Deteriorated Tennis Court CMU Block Wall

Most of the electrical distribution and breaker panels are original to their location's building age. Old breakers may not properly disengage during a surge, which can present a safety concern.

The original 1936 auditorium is well beloved by students and the community alike. However, the rigging equipment is out of date and now presents potential safety issues. Also, the seating is original and could use an update.

Athletic fields are off-site located 2 - 3 blocks to the southwest. The Football field shares a site with the ALC and Bus Garage. The biggest concern here is the HID lighting. The district should upgrade these to a longer lasting and more efficient LED.

Just a block to the west is the Tennis Courts, Baseball/Softball Fields and the Track. The tennis courts are due for a complete redo of the base and court surfaces. The courts have large cracks and spalling across the court surfaces. Also, the CMU/Block wall in the spectator section, is severely cracked and presents a safety concern. Also, all the dugouts onsite have cracked mortar between the CMU/Block walls, it's to the point that you can see light through them. Fencing has been bent over and damaged in several sections.

The track's polyurethane coating is in fair condition. However, this same coating has heavily deteriorated on the other track surfaces, such as: the pole vault and long jump lanes. This has limited the school's ability to host meets.

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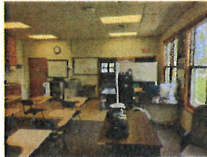
## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### Deficiencies of the Alternative Learning Center



19: Alternative Learning Center



20: ALC Classroom



21: Outdated Air Cooled Condensing Unit

The Alternative Learning Center (ALC) is a residential style, wood framed building that shares a site with the football field and bus garage. The ALC is located on the Northwest corner of the lot. Note that this facility only has 7 students max in it at any given time.

#### Largest Deferred Maintenance Items for the Alternative Learning Center:

Interior finishes, lighting and handicap accessible features are the most significant needs. The flooring is a mix of carpet and linoleum. The carpet is loose and presents a tripping hazard. The lighting consists of T8 fluorescent, which should be updated to a longer lasting and more efficient LED.

The furnace has been updated recently but the condensing unit is past its useful life. Paving to the north has begun to dry out and crack, which will need to be replaced as it worsens.

The building is not handicap accessible inside or out. So the facility will need to add basic amenities to meet handicap requirements. These include wider doorways, an entrance ramp, a button-actuated self open door and a handicap accessible restroom.

Also, there is an odor throughout the facility that could not be tied to any one component onsite. Most likely due to a lack of ventilation within the facility, especially during the summer months.



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### Deficiencies of the Bus/Maintenance Garage



22: Bus/Maintenance Garage



23: Interior of Bus/Maintenance Garage



24: Cold Storage Poleshed

The Bus/Maintenance Garage is a single Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU) building (4,600 sqft) with a cold storage poleshed (7,072 sqft) onsite. The bus garage shares a site with the ALC and football field, which is located on the Southeast corner of the lot. The district has 25 total buses and several other district vehicles. The majority of the buses are 48' long but the largest is 52' and it doesn't fit completely in the garage when needing to do maintenance.

#### Largest Deferred Maintenance Items for the Bus/Maintenance Garage:

The furnaces that provide heat to the the garage bays, offices and break room were recently updated. There is no cooling provided in this facility. There is no CO monitoring system or automatic exhausting in place, so the doors are cracked open when working on the buses. The lighting consists of T8 fluorescent, which should be upgraded to the longer lasting and more efficient LED.

The mortar is cracking between the CMU/Block walls and will need to be addressed at some point. The roof is a ballasted EPDM (rubber) roof that will need replacement over the 10-year plan. However, there are no mechanical units or much foot traffic on the roof, so the membrane may last longer than usual.



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



### NEEDS FOR CONSIDERATION

Based on the physical condition analysis, building utilization and educational space comparison ICS has comprised a list of needs that should be considered for resolution by Aitkin Public Schools as part of the long-range facility plan. These needs have been identified and are considered a high priority. The basis for the highest prioritization of a need is determined if some or all the following criteria are met:

- A condition that left unresolved would increase the rate of deterioration of the building
- A condition that is currently not meeting building or energy code
- A condition that provides an unsafe environment for the occupants of the building
- A condition that reduces the use or function of the building

If a need meets all the criteria listed above, it will be identified as High Priority. However, due to multiple reasons, some high priority needs may not meet all the criteria listed. We have done our best to provide a comprehensive list of those needs that we feel further review and planning should be undertaken. The list of the high priority needs is as follows:

Location	Need(s)	Budget
Aitkin High School	Mechanical Upgrades	\$1,500,000-\$7,000,000
Rippleside Elementary	Roofing	\$1,000,000-\$3,000,000
Aitkin High School	Roofing	\$700,000-\$2,000,000
Aitkin High School	Pavement	\$200,000-\$400,000
All	Electrical Distribution Replacements	\$300,000-\$1,200,000
Aitkin High School	Tuckpointing	\$400,000-\$1,000,000
Rippleside Elementary	Mechanical Upgrades	\$300,000-\$1,200,000

The ranges listed are a result of the varying project solutions. Due to the nature of facility planning and securing the funding to implement projects, there are multiple end results that could be achieved that create the initial budgeting parameters. The above list of High Priority needs should not be looked at as a list to complete "in total" and subsequently budget the total amount. Similarly, completing some of these projects together will provide an effective cost benefit and therefore reduce the total cost.



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## Aitkin Public Schools – ISD 1



Also, there are needs identified within the ten-year plan that are not included in the list above. Upon the implementation of a project that would resolve one or more of the needs listed above, it would be prudent to review the ten-year plan to determine if other needs should be resolved at the same time.

### FUNDING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

There are various funding options available to Aitkin Public Schools which could be used to resolve the high priority needs or other needs identified in the ten-year plan. These funding options include:

- Long Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue (LTFMR)
- General Obligation Bonding (GOBond)
  - o Via Board Approved action
  - o Via Referendum
- Abatement Bonding (ABond)
- Annual Levy Authority (levy)
- Capital Facility Bonding (CFBond)
- Performance Contracting (PC)

ICS is ready to assist Aitkin Public Schools in the presentation of and provide technical backgrounding of the ten-year plan and funding options available to the School Board.

This report and its contents have been completed with information gathered in early to mid 2022. If needs are not addressed within six months, the needs and budgets included should be revisited to determine if the repair, replacement, and priority are appropriate for the school and market conditions.



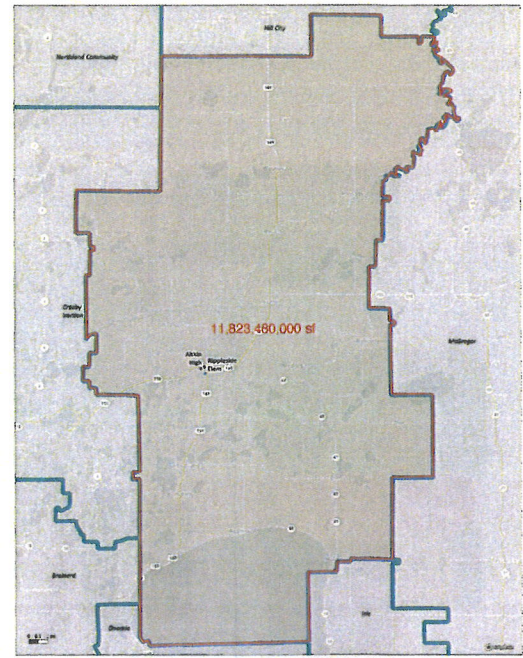
### Facility Assessment Report

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## District Boundary Map



### Aitkin Public School District Attendance Areas and Program Locations

For a listing of public school programs within this school district, go to page 2.

This map is intended to display a single public school district and the geographic attendance area boundaries and public school locations. Attendance areas are only listed for the district. School boundaries are listed if they are identified as elementary, middle, or high schools. The school district boundary appearing on the map does not necessarily represent the legal boundary of the district. It is a generalization of the boundary established by the Department of Education, based on best general information from Minnesota counties. Please contact your county auditor or assessor to obtain an accurate legal description of the boundary.

**Map Information**

- Elementary School Attendance Area
- Middle School Attendance Area
- High School Attendance Area

Map Information

Elementary School Attendance Area

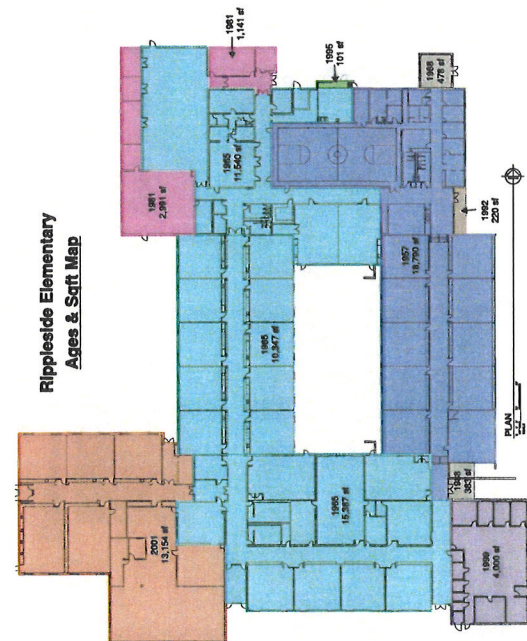
Middle School Attendance Area

High School Attendance Area

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



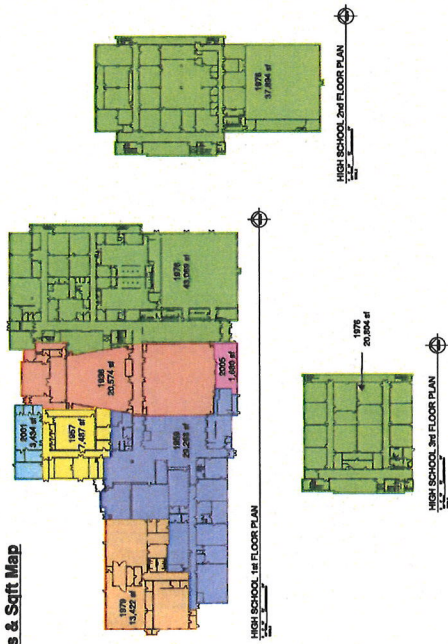
## Building Maps



### Rippleside Elementary Ages & Soft Map

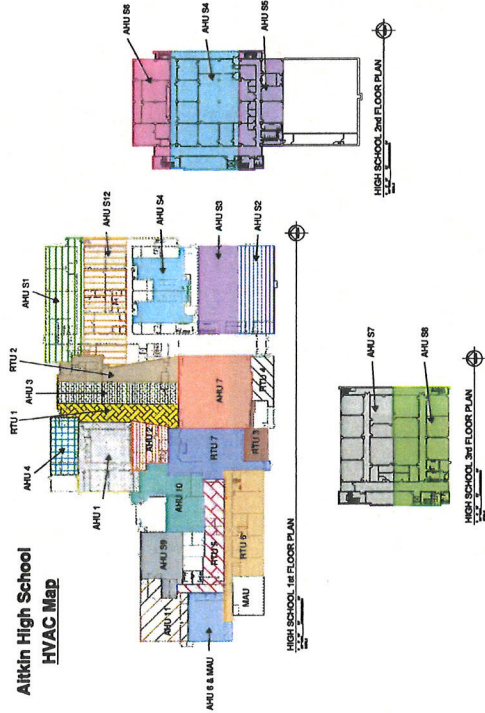


**Aitkin High School  
Ages & Sqft Map**

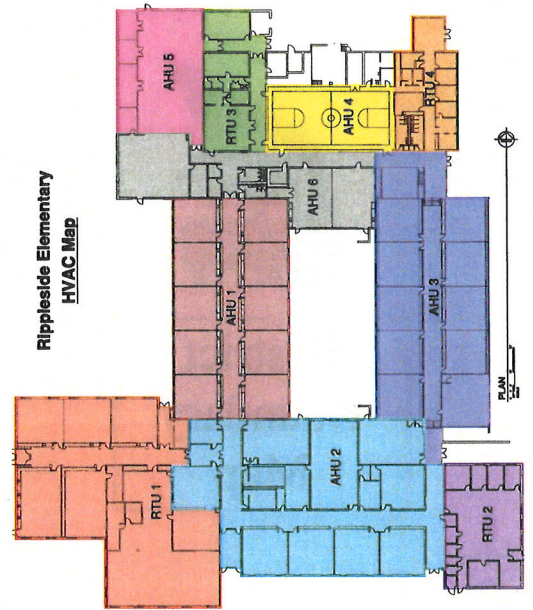


\*Square Footage is NOT Calculated for Purchases and Lower Level Rooms or Tunnels.

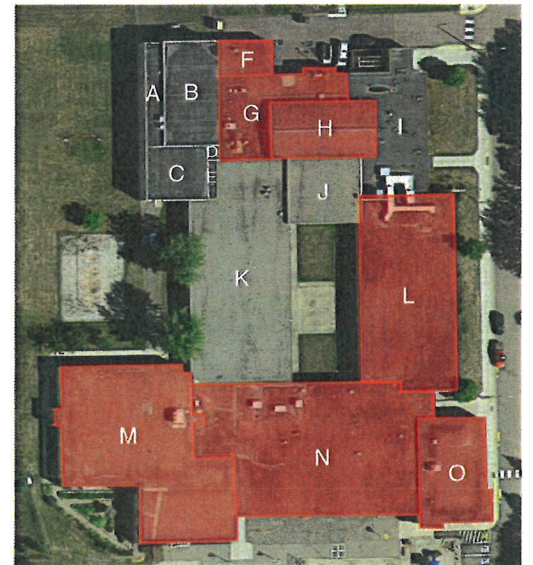
**Aitkin High School  
HVAC Map**



**Rippleside Elementary  
HVAC Map**



**Rippleside Elementary**



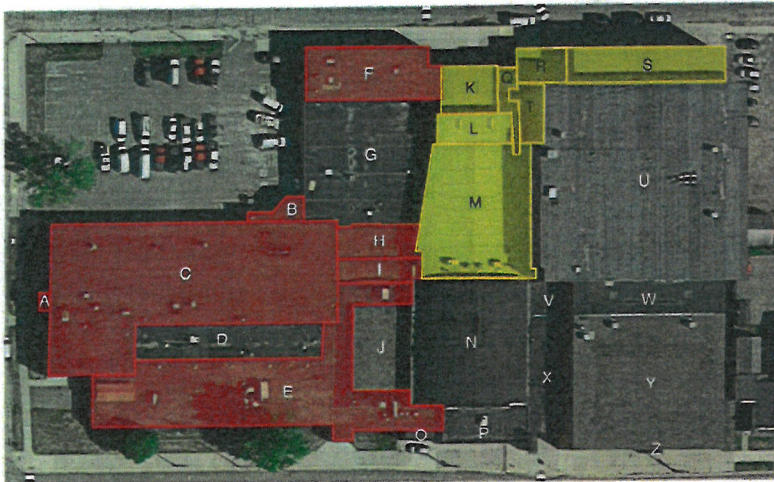
**Roof Section Map**





## Budgets

## Aitkin High School




Roof Section Map

## Summary by Facility

	System	Aitkin ALC	Aitkin High School	Bus Garage	Hippleside Elementary	Grand Total
Deferred	Building Envelope	\$ 8,245	\$ 1,447,515	\$ 52,306	\$ 239,977	\$ 1,748,043
	Building Hardware and Equipment	\$ 1,476	\$ 1,209,788	\$ -	\$ 395,919	\$ 1,607,183
	Electrical	\$ 6,425	\$ 772,531	\$ 16,155	\$ 535,425	\$ 1,330,536
	Interior Surfaces	\$ 16,749	\$ 770,599	\$ 6,120	\$ 593,185	\$ 1,386,653
	Mechanical Systems	\$ 2,550	\$ 3,291,193	\$ 10,609	\$ 1,071,156	\$ 4,375,508
	Plumbing	\$ 1,739	\$ 26,553	\$ 3,377	\$ 26,819	\$ 58,488
	Roof Systems	\$ 14,733	\$ 1,372,318	\$ 75,655	\$ 1,060,613	\$ 2,523,319
	Site Projects	\$ 8,738	\$ 1,692,193	\$ 5,499	\$ 101,292	\$ 1,807,722
Deferred Total		\$ 60,655	\$ 10,582,690	\$ 169,721	\$ 4,024,386	\$ 14,837,452
>100k		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,183	\$ 405,183
> 100k Total		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,183	\$ 405,183
Health & Safety	Accessibility	\$ 66,250	\$ 10,746	\$ -	\$ 2,532	\$ 79,528
	Asbestos Removal and Encapsulation	\$ -	\$ 47,271	\$ -	\$ 58,245	\$ 105,516
	Fire Safety	\$ -	\$ 137,566	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 137,566
	Hazardous Materials	\$ -	\$ 146,738	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,738
	Indoor Air Quality	\$ -	\$ 183,421	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 183,421
	Physical Hazards	\$ -	\$ 45,855	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,855
Health & Safety Total		\$ 66,250	\$ 571,597	\$ -	\$ 60,777	\$ 686,624
Grand Total		\$ 126,905	\$ 11,154,287	\$ 169,721	\$ 4,490,346	\$ 15,941,259

## Long Term Needs and Facilities Maintenance Plan

		District Name: Aitkin Public School District					District #: 20-13-2012	
		District Contact: For Questions on this Spreadsheet: alicia.wonder@dsd.org					Date Completed: 10-13-2012	
		District Phone: 218-838-7700					Phone #: 218-838-7700	
		Name: _____						
		Address: _____						
		City: _____						
		State: _____						
		Zip: _____						
		County: _____						
		School Name: _____						
		Building Name: _____						
		Room Number: _____						
		Room Name: _____						
		Room Description: _____						
		Room Status: _____						
		Room Age: _____						
		Room Condition: _____						
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		Room Photos: _____						
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		Room Schedules: _____						
		Room Inventory: _____						
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		Room Demolition: _____						
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# Long Term Needs and Facilities Maintenance Plan



District Name: Alitkin Public School District  
 District Contact for Questions on this Spreadsheet:  
 Name: Steve Snyder  
 District: 1  
 E-mail: ssnyder@isd1.org  
 Phone #: 218-338-7704  
 Date: 10-11-2022

Finance Code	Fiscal Year, Ending June 30th-->	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
	System										
	Total for all District Facilities										
<b>Health and Safety, IAQ and Abatement Projects</b>											
347	Physical Hazards	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,120	\$ 4,244	\$ 4,371	\$ 4,502	\$ 4,637	\$ 4,776	\$ 4,919	\$ 5,067	\$ 5,219
349	Hazardous Materials	\$ 12,800	\$ 13,184	\$ 13,580	\$ 13,987	\$ 14,407	\$ 14,838	\$ 15,284	\$ 15,742	\$ 16,215	\$ 16,701
352	Environmental Health & Safety Management	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
358	Asbestos Removal and Encapsulation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105,516	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
363	Fire Safety	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,360	\$ 12,731	\$ 13,113	\$ 13,506	\$ 13,911	\$ 14,329	\$ 14,758	\$ 15,201	\$ 15,657
366	Indoor Air Quality	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,480	\$ 16,974	\$ 17,484	\$ 18,008	\$ 18,548	\$ 19,105	\$ 19,678	\$ 20,268	\$ 20,876
367	Accessibility	\$ 66,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,532	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,746	\$ -	\$ -
	<b>Total</b>	\$ 111,050	\$ 46,144	\$ 47,529	\$ 48,955	\$ 158,471	\$ 51,934	\$ 64,240	\$ 55,097	\$ 56,751	\$ 58,453
<b>IAQ, Fire and Abatement, Projects Costing &gt; \$100,000 per Site</b>											
358	Asbestos Removal and Encapsulation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,183	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
363	Fire Safety	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
366	Indoor Air Quality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<b>Total</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,183	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Deferred Capital Expenditures and Maintenance Projects</b>											
368	Building Envelope	\$ 137,836	\$ 854,900	\$ 57,919	\$ 45,463	\$ 210,407	\$ 50,939	\$ 42,985	\$ 30,572	\$ 70,420	\$ 246,602
369	Building Hardware and Equipment	\$ 10,000	\$ 604,611	\$ 124,549	\$ -	\$ 487,007	\$ 250,403	\$ -	\$ 130,613	\$ -	\$ -
370	Electrical	\$ -	\$ 424,875	\$ -	\$ 29,792	\$ 9,904	\$ 270,980	\$ 143,286	\$ -	\$ 348,361	\$ 103,338
379	Interior Surfaces	\$ 6,125	\$ 6,309	\$ 667,228	\$ 82,474	\$ 30,332	\$ 454,220	\$ 104,698	\$ 7,533	\$ 7,759	\$ 19,975
380	Mechanical Systems	\$ 465,425	\$ 2,449,281	\$ 1,184,230	\$ -	\$ 163,199	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,686	\$ -	\$ 105,687
381	Plumbing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,730	\$ 3,377	\$ 1,739	\$ 7,642	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
382	Professional Services and Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
383	Roof Systems	\$ 52,500	\$ 1,787,591	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 539,681	\$ -	\$ 128,814	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,733
384	Site Projects	\$ 65,730	\$ 409,417	\$ 28,115	\$ 2,569	\$ 65,279	\$ 3,021	\$ 718,152	\$ 248,250	\$ 3,167	\$ 264,022
	<b>Total</b>	\$ 737,616	\$ 6,535,984	\$ 2,062,041	\$ 206,028	\$ 1,509,186	\$ 1,031,302	\$ 1,145,577	\$ 424,654	\$ 429,707	\$ 754,357
	<b>Total Annual 10 Year Plan Expenditures</b>	\$ 848,666	\$ 6,583,128	\$ 2,109,570	\$ 254,983	\$ 2,072,840	\$ 1,083,236	\$ 1,209,817	\$ 479,751	\$ 486,458	\$ 812,210
	<b>Total 10 Year Plan Expenditures</b>	\$ 15,941,259									



# Aitkin 2024 Enrollment Projection: 4/10/24 Draft

Applied Insights<sup>north</sup> for ICS Consulting

## Tables and Figures:

1. Table P-1 shows total enrollment.
2. Table P-2 shows resident student enrollment and P-3 non-resident student enrollment.
3. Table P-4 provides various summaries of the projection.
4. Figure P-1 depicts total K-12 enrollment.
5. Figure P-2 shows average grade size by grade group.
6. Figure P-3 shows total K-12 enrollment for the past 10 years and the 10 years of the projection.
7. Tables C-1 and C-2 show the grade progression ratios used in the projection.

## Notes:

1. Total K-12 enrollment down 10.8% from 870 to 865. With K-6 holding steady at 458 to 470 but grades 7-12 declining from 512 to 395.
2. Resident student count down 13.2% from 871 to 756. Non-resident students up 10.1% from 99 to 109.
3. The projection effectively reduces losses due to open enrollment from around 100 to low 50s. This is in line with the 2023/24 average for grades K-7 (average per grade of around 4).
4. The projection also significantly reduces losses to home-schooling from around 100 to about 40 (which is the historic average prior to most recent spurt).



**Aitkin Public Schools**

Date: 4/10/2024

**Table P-1 DRAFT PROJECTION  
ALL STUDENTS**

Grade	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K	57	61	60	56	62	69	65	65	65	65	65
1	74	59	63	62	58	64	71	67	67	67	67
2	53	70	56	60	59	55	61	67	63	63	63
3	67	55	72	57	62	61	57	63	69	65	65
4	56	71	59	77	60	66	65	61	67	74	69
5	62	56	71	59	77	60	66	65	61	67	74
6	89	62	56	71	59	78	60	66	65	61	67
7	74	89	62	56	72	59	79	59	66	65	61
8	80	76	92	64	58	75	61	82	60	68	67
9	83	80	77	92	65	58	76	62	83	60	69
10	102	80	77	76	89	64	56	75	61	81	58
11	90	101	77	75	74	87	63	55	75	60	80
12	83	89	100	76	74	73	86	63	55	75	60
Total K - 12	970	949	922	881	869	869	866	850	857	871	865
K - 6	458	434	437	442	437	453	445	454	457	462	470
7 - 12	512	515	485	439	432	416	421	396	400	409	395

**% Change: 23/24 to 33/34**

	Average Yrs 4-7 vs Yrs 1-3	Average Yrs 8-11 vs Yrs 4-7
Yr 1 > 11		
14.0%	6.2%	3.2%
-9.5%	-2.4%	5.1%
18.9%	-1.5%	8.9%
-3.0%	-8.4%	10.5%
23.2%	8.1%	1.1%
19.4%	4.0%	1.9%
-24.7%	-2.9%	-3.4%
-17.6%	-11.3%	-5.6%
-16.3%	-22.0%	7.4%
-16.9%	-9.1%	-5.8%
-43.1%	-17.5%	-3.5%
-11.1%	-16.3%	-9.7%
-27.7%	-14.8%	-18.1%
-10.8%	-8.0%	-1.2%
2.6%	0.3%	3.7%
-22.9%	-15.3%	-6.3%

**Average Grade Size by Grade Group**

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K - 3	63	61	63	59	60	62	64	66	66	65	65
4 - 6	69	63	62	69	65	68	64	64	64	67	70
7 - 12	85	86	81	73	72	69	70	66	67	68	66



**Table P-2 DRAFT PROJECTION  
RESIDENT STUDENTS**

Grade	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K	57	55	54	50	56	63	59	59	59	59	59
1	66	59	57	56	52	58	65	61	61	61	61
2	48	62	56	54	53	49	55	61	57	57	57
3	58	49	63	57	55	54	50	56	62	58	58
4	52	61	52	67	60	58	57	53	59	66	61
5	55	52	61	52	67	60	58	57	53	59	66
6	84	55	52	61	52	68	60	58	57	53	59
7	65	83	54	51	60	51	67	59	57	56	52
8	74	66	85	55	52	61	52	68	60	58	57
9	79	74	66	85	55	52	61	52	68	60	58
10	85	76	71	64	82	53	50	59	50	65	58
11	80	82	73	68	61	79	51	48	57	48	62
12	68	79	81	72	67	60	78	51	48	57	48
Total K - 12	871	853	825	792	772	766	763	742	748	757	756
K - 6	420	393	395	397	395	410	404	405	408	413	421
7 - 12	451	460	430	395	377	356	359	337	340	344	335

% Change: 23/24 to 33/34

	Average Yrs 4-7 vs Yrs 1-3	Average Yrs 8-11 vs Yrs 4-7
Yr 1 > 11	3.5%	3.5%
3.5%	3.0%	3.5%
-7.6%	-4.8%	5.6%
18.8%	-4.7%	10.0%
0.0%	-4.7%	8.3%
17.3%	10.0%	-1.2%
20.0%	5.8%	-0.8%
-29.8%	-5.4%	-5.8%
-20.0%	-15.0%	-2.2%
-23.0%	-26.7%	10.5%
-26.6%	-13.4%	-5.9%
-31.8%	-19.5%	-6.8%
-22.5%	-17.3%	-17.0%
-29.4%	-8.9%	-26.4%
-13.2%	-9.0%	-2.9%
0.2%	-0.3%	2.6%
-25.7%	-16.8%	-8.8%

**Table P-3 DRAFT PROJECTION  
NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS**

Grade	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K	0	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
1	8	0	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
2	5	8	0	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3	9	6	9	0	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
4	4	10	7	10	0	8	8	8	8	8	8
5	7	4	10	7	10	0	8	8	8	8	8
6	5	7	4	10	7	10	0	8	8	8	8
7	9	6	8	5	12	8	12	0	9	9	9
8	6	10	7	9	6	14	9	14	0	10	10
9	4	6	11	7	10	6	15	10	15	0	11
10	17	4	6	12	7	11	6	16	11	16	0
11	10	19	4	7	13	8	12	7	18	12	18
12	15	10	19	4	7	13	8	12	7	18	12
Total K - 12	99	96	97	89	97	103	103	108	109	114	109
K - 6	38	41	42	45	42	43	41	49	49	49	49
7 - 12	61	55	55	44	55	60	62	59	60	65	60

% Change: 23/24 to 33/34

	Average Yrs 4-7 vs Yrs 1-3	Average Yrs 8-11 vs Yrs 4-7
Yr 1 > 11	600.0%	50.0%
600.0%	50.0%	0.0%
-25.0%	28.6%	0.0%
20.0%	38.5%	0.0%
-22.2%	-34.4%	33.3%
100.0%	-7.1%	23.1%
14.3%	-10.7%	28.0%
60.0%	26.6%	18.5%
0.0%	20.7%	-27.0%
66.7%	23.9%	-10.5%
175.0%	35.7%	-5.3%
-100.0%	0.0%	19.4%
80.0%	-9.1%	37.5%
-20.0%	-45.5%	53.1%
10.1%	0.7%	12.2%
28.9%	6.0%	14.6%
-1.6%	-3.1%	10.4%



**Table P-4. Summary Analysis****Enrollment by Resident / Non-resident Student**

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
Resident	871	853	825	792	772	766	763	742	748	757	756
Non-resident	99	96	97	89	97	103	103	108	109	114	109
Total	970	949	922	881	869	869	866	850	857	871	865

**Percent of Enrollment by Resident / Non-resident Student**

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
Resident	89.8%	89.9%	89.5%	89.9%	88.8%	88.1%	88.1%	87.3%	87.3%	86.9%	87.4%
Non-resident	10.2%	10.1%	10.5%	10.1%	11.2%	11.9%	11.9%	12.7%	12.7%	13.1%	12.6%

**Average Grade Size by Grade Group: All Students**

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K - 3	63	61	63	59	60	62	64	66	66	65	65
4 - 6	69	63	62	69	65	68	64	64	64	67	70
7 - 9	79	82	77	71	65	64	72	68	70	64	66
10 - 12	92	90	85	76	79	75	68	64	64	72	66

**Average Grade Size by Grade Group: Resident Students**

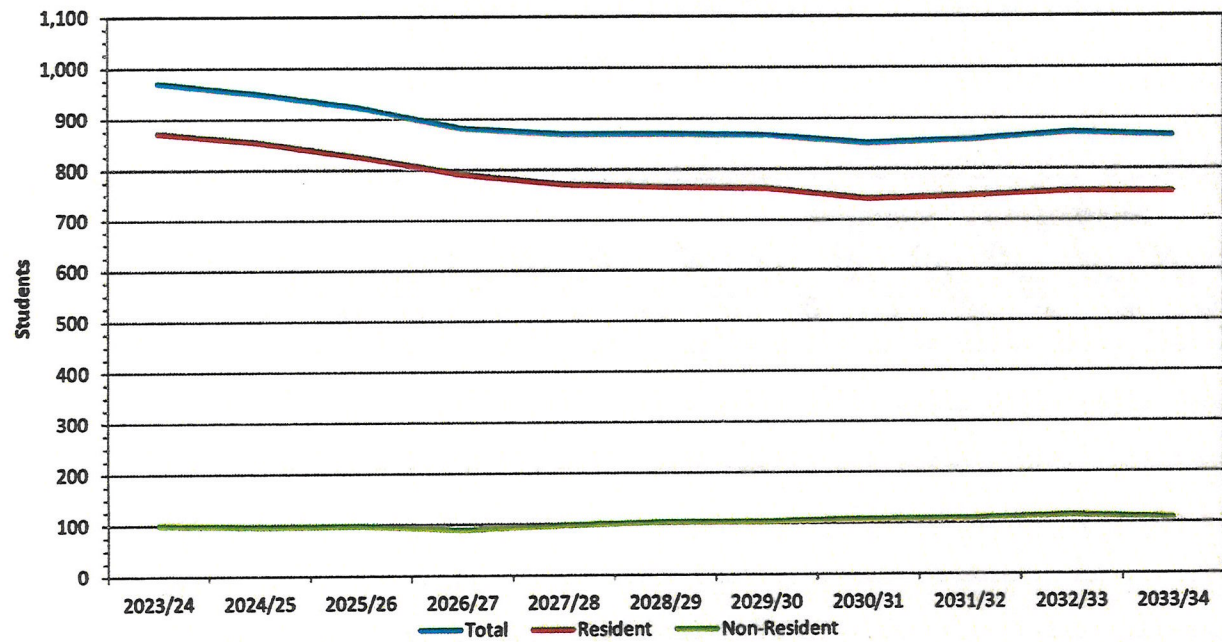
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K - 3	57	56	58	54	54	56	57	59	60	59	59
4 - 6	64	56	55	60	60	62	58	56	56	59	62
7 - 9	73	74	68	64	56	55	60	60	62	58	56
10 - 12	78	79	75	68	70	64	60	53	52	57	56

**Average Grade Size by Grade Group: Non-Resident Students**

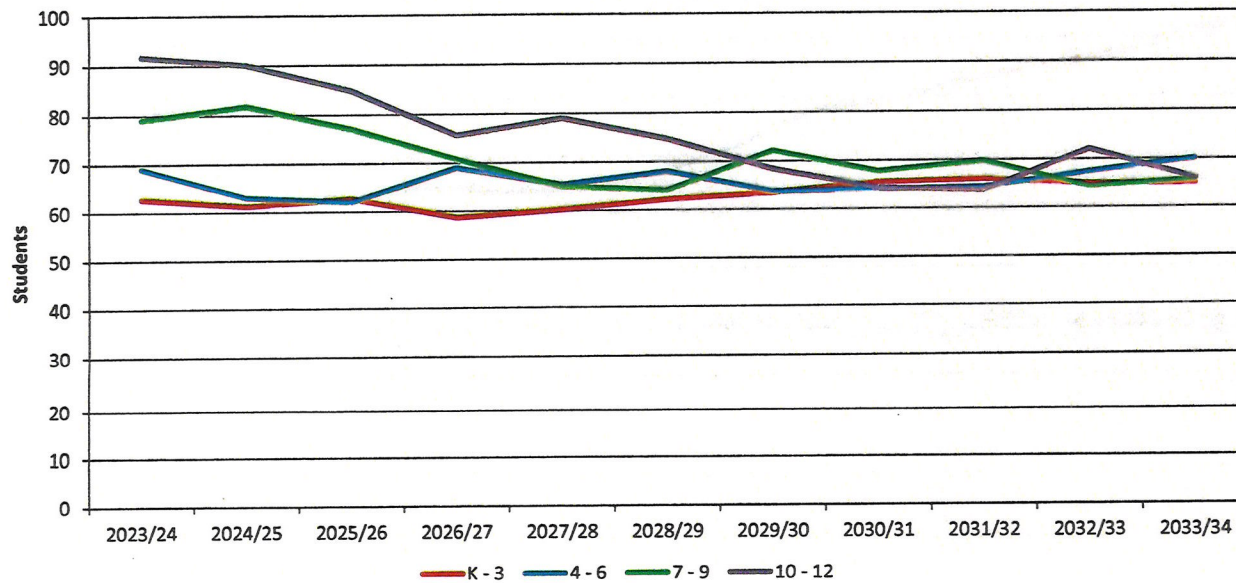
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
K - 3	6	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
4 - 6	5	7	7	9	6	6	5	8	8	8	8
7 - 9	6	7	9	7	9	9	12	8	8	6	10
10 - 12	14	11	10	8	9	11	9	12	12	15	10



**Fig. P-1. Aitkin K-12 Enrollment Projection to 2033/34: dra.**

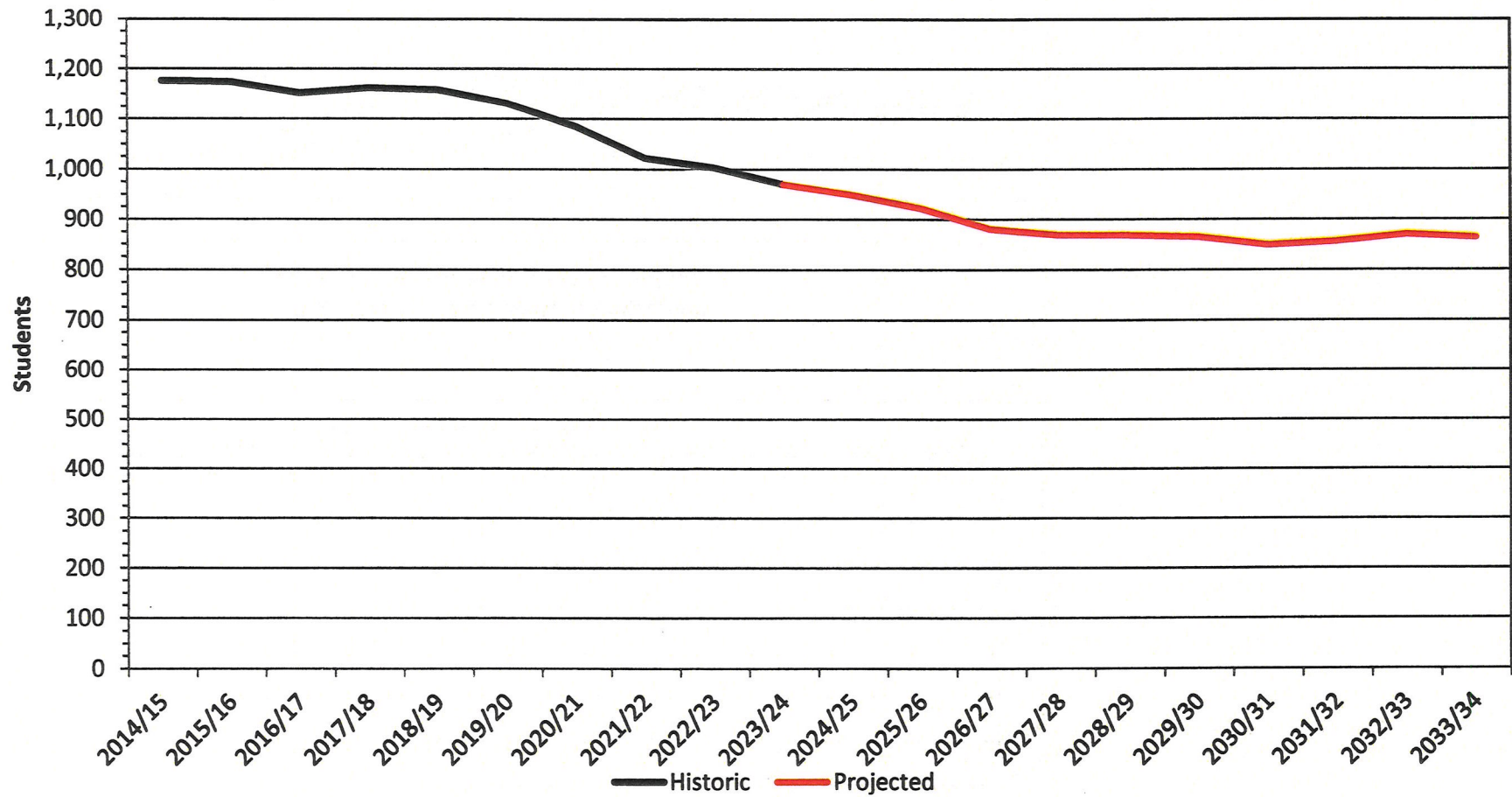


**Fig. P-2. Aitkin K-12 Enrollment Projection:  
Average Grade Size by Grade Group: draft**





**Fig. P-3. Aitkin K-12 Enrollment: 10 Years Historic & 10 Years Projected**





**Table C-1. ISD 166 ENROLLED STUDENTS Grade Progression Ratios**

**Grade Progression Ratios of Students in Current Grade to Students in Previous Grade in Prior Year**

Grade	School Year Progression									Averages				Used in Projection
	2015>16	2016>17	2017>18	2018>19	2019>20	2020>21	2021>22	2022>23	2023>24	All Yrs	First 3	Mid 3	Last 3	
K>1	0.94	1.01	1.05	1.02	0.97	1.02	1.08	1.06	0.96	1.01	1.03	1.00	1.03	1.03
1 > 2	1.00	1.06	1.02	1.01	1.00	0.89	0.92	0.94	0.96	0.98	1.04	0.97	0.94	0.94
2 > 3	0.98	1.06	1.08	1.00	0.97	0.89	1.07	0.95	1.02	1.00	1.07	0.95	1.01	1.01
3 > 4	1.03	1.04	0.99	1.08	0.98	0.96	1.05	1.09	1.04	1.03	1.02	1.01	1.06	1.06
4 > 5	1.03	0.99	1.02	1.00	0.98	0.94	1.01	0.96	0.98	0.99	1.00	0.97	0.98	1.00
5 > 6	1.05	1.01	1.03	0.99	1.02	1.00	0.98	1.01	1.03	1.01	1.02	1.00	1.01	1.01
6 > 7	1.03	1.03	1.00	1.06	1.04	0.92	0.95	1.04	0.97	1.00	1.01	1.01	0.99	0.99
7 > 8	1.03	1.02	0.98	0.99	1.08	0.99	1.09	1.00	0.98	1.02	1.00	1.02	1.02	1.02
8 > 9	0.99	0.85	0.96	1.00	0.96	0.94	0.97	1.03	1.08	0.97	0.91	0.97	1.03	1.00
9 > 10	1.00	0.99	1.01	1.05	1.01	1.02	0.92	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.03	0.96	0.96
10 > 11	1.00	0.97	0.96	1.03	0.94	0.97	0.94	0.98	0.97	0.97	0.96	0.98	0.96	0.96
11 > 12	0.99	1.02	1.02	0.99	1.01	1.01	0.92	1.00	1.05	1.00	1.02	1.00	0.99	0.99

**Table C-2. NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS Grade Progression Ratios**

**Grade Progression Ratios of Students in Current Grade to Students in Previous Grade in Prior Year**

Grade	School Year Progression									Averages				Used in Projection
	2015>16	2016>17	2017>18	2018>19	2019>20	2020>21	2021>22	2022>23	2023>24	All Yrs	First 3	Mid 3	Last 3	
K>1	0.80	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.50	0.86	0.73	0.99	0.93	1.00	1.03	1.03
1 > 2	0.89	1.25	0.86	1.25	1.00	0.71	1.00	0.89	0.83	0.96	1.00	0.99	0.91	0.96
2 > 3	1.25	1.50	1.20	0.83	1.30	0.83	1.20	1.00	1.13	1.14	1.32	0.99	1.11	1.11
3 > 4	1.22	1.00	0.92	1.33	1.20	0.77	1.20	1.17	0.57	1.04	1.05	1.10	0.98	1.10
4 > 5	1.00	0.91	1.40	1.18	0.63	0.67	1.10	0.83	1.00	0.97	1.10	0.82	0.98	0.98
5 > 6	1.25	1.11	1.00	1.00	0.92	1.20	1.00	0.91	1.00	1.04	1.12	1.04	0.97	1.04
6 > 7	1.80	1.00	1.00	1.10	0.86	1.00	0.83	1.75	0.90	1.14	1.27	0.99	1.16	1.16
7 > 8	1.00	1.11	1.40	1.30	1.45	1.17	1.33	0.60	0.86	1.14	1.17	1.31	0.93	1.14
8 > 9	1.00	0.67	1.00	1.29	1.08	0.81	1.29	1.13	1.33	1.07	0.89	1.06	1.25	1.07
9 > 10	1.29	0.80	1.25	1.10	1.33	1.00	1.00	0.78	0.94	1.05	1.11	1.14	0.91	1.05
10 > 11	1.17	0.78	1.25	1.00	1.09	1.08	1.00	1.15	1.43	1.11	1.06	1.06	1.19	1.11
11 > 12	1.08	1.00	1.29	0.80	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.07	1.00	1.03	1.12	0.93	1.02	1.02





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## Aitkin ISD #1

### Listening and Educational Space Adequacy Summary

July 16, 2024

#### Aitkin (14) Stakeholder Listening Sessions

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS	DATE
School Board	4/15/24
High School, Elementary, Para's and Admin Assistants	4/26/24
HS Students, Aitkin Econ Development	5/7/24
Transportation and Food Service, Hospital Board	5/9/24
Virtual Community, Foster Grandfriends, Hospital Staff, In-Person Open Community	5/22/24
Aitkin County Employees	6/11/24
Aitkins Lions and Open Community Meeting	6/26/24

2

#### Listening Session Questions

- What are the Great Things happening in the Aitkin School District?
- What are the Challenges facing the Aitkin School District?
- What does the school district Mission Statement mean to you?
- What would you like the Aitkin School District to be Known For 20 years from now?
- What Advice would you give the decision makers as they work through this process?
- What are your Expectations as we move through this process? (School Board Only)
- What would you want your Younger Siblings to have in school that you didn't have? (Students Only)
- What is the best way for the District to Communicate with you? (Community Only)

What are the Greatest Facility and Grounds Needs district wide?

3

#### What Great Things are happening in the Aitkin School District?

##### Internal Common Themes

- Dedicated, caring staff/relationships (114)
- CTE programs, Health Careers, Ag, Art, Business, Fab Lab (34)
- Administration (23)
- Community relationships (22)
- College in the Classroom (20)
- Flex schedule (18)
- Great kids (17)
- Strong athletics/activities (14)

##### External Common Themes

- Committed teachers and staff to student excellence (29)
- School board working together/communication (20)
- Career and tech ed programs (15)
- Community partnerships (13)
- Great music/theater programs (9)
- Good Ag/teacher program (7)
- Sports programs (5)

4



### What Challenges are facing the Aitkin School District?

<u>Internal Common Themes</u>	<u>External Common Themes</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aging facilities/right sizing (159)</li> <li>• Lack of gym space/ sports facilities/track needs (23)</li> <li>• Community support of funding needs ((23)</li> <li>• Financial concerns (19)</li> <li>• Parking/traffic issues (18)</li> <li>• Declining enrollment (17)</li> <li>• No green space (15)</li> <li>• Sports facilities across highway (13)</li> <li>• Student behavior/apathy (11)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outdated/aging facilities (36)</li> <li>• School funding (28)</li> <li>• Declining enrollment (26)</li> <li>• Growth is difficult in community (21)</li> <li>• Oldest population in the state (19)</li> <li>• Affordable housing/lack of (17)</li> <li>• Need a new school to attract families (14)</li> <li>• More CTE classes and electives (12)</li> <li>• Need a community center (11)</li> </ul>

### What does the Mission Statement mean to you?

<u>Internal Common Themes</u>	<u>External Common Themes</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare children for a successful future</li> <li>• Educate now for jobs later</li> <li>• Prepared to meet the challenges of life after high school</li> <li>• To prepare our students to be successful in life</li> <li>• Put a good product into our world</li> <li>• That we want everyone to succeed</li> <li>• Help students feel engaged in their own learning</li> <li>• That we are trying to prepare our kids for the real world</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative/adaptive/flexible education plan for real life</li> <li>• Leaving with real life skills, not just academics</li> <li>• Adapting to the needs of the employment opportunities</li> <li>• Prepare students for a successful life</li> <li>• Help to prepare for college</li> <li>• Help them see the adult world</li> <li>• Tools and skills to show a variety of career paths</li> <li>• Life skills as well as knowledge</li> <li>• Foster and grown the future leaders</li> </ul>

6

### What do you want the District to be Known for 20 years from now?

<u>Internal Common Themes</u>	<u>External Common Themes</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New elementary in 5 years</li> <li>• In new building full of lots of kids</li> <li>• Increasing enrollment and families that are staying</li> <li>• New K-12 campus with ALL facilities on school grounds outside of town</li> <li>• Growing rather than shrinking</li> <li>• A school that attracts families to the community</li> <li>• Best school in the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becoming the district where people want to move</li> <li>• Offering more on-line classes to be competitive</li> <li>• Test scores that exceed the state average</li> <li>• Struggling to find room for all the incoming students</li> <li>• Be among the top 10 districts in the state</li> <li>• A new school</li> <li>• Active, engaged community members</li> <li>• A modern consolidated campus</li> </ul>

7

### What Advice would you give the decision makers moving through this process?

<u>Internal Common Themes</u>	<u>External Common Themes</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partner with city and county to grow together</li> <li>• Focus on what can make Aitkin stand out from surrounding area</li> <li>• Don't spend money on making quick fixes</li> <li>• Listen to staff and communicate</li> <li>• Put kids first/prioritize the students</li> <li>• Would like to see completion of things started</li> <li>• Keep asking for input/keep open mind</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transparency/open and honest communication</li> <li>• Be present in the community to get the message out</li> <li>• Get feedback from the taxpayers</li> <li>• Keep students and staff as a priority</li> <li>• Use the small town in your favor</li> <li>• Consider student opinions, current and alumni</li> <li>• Listen, hear and be open minded</li> <li>• Think outside the box</li> <li>• Leave politics out of it</li> <li>• Think long term-25-50 years in future</li> </ul>

8

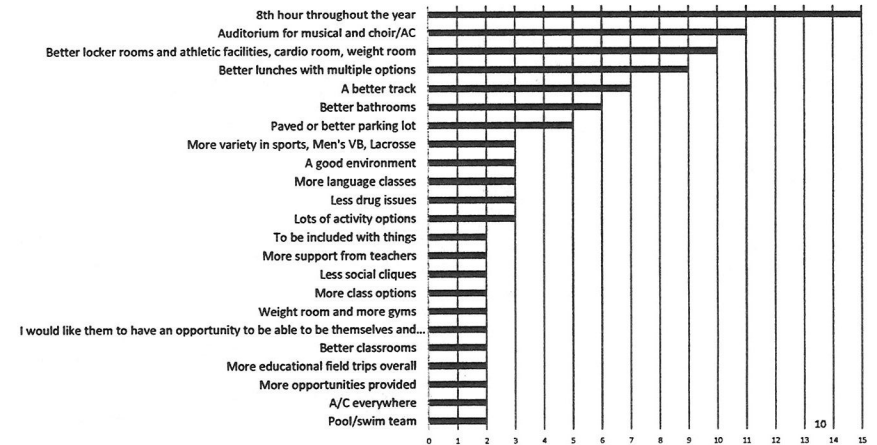


## What are the School Board's Expectations going through this process?

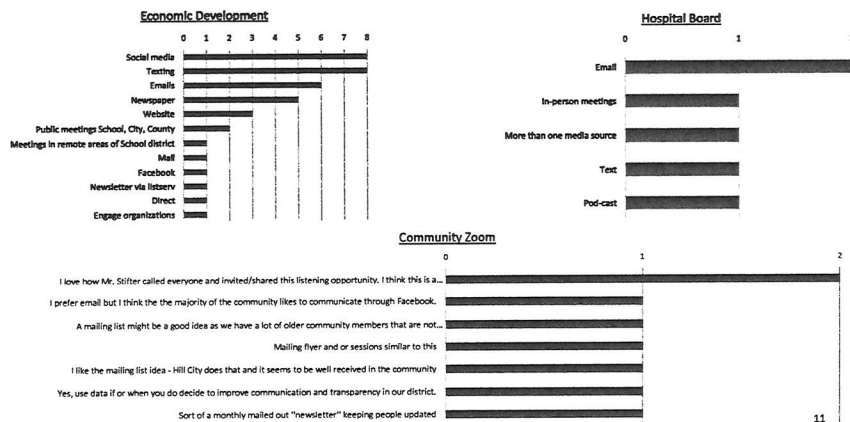
- Clear directions where ISD #1 and Aitkin goes from here!
- That we will not put anything on the ballot if the board is not unanimous. Community engagement in this process to make sure that can get the community behind us.
- Tools to gain community support
- To identify and take the action steps in our strategic plan
- Are we ready for this? I don't want to do all of this work if the community doesn't support us. Our enrollment is decreasing. Will we have the support we need?
- Help us create a feasible plan for our facilities that address the needs. Help us get buy in from the community to support our efforts in facility upgrades and supporting the district overall
- To gain staff and community support in a direction for our facilities
- Steps to a successful referendum
- To help explain the declining enrollment does not equate to not building new
- Creative funding help, ways on how to engage community. Quick tax question help. Connections with other districts. Campaign help for achieving a campus.
- Communication and transparency with community on cost, etc.

9

## Student Responses: What would you want for Younger Siblings?

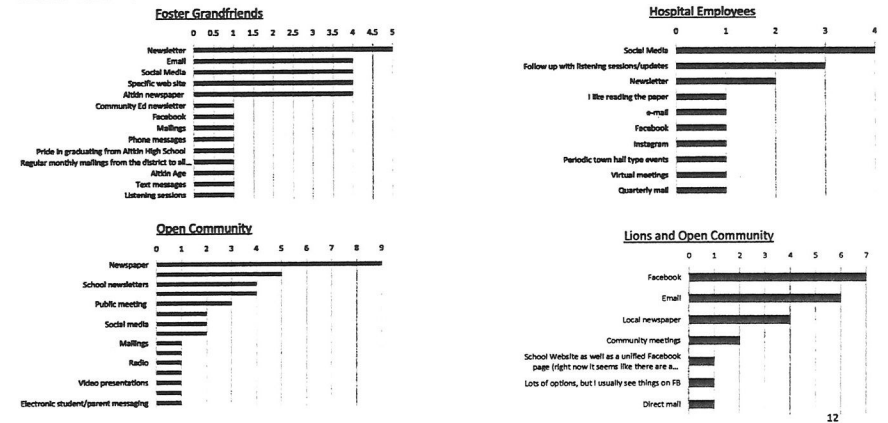


## What is the best way for the District to Communicate with you? (External)



11

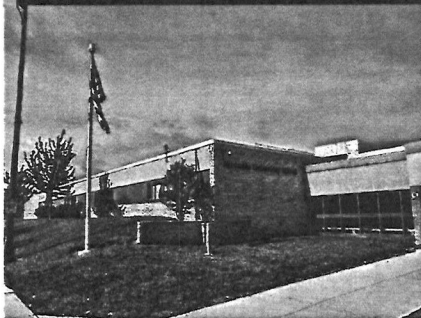
## What is the best way for the District to Communicate with you? (External)



12



## Greatest Facility Needs

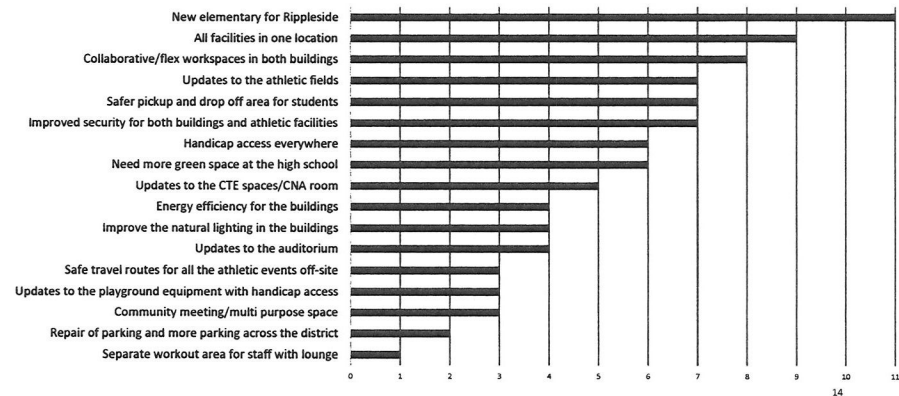


Aitkin Public Schools



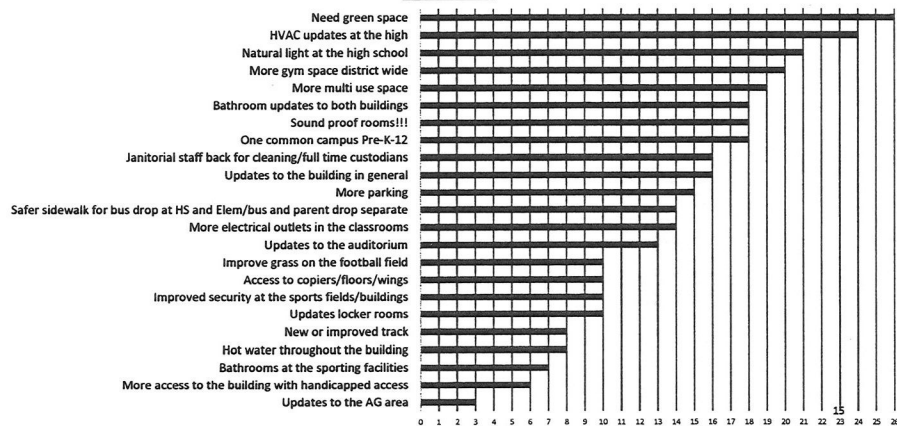
## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### School Board



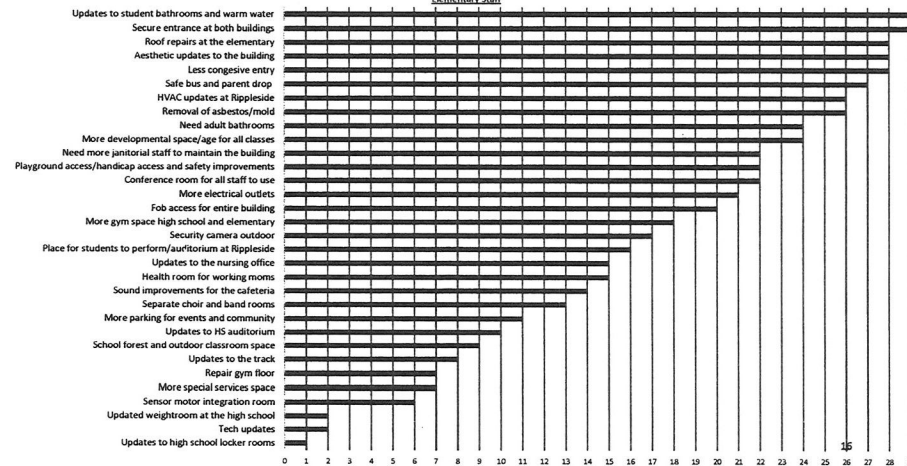
## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### High School Staff



## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

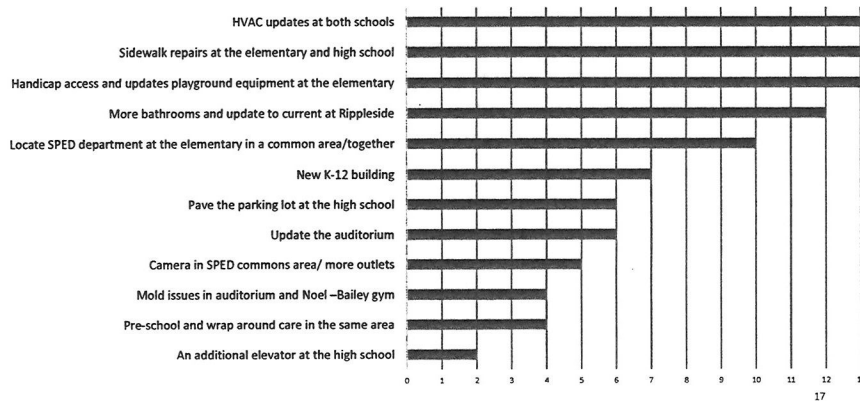
### Elementary Staff





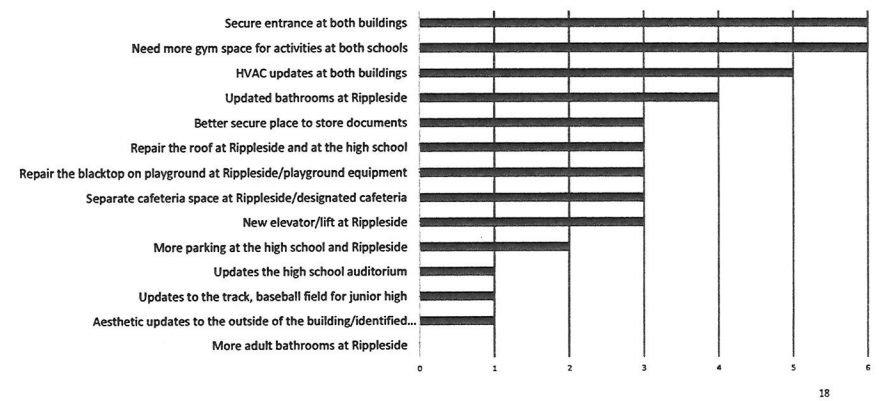
## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Para's



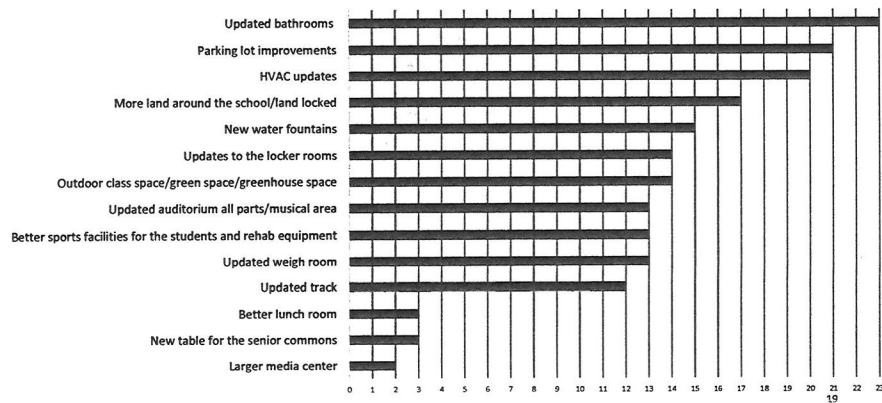
## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Admin Assistants



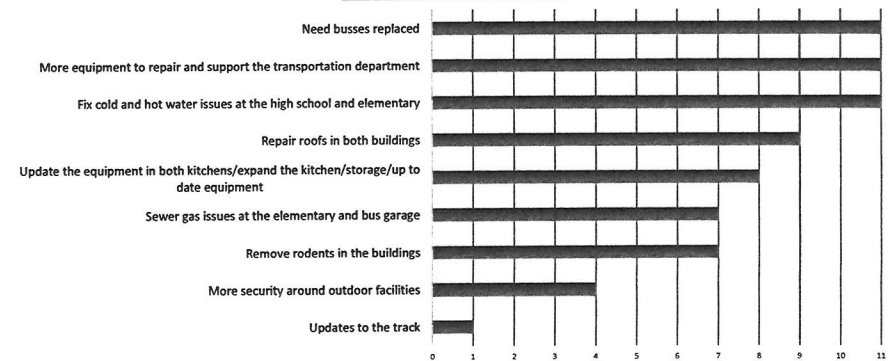
## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### High School Students



## INTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Transportation and Food Service





## Top Overall Facility Issues From INTERNAL Listening Session:

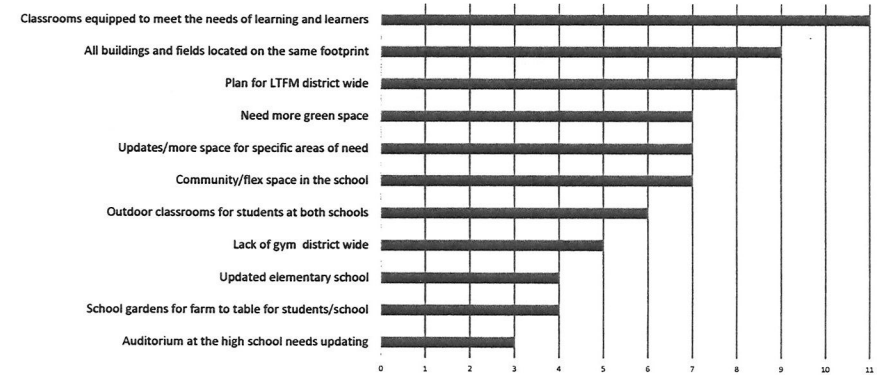
### Aitkin Schools

- HVAC updates at the high school (88)
- Bathroom updates at both schools (82)
- Improve security at both schools and athletic facilities (76)
- Need more green space at the high school (61)
- Updates to the Auditorium (53)
- Safer pickup and drop off area (48)
- All facilities on one footprint (45)
- Handicap access everywhere (40)
- More gym space district wide (38)
- New or improved track (30)
- Repair roof at elementary (28)
- Aesthetic updates to the buildings (28)
- Improve natural lighting in the buildings (28)
- Less congestive entry at elementary (28)
- Update kitchens in both buildings (28)
- More developmental space/age for all classes (26)
- Remove asbestos and mold (26)
- Update high school locker rooms (25)
- Conference room for all staff to use (22)
- Community meeting/Multi use space (22)

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## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

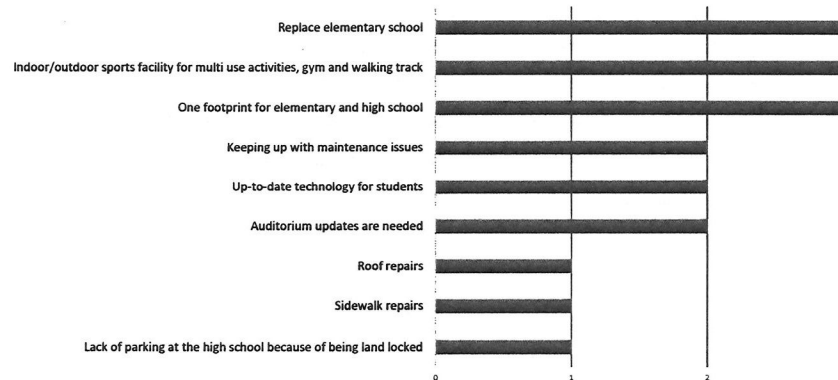
### Aitkin Economic Development Group



22

## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

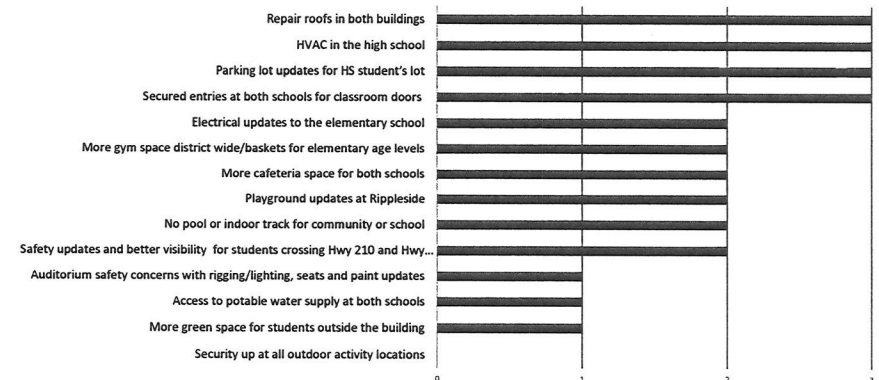
### Hospital Board



23

## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Virtual Community Zoom

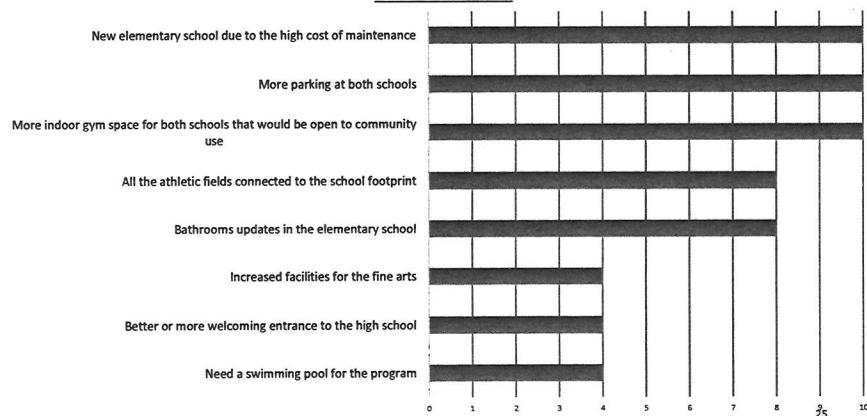


24



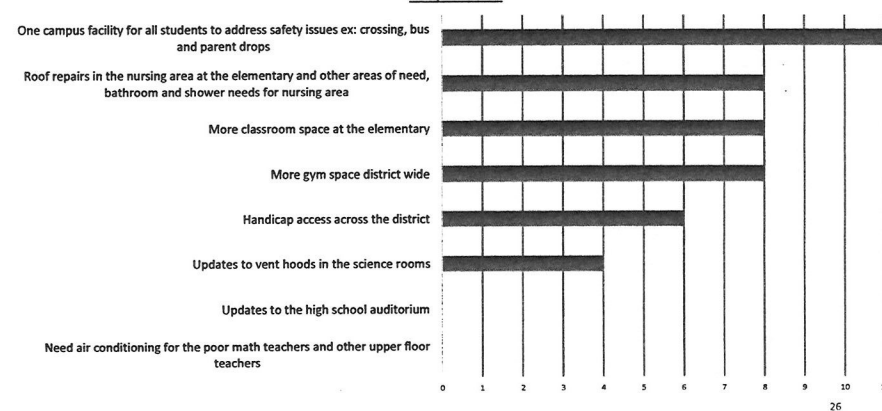
## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Foster Grandfriends



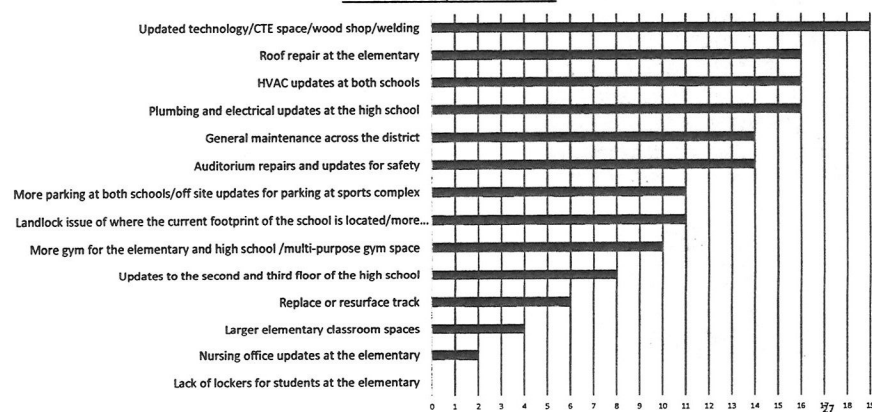
## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Hospital Staff



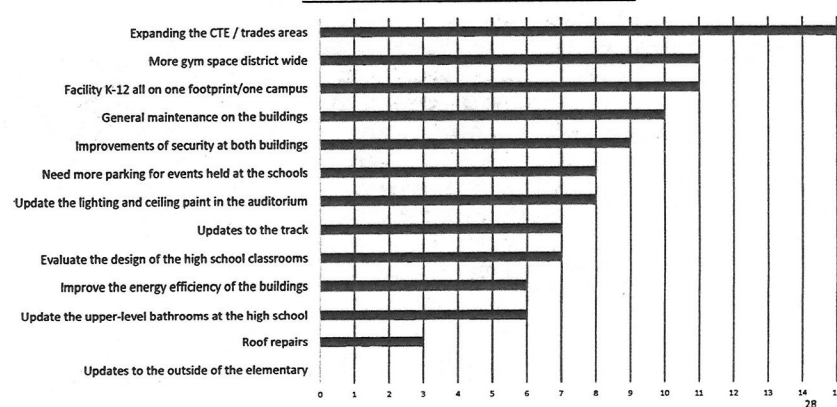
## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Face-to-Face Open Community



## EXTERNAL - What are the Greatest Facility Needs of the District?

### Lions Club and Open Community /Zoom Session





## Top Overall Facility Issues From EXTERNAL Listening Session:

### Aitkin Schools

- LTFM plan for the district (55)
- All buildings and fields in one location (50)
- Lack of gym space district wide (41)
- Lack of parking at the high school (38)
- Update technology/CTE space/woodshop/welding (34)
- Auditorium at the high school needs updates (28)
- Roof repairs at the elementary (28)
- Update the elementary school (20)
- HVAC updates at the high school (19)
- Resurface or replace the track (13)
- Classrooms need to be equipped to meet the needs of learners (13)
- Improve security at both buildings (12)
- Landlocked/need more green space at the high school (11)
- Community flex space in the school (10)

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## Top Facility Issues From ALL Listening Session:

INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS		EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS
HVAC updates at the high school (88)	107	HVAC updates at the high school (19)
All facilities on one footprint (45)	95	All buildings and fields on one location (50)
Improve security at both schools/fields (76)	88	Improve security at both schools (12)
Update the auditorium (53)	81	Auditorium at the high school need updates (28)
More gym space district wide (38)	79	Lack of gym space district wide (41)
Need more green space at the high school (61)	72	Land locked/more green space needed at HS (11)
Roof repairs at the elementary (28)	56	Repair roofs on the elementary (28)
Aesthetic updates to the buildings (28)	56	Update elementary classrooms (28)
New or improved track (30)	43	Replace the track (13)
More developmental space/age specific (26)	39	Classrooms that meet the needs of the learners (13)
Community meeting/multi use space (22)	32	Community flex space at the high school (10)
Bathroom updates at both schools (82)		LTFM plan for the district (55)
Safer pick-up/ drop-off area at both schools (48)		Lack of parking at the high school (38)
Handicap access everywhere (40)		

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*Thank You!*

**QUESTIONS?**



**Aitkin Schools  
Educational Space  
Adequacy Report**

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## What is Educational Space Adequacy?

Educational Adequacy is a complete analysis of a school building focusing on the 18 categories as listed below

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Classroom Size and Suitability             | 10. Physical Education/Athletics/Locker Rooms/Pool etc.    |
| 2. Cafeteria/Kitchen/Serving                  | 11. Site Suitability: Fields/Green Space, Playgrounds etc. |
| 3. Security and Supervision                   | 12. Parking and Bus Drop-off: Staff/Students/Parents       |
| 4. Main Office/Nurse/Support Services         | 13. Technology   |
| 5. Science Classrooms/Labs                    | 14. Library/Media Center: Location/Size/Layout             |
| 6. Art Classrooms/Labs                        | 15. Special Education/Support Services                     |
| 7. Music Classrooms/Practice Areas etc.       | 16. Auditoriums/Performing Arts Spaces                     |
| 8. Teacher/Staff Collaborative Planning Areas | 17. Career and Technical Education                         |
| 9. Student Commons/Break-Out Areas            | 18. Hallways/Washrooms/Lockers/Maintenance/Other           |



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## Educational Space Adequacy (example)

### 1. Classroom Size/Suitability

- General Purpose Classrooms 850-950 sq. ft., Kindergarten 1200-1500 sq. ft., Early Childhood 1000 sq. ft.
- Adequate storage/cabinetry/countertop space
- Adequate number of electrical outlets/computer/data drops
- Natural light
- Interactive white board, tack/white boards
- Furniture – easily movable – flexible for small groups

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## How The Process Works?

- ICS Educational Consultants walk through the building and evaluate all the spaces in the school comparing them to suggested MDE guidelines
- Consultants meet with the building administration for input, review and feedback



35

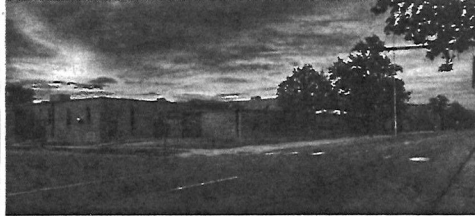
## Educational Adequacy Color Key

	<b>Adequate</b> – Meets <u>4-5</u> of the Analysis Criteria - including MDE Guidelines for School Educational Adequacy.
	<b>Questionable Adequacy</b> - Meets only <u>2-3</u> of the Analysis Criteria but may be <u>considered</u> adequate based upon current programming/enrollment and/or size of area.
	<b>Inadequate</b> – Meets 1 or none of the Analysis Criteria - Is perceived as a <u>significant</u> need by staff.

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## Educational Space Adequacy Results



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## Educational Adequacy Results

### Rippleside Elementary School



**Adequate** - Meets 4-5 of the Analysis Criteria - including MDE Guidelines for School Educational Adequacy



**Questionable Adequacy** - Meets only 2-3 of the Analysis Criteria, but may be considered adequate based upon current programming/enrollment and/or size of area.



**Inadequate** - Meets 1 or none of the Analysis Criteria - is perceived as a significant need by staff

CATEGORY	COLOR
1 Classroom Size and Suitability	
2 Cafeteria/Kitchen/Serving	Y
3 Security and Supervision	
4 Main Office/Nurse/Support Services	
5 Science Classrooms/Labs	
6 Art Classrooms/Labs	
7 Music Classrooms/Practice Areas/Etc.	
8 Staff Lounge/Collaborative Planning Areas	Y
9 Student Commons/Break-Out Areas	
10 Physical Education/Athletics/Locker Rooms Etc.	
11 Site Suitability: Fields/Green Space/Storage Etc.	Y
12 Parking/Bus Drop-Off: Staff/Students/Parents	
13 Technology	
14 Library/Media Center	
15 Special Education/Support Services	
16 Auditoriums/Performing Arts Spaces	NA
17 Career and Technical Education	NA
18 Hallways/Lockers/Washrooms/Maintenance space	Y

38

## Educational Adequacy Results

### Aitkin High School



**Adequate** - Meets 4-5 of the Analysis Criteria - including MDE Guidelines for School Educational Adequacy



**Questionable Adequacy** - Meets only 2-3 of the Analysis Criteria, but may be considered adequate based upon current programming/enrollment and/or size of area.



**Inadequate** - Meets 1 or none of the Analysis Criteria - is perceived as a significant need by staff

CATEGORY	COLOR
1 Classroom Size and Suitability	
2 Cafeteria/Kitchen/Serving	Y
3 Security and Supervision	
4 Main Office/Nurse/Support Services	
5 Science Classrooms/Labs	
6 Art Classrooms/Labs	
7 Music Classrooms/Practice Areas/Etc.	Y
8 Staff Lounge/Collaborative Planning Areas	Y
9 Student Commons/Break-Out Areas	
10 Physical Education/Athletics/Locker Rooms Etc.	Y
11 Site Suitability: Fields/Green Space/Storage Etc.	
12 Parking/Bus Drop-Off: Staff/Students/Parents	
13 Technology	
14 Library/Media Center	
15 Special Education/Support Services	
16 Auditoriums/Performing Arts Spaces	
17 Career and Technical Education	
18 Hallways/Lockers/Washrooms/Maintenance space	

39

## Final Educational Adequacy Results

CATEGORY	Aitkin	
	ELEM	HS
1 Classroom Size and Suitability		
2 Cafeteria/Kitchen/Serving	Y	Y
3 Security and Supervision		
4 Main Office/Nurse/Support Services		
5 Science Classrooms/Labs		
6 Art Classrooms/Labs		
7 Music Classrooms/Practice Areas/Etc.		Y
8 Staff Lounge/Collaborative Planning Areas	Y	Y
9 Student Commons/Break-Out Areas		
10 Physical Education/Athletics/Locker Rooms Etc.		Y
11 Site Suitability: Fields/Green Space/Storage Etc.	Y	
12 Parking/Bus Drop-Off: Staff/Students/Parents		
13 Technology		
14 Library/Media Center		
15 Special Education/Support Services		
16 Auditoriums/Performing Arts Spaces	NA	
17 Career and Technical Education	NA	
18 Hallways/Lockers/Washrooms/Maintenance space	Y	



40



*Thank You!*

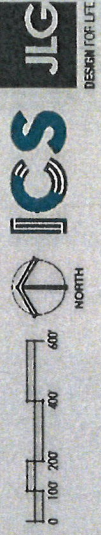
**QUESTIONS?**



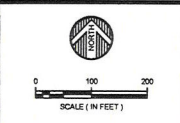
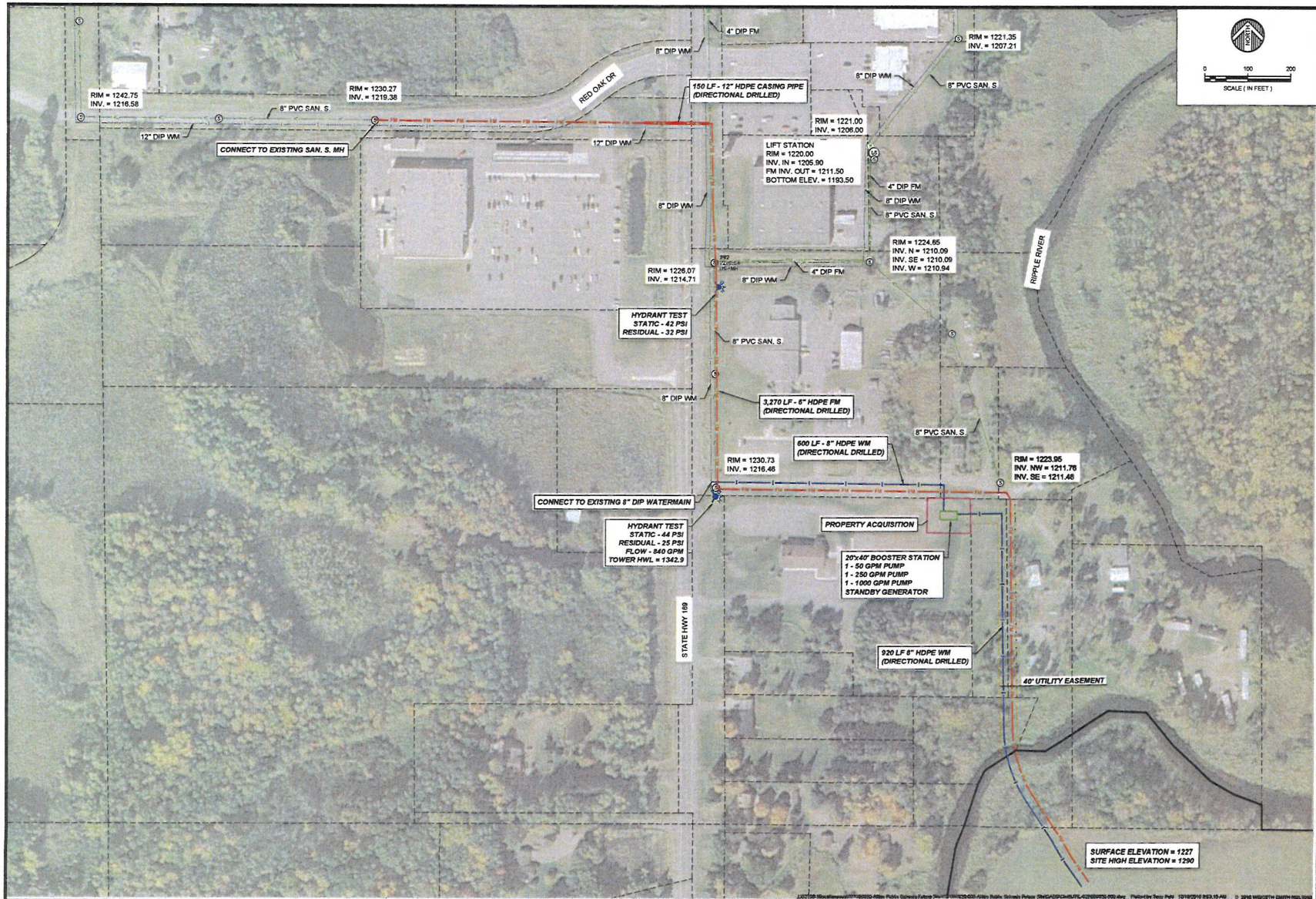


# AITKIN SCHOOLS CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN - SCHEME C

SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 | JLG 21/222 | © 2021 JLG ARCHITECTS







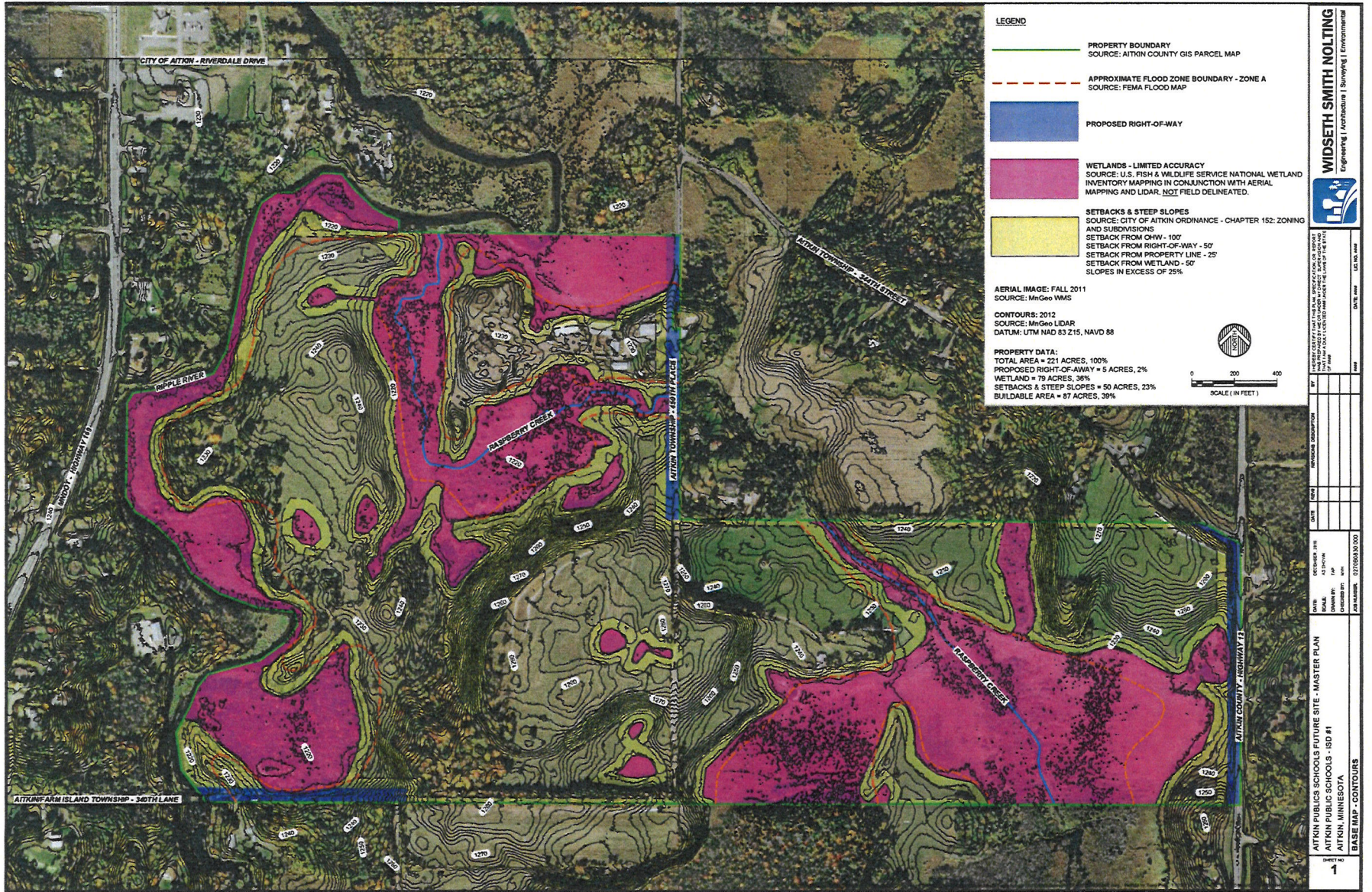
**WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING**  
Engineering | Architectural | Surveying | Environmental

10000 10th Avenue South, Suite 100  
Aitken, Minnesota 55007  
Phone: 507-835-1111  
Fax: 507-835-1112  
Email: info@wsnolting.com

**UTILITY PLAN**

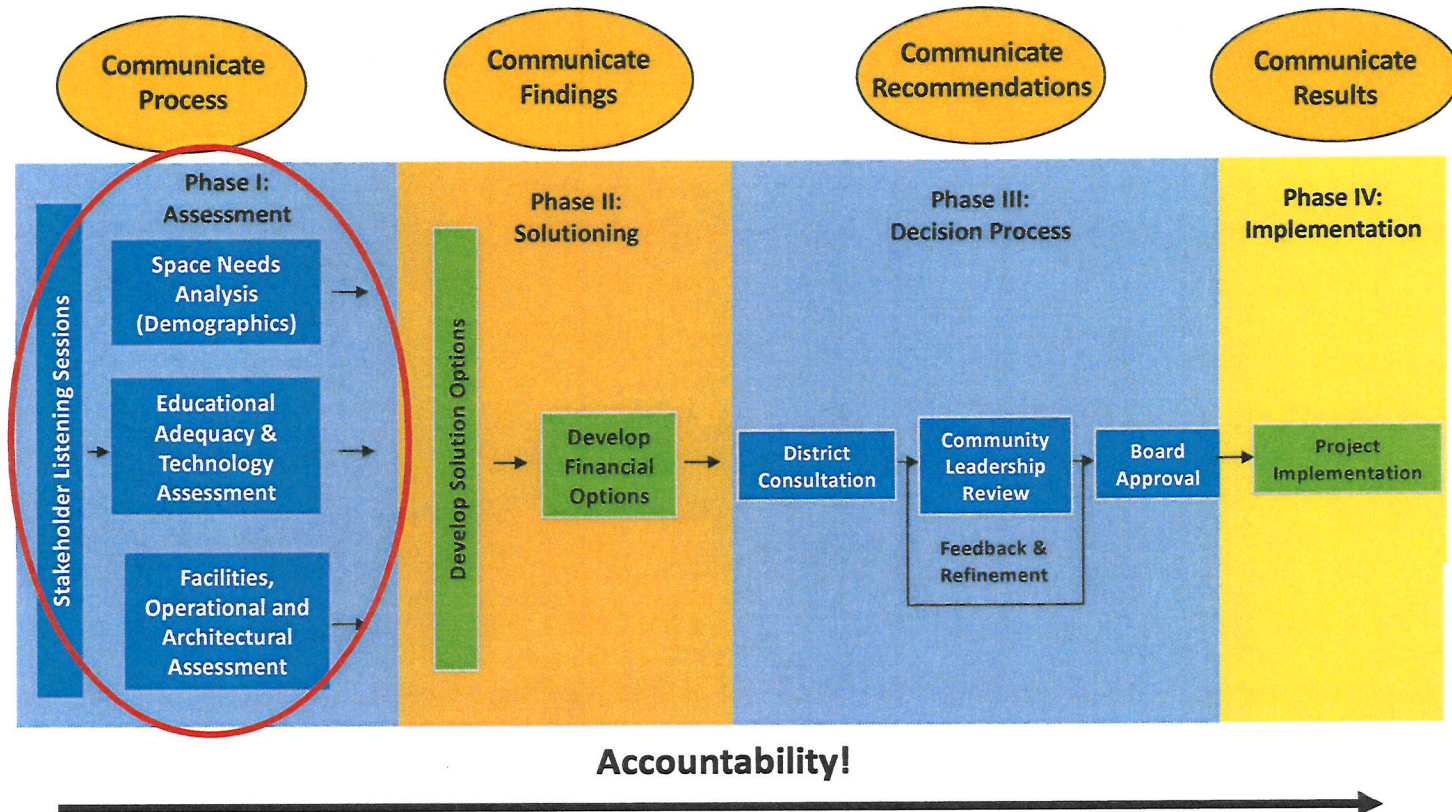
PROJECT: AITKEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUTURE SITE MASTER PLAN  
SHEET NO: 1  
DATE: 07/20/2020







## Four Phase Approach







## 2024 showcase participation report: Aitkin

### YOUTH PARTICIPANTS AND EXHIBITS

**113**

Youth showcased learning

**70**

Youth showcased  
animal projects

**78**

Youth showcased  
general projects

New this year!

**4**

Youth received Community Impact Awards

### Number of exhibits in each animal project area

Horse	Goat	Llama-alpaca	Sheep	Poultry	Swine	Dairy cattle	Beef cattle	Rabbit	Dog	Cloverbud projects
100	39	0	9	57	26	8	49	47	15	72

### Number of projects in each general project area

Photography & video	Fine arts & performing arts	Food & nutrition	Youth leadership	Natural sciences	Agronomy & horticulture	Family science	Mechanical sciences	Public presentations	Cloverbud projects
49	76	17	1	4	14	19	13	0	92

### ADULT VOLUNTEERS AND JUDGES

**25**

Enrolled volunteers  
served at showcases

**26**

Additional volunteers  
served at showcases

**21**

Judges engaged in  
showcases



# Aitkin County Showcase Data

October 1st, 2024

## Local Showcases

### Aitkin County Fair

This year at the Aitkin County Fair, the 4-H program had many youth participate. In total, 4-H'ers had almost 1,200 entries in both livestock projects and general projects. There were 113 youth that participated and 6 clubs that participated in the showcase. New additions to the showcase experience this year included an exhibitor connection night in which youth and families were invited to play games, meet fairboard members and superintendents, and review the rules of the grounds. A small general project celebration was had in which all youth that received Grand, Reserve, and Blue champion awards were recognized. A final new addition was costume classes for youth exhibiting livestock. Thank you to Commissioner Michael & Commissioner Travis for judging some costume classes for us! To learn



more about 4-H at the Aitkin County Fair and local showcases, you can view the Aitkin County Fair 2024 presentation slides at [z.umn.edu/ACFPresentation2024](https://z.umn.edu/ACFPresentation2024).

### Aitkin County 4-H Dog Show

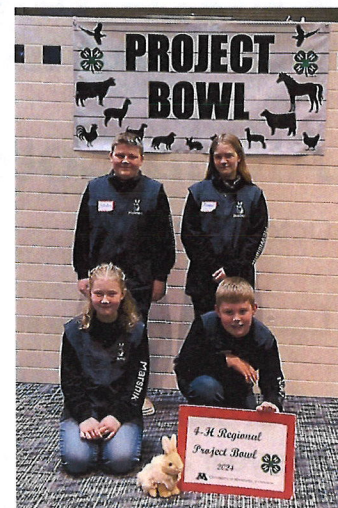
This year at the Aitkin County 4-H Dog Show, we had 6 youth participate. Of the 6 youth, three youth are Cloverbuds. Cloverbuds in the 4-H program are youth in grades K-2 and the focus of Cloverbuds is learning their interests and participation to start to gain knowledge and skills. Competition isn't introduced to these youth until grade 3 with competition increasing at grade 6 with additional opportunities to be eligible for some state events and programs. The Aitkin County 4-H Dog Show held 4 different classes: agility, obedience, showmanship, and rally.



## Regional Showcases

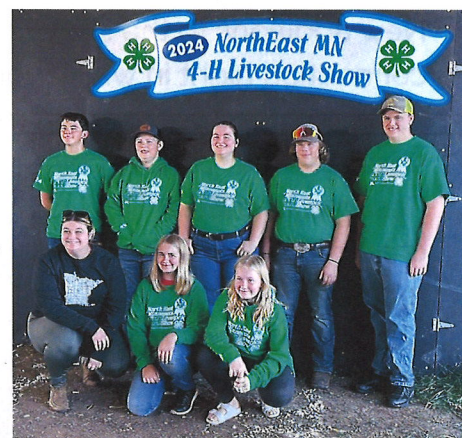
### Regional Project Bowl Competition

A team of 4 youth decided to venture into the world of Project Bowl. The team is given specific resources to study from, quizzed on their knowledge of a 4-H project area, and compete in a double elimination bracket against other teams. The team, named the The Mighty Mighty Thumpers, competed at the regional competition in Bemidji in early April and were the Grand Champions of the Junior Rabbit Division and advanced to the State Competition.



### Northeast Livestock Show

The Northeast Livestock Show is an additional opportunity for youth in the Northeast Region to compete in the livestock project areas 4-H offers. To qualify to compete at the show, youth must have earned a blue ribbon with their animal at the county fair 4-H showcase. This year was the 89th annual show and 7 youth from Aitkin County 4-H participated with champions in the rabbit and sheep projects. Livestock projects represented by Aitkin 4-H included 1 beef, 2 sheep, 1 poultry, and 3 rabbit. Final results have yet to be announced so stay tuned on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/AitkinCounty4H>) for the latest results!



## State Showcases

### State Project Bowl

At the State Competition, The Mighty Mighty Thumpers placed 7th in their division and are planning for next year's practices, team names, mascot, and matching outfits!





## State Fair - Livestock Encampment

The first 4 days of the Minnesota State Fair are dedicated to the 4-H Livestock Encampment. This year the Aitkin 4-H program sent a delegation of 9 youth and 2 volunteers with the following species: 4 beef, 1 dairy, 1 swine, 1 sheep, 1 meat goat, and 1 dairy goat. In addition to showing their livestock projects, youth also participate in herdsmanship, interviews, and Speaking Up for Animal Agriculture which is an event in which youth educate the public about their livestock project and animal agriculture. Aitkin represented themselves well and had the following results:

### Youth Results

- Justine D. - Sheep - 3rd place Yearling Ewe
- Nathan T. - Beef - 4th place commercial Cow/Calf Pair
- Garrett T. - 5th place commercial Spring Calf
- Owen C. - 4th place Dairy Goat Milking Doe 5 years and older Senior Dairy Goat Showmanship - Purple
- Jace N. - 6th place Registered Angus Jr. Yearling
- Noelan J. - 6th Place Berkshire Market Barrow
- Lillian J. - 4th place Dairy crossbred Jr. Yearling
- Eleanor D. - Meat Goat Jr. Yearling Breeding Doe - Green ribbon
- Rajja Gustin - 4th place Registered Hereford Jr. Yearling

### Herdsmanship Awards

- Dairy Cattle - Division II - 1st Place
- Goat - 1st Place
- Sheep - Division II - 2nd Place
- Swine - Division II - 5th Place

### Livestock Interviews

- Garrett T. - Beef Interview Finalist

### Speaking Up for Animal Agriculture

- Aitkin Beef Youth - 3rd Place

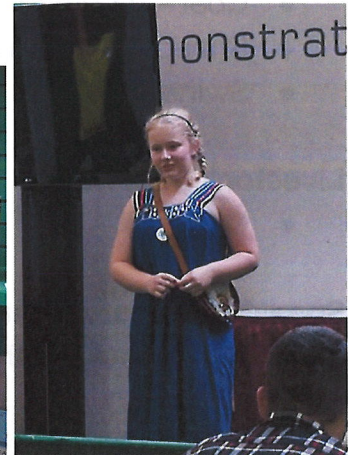




## State Fair - General Encampment

After the livestock encampment, 14 youth and 2 clubs also attended the Minnesota State Fair with their general projects such as: fine arts, sewing, food preservation, needle arts, demonstration, pets, health and wellness mechanical science, quilting, photography, fishing sports, club banners, and club community pride. Below are the results:

- Justine D. - Fine Arts - Blue
- Henry N. - Sewn Non-Garment - Red
- Hannah B. - Food Preservation - Red
- Norah Roth - Needle Arts - Blue
- Camille M. - Interactive Demonstration - Red
- Claire H. - Pets: Cats - Blue
- Hannah J. - Health & Wellness - Purple & Community Impact Award
- Noelan J. - Mechanical Science - Purple
- Josie K. - Health & Wellness - Blue & Community Impact Award
- Eleanor D. - Quilting - Blue
- Theodore M. - Photography - Blue
- Keirah M. - Needle Arts - Red
- Jerome J. - Fine Arts - Blue
- Jack V. - Fishing Sports - Blue
- Cedarbrook Club - Club Banner - Red
- Pilots of Clear Lake Club - Club Banner - Red & Community Pride - Blue





## State Shoot

Throughout the summer, we have practices for our shooting sports program. These practices are led by screened and certified instructors that not only help youth perfect their marksmanship skills, but also encourages them to be stewards of the land. Aitkin 4-H has seen a rapid growth in youth that are participating in the program and have certified more volunteers to be able to offer the following disciplines: archery, trap, air rifle/air pistol, and muzzleloading. To be eligible to participate in the State Shoot event, youth must complete 15 hours of practice and 8 hours of wildlife education. This year, Aitkin sent a delegation of 17 youth to the state shoot event including sending one youth, Owen C., to the National Shooting Sports Competition in June for the previous year in Archery. Owen placed 8th in the Individual category for Compound Archery and placed 8th with his archery team from Minnesota. At the State Shoot Event, Owen, along with his teammates also represented Aitkin 4-H well with the following results:

### Teams

- Archery - JR Class C - 3rd place
- Archery - INT Class A - 5th place
- Archery - SR Class C - 10th place
- Trap - SR - 6th place

### Archery - Individual

#### JR Class A

- Daisey H. - 30th place
- Shania H. - 35th place
- Sawyer H. - 57th place

#### JR Class C

- Holden S. - 22nd place
- Henry N. - 27th place
- Aurora P. - 36th place
- Levi M. - 38th place
- Gwendolyn V. - 45th place
- Camille M. - 54th place

#### INT Class A

- Ruth H. - 24th place

#### INT Class C

- Isabel M. - 101st place

#### SR Class C

- Owen C. - 8th place
- Reese W. - 14th place
- Isabel M. - 29th place

### Trap - Individual

#### INT Trap

- Josie O. - 8th place
- Hunter V. - 20th place
- Ruth H. - 74th place

#### SR Trap

- Brody H. - 18th place
- Reese W. - 60th place

### 3 Position Air Rifle / Air Pistol 2 hands

- Air Rifle - Camille M. - 54th place
- Air Pistol - Henry N. - 27th place
- Camille M. - 28th place





## State Horse

This year, the Aitkin 4-H program had a delegation of 5 youth that attended the State Horse Show. Youth must show at a local showcase and earn points to be awarded a State Horse Show trip. Additionally, youth may only exhibit in the classes that they received a blue ribbon in at the county level at the state level. The following are the results from the Aitkin delegation at the State Horse Show:

### Lindan K.

- Western Showmanship - 8th place

### Bree V.

- Barrels
- Jumping Figure 8

### Eleanor L.

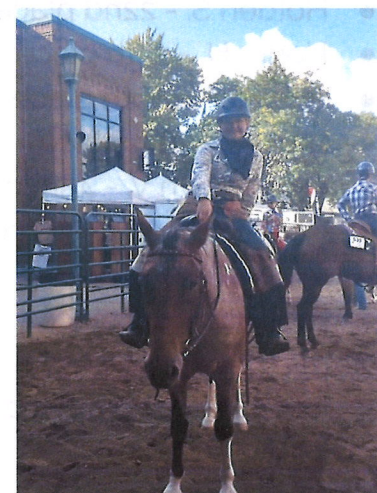
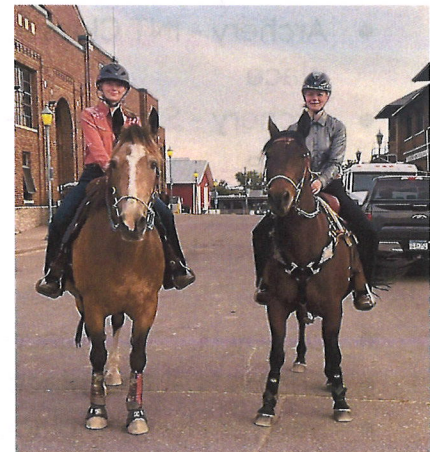
- Ranch Pleasure

### Dixie R.

- Western Horsemanship
- Hunt Seat Pleasure
- Trail
- Barrels
- Jumping Figure 8
- Key Race

### Audrianna S.

- Barrels
- Poles - 6th place
- Jumping Figure 8 - 7th place
- Key Race - 8th place





## State Dog

Youth in the Dog Project worked all summer with their dogs to compete at the Aitkin County 4-H Dog Show. At the State Dog Show, 3 youth and 4 dogs represented the local program in the following classes: obedience, agility, showmanship, and rally. To qualify for the State Dog Show, you must have obtained a blue ribbon in the class. Below are the results from the State Dog Show:

### Beginner Obedience

- Justine D. & Hannah - Blue
- Camille M. & Gretta - Blue
- Hannah B. & Harley - Blue

### Novice Showmanship

- Justine D. & Hannah - Blue & 2nd Award of Excellence
- Camille M. & Carmen - Blue
- Hannah B. & Harley - Blue

### Foundation Rally

- Justine D. & Hannah - Blue & 3rd Award of Excellence

### Beginner Agility

- Justine D. & Hannah - Blue
- Camille M. & Carmen - Red





## Looking Ahead

As we move into October, the next 4-H year starts! Our next event is our Celebration of Achievement and Council meeting in which we elect new youth officers for the year and celebrate all of the accomplishments of youth in the previous 4-H year. Youth are also looking forward to the results on their project records and program participation resume records to learn more about what they can improve on for next year and how to deepen their exploration of their interests.

## Thank you!

The youth, volunteers, families, and local extension educator thank you for your support of Aitkin County 4-H. We invite you to stay connected with us via our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/AitkinCounty4H>), our instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/aitkin4h>), or directly with the local Extension Educator, Julianna Langlois, at 218-927-2538 or [langl148@umn.edu](mailto:langl148@umn.edu). If you would like to view the 2023 Impact Report, please visit <https://z.umn.edu/AitkinImpact2023>. Additionally, the 2024 Impact Report will be shared when available.







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Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

# Aitkin County 4-H 2024

Julianna Langlois, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development  
Lori Hall, Regional Extension Educator, Operations





**Jeremy Freeman**  
Regional Extension Educator,  
Volunteer Systems



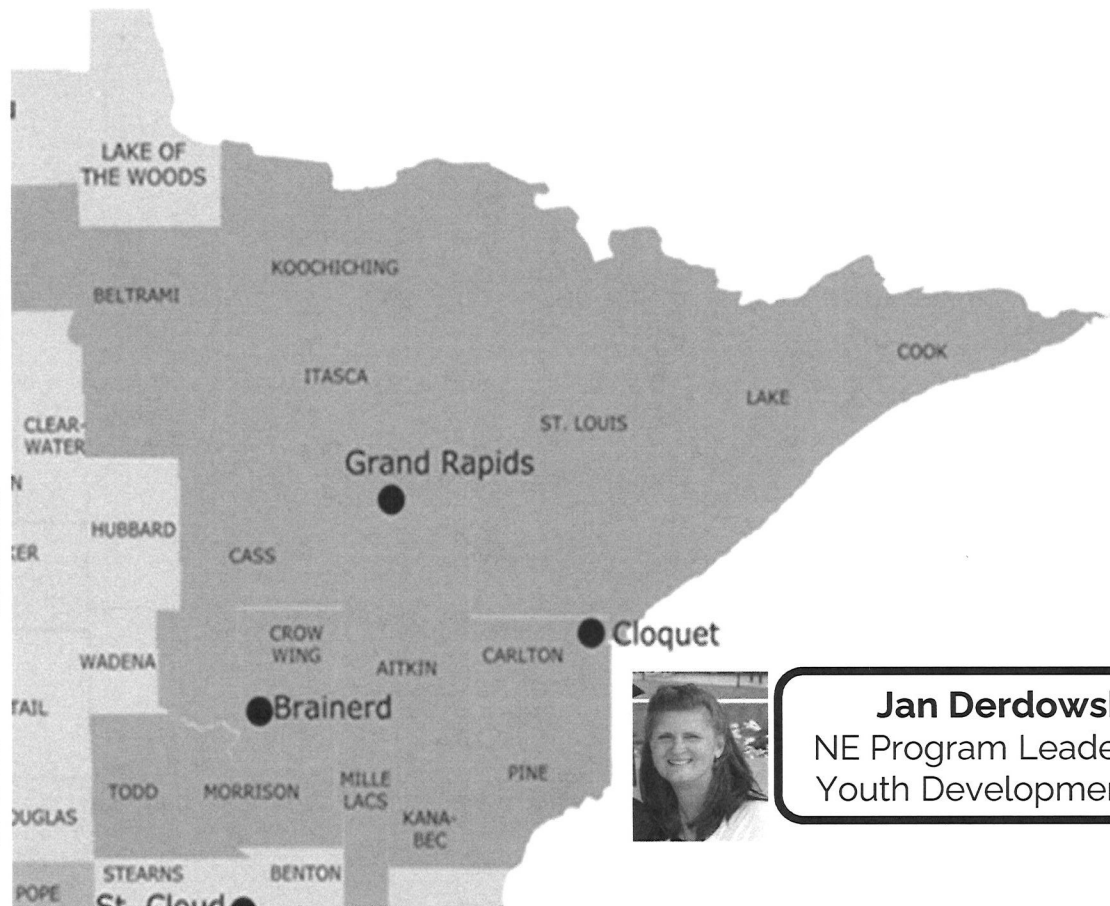
**David Foley**  
Regional Extension Educator,  
Animal Science



**Cassie Girling**  
Regional Extension Educator,  
Civic Engagement & Leadership



**Lori Hall**  
Regional Extension Educator,  
Operations



**Jan Derdowski**  
NE Program Leader,  
Youth Development







# Positive youth development in 4-H:

- builds skills in young people so they are able to learn and lead in a global society
- educates adults to work effectively with youth
- partners with communities to create supportive social environments that help youth thrive

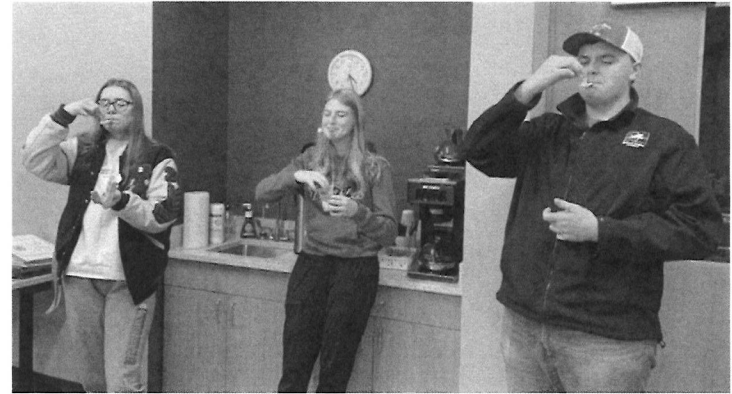






# What makes us unique?

- Consistently engage with youth, often across a decade (K-13)
- Depth of contact with youth—clubs, through project learning, camp and leadership retreats, and showcase opportunities such as the county and state fairs.
- Leverage all of the resources of Extension and U of M to support the local 4-H staff in your county.





# 4-H is thriving in our community and across Minnesota

**181** youth in Aitkin County

**51** adult volunteers in  
Aitkin County

**41,580** youth across MN



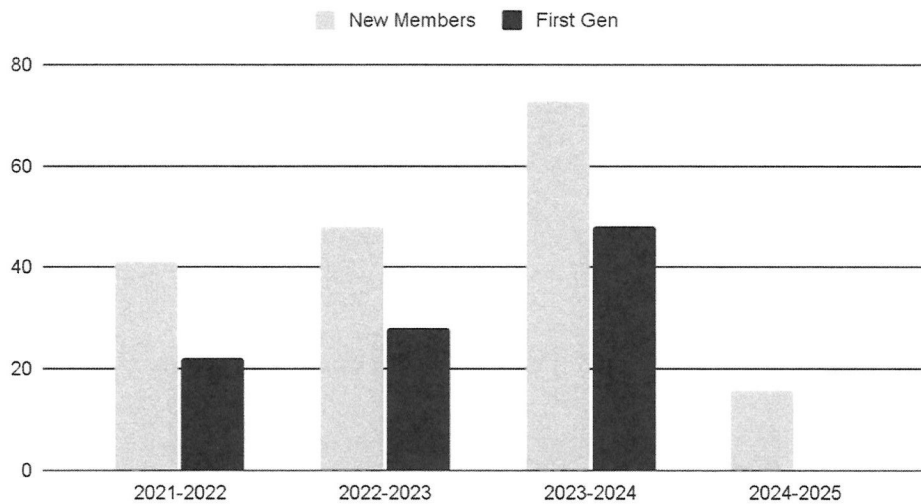
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# Reaching new audiences

Aitkin 4-H Youth Enrollment



## 2021-2022

- 41 new members

## 2022-2023

- 48 new members

## 2023-2024

- 73 new members

## 2023-2024

- 18 new members



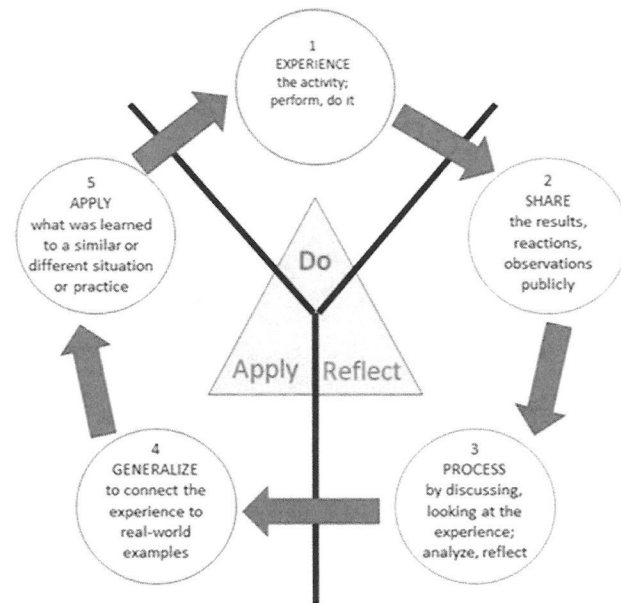


# Why do we offer showcases?

Do, reflect, apply

- Skill building
- Communication skills
- Continued learning

Supporting adult reflection

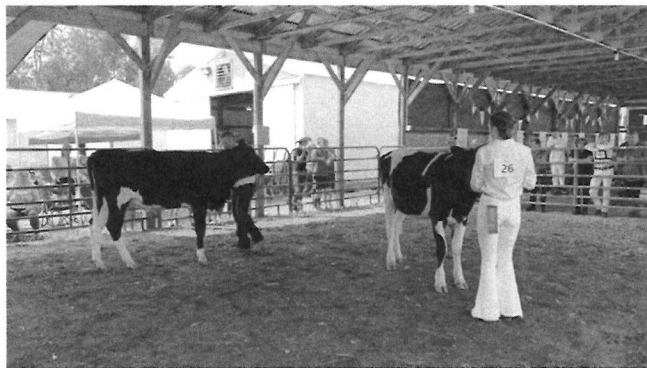
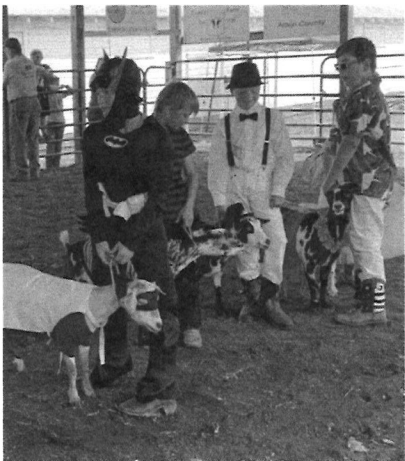




# Aitkin County Showcases - Local Events

## Aitkin County Fair

- 118 youth
- 6 clubs



## Aitkin County Dog Show

- 6 youth



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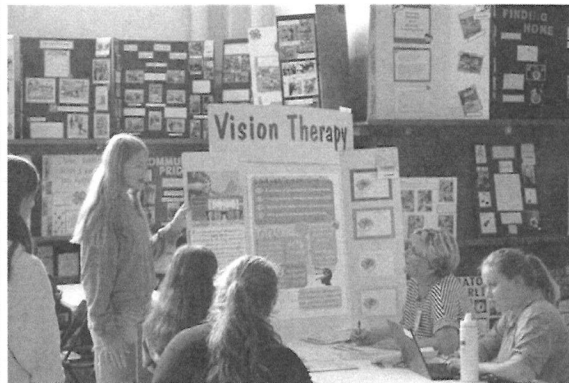
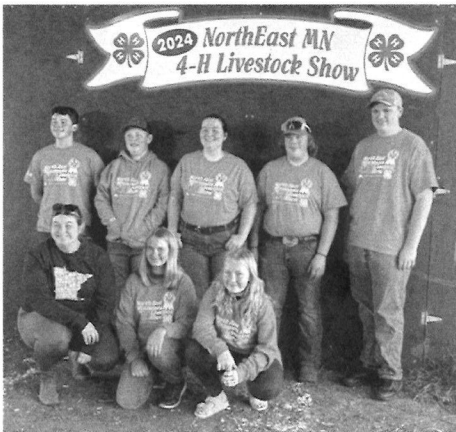
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# Aitkin County Showcases - Regional & State Events

## Regional Showcases

- **Project Bowl** - 4 youth, 2 volunteers
- **Northeast Livestock Show** - 7 youth



## State Showcases

- **State Fair - Livestock Encampment**  
- 9 youth, 2 volunteers
- **State Fair - General Encampment**  
- 14 youth, 2 clubs, 2 volunteers
- **State Shoot** - 17 youth
- **State Horse** - 5 youth
- **State Dog** - 3 youth
- **State Project Bowl** - 4 youth, 2 volunteers



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# Aitkin County 4-H

Long term outcomes for youth:

- academic & vocational success
- civic engagement - creating tomorrow's leaders
- employability - helping youth see a career for themselves
- happiness and wellbeing - build relationships, self confidence, and a direction for the future







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