



## **WCS Master Planning Town Hall #2: Buehler's Milltown 9/27/23**

Wooster City Schools' second Master Planning Town Hall was held at Buehler's on Milltown Road on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. This was one of four currently scheduled Master Planning Town Halls open to Wooster City community members to help create a new WCS Master Plan. Approximately 18 people attended the meeting.

Next Meeting: Friday, October 13, 2023 at Cornerstone Performing Arts Center from 1:00-2:30 p.m.

### **Key Discussion Points:**

#### **Master Planning Update:**

- No designated timeline for the Facilities Master Plan
- Continued emphasis on re-engagement through the Town Halls and survey

#### **Cost/Funding**

- Previous levy impact to a voter was 5.6 mils-maybe too much
  - First plan=2 new schools (maybe we aren't ready for 2 new schools)
- We would have to reapply for state funding. Previously we were approved for co funding of 33% but we do not know what the new amount would be until we reapply.
  - State funding for buildings through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) requires districts to be built with the highest level of efficiency.

#### **Building Configuration:**

##### Neighborhood Schools vs. Grade Level Schools

- Our current configuration will not work in the future due to population growth on the north end (Kean)
  - We will either need to redistrict or move to grade level schools
- Discussion on pros and cons of neighborhood vs. grade level schools

#### **Cornerstone:**

##### What should be done with Cornerstone Elementary

- Demolished and rebuilt, renovated, or sold to private investor
- The group would like to see a historic preservation expert complete an assessment on Cornerstone
  - Questions about how much it would cost to renovate Cornerstone as a school building
  - Could Cornerstone be the Middle School?
  - Discussed the possibility of Cornerstone being used for another purpose
- If Cornerstone could be renovated and added onto, the concern is the large footprint on the landlocked site
- Downtown presence is important