

West Contra Costa Unified School District

**Criteria for Cost Neutral K-8**

January 2009

1. While there may be one-time costs for changes to the campus such as adding relocatable classrooms, there are no on-going or additional operating costs. To qualify for adding 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms, there must be sufficient acreage for the additional classrooms without substantially displacing playground or other space for the current K-5 or K-6 students. Gym space or specialty classrooms (science, music) would not be added.
2. Seats available are limited to allow parents to choose to keep or transfer 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and then 8<sup>th</sup> graders in or into an elementary school environment;
3. The K-8 program will be built around an elementary school schedule with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders taught at standards in the core academic subjects in a self-contained model;
4. In order to make space available for added 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in that attendance area, transfers may be revoked and ancillary programs (child care) occupying school owned facilities may be required to move;
5. Equipment for science labs, technology, textbooks, materials would be brought in to the K-8 school from other schools where available due to decreased enrollment or school closure; there would be no additional expense for equipment and materials;
6. Students who wish to take instrumental music, foreign language, tech labs, career wheels, etc. would have to take them at other schools or in after school programs;
7. Multi-subject teachers would be assigned to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms rather than attempting to hire single subject teachers. In this respect, K-8 schools would help the district have sufficient single subject teachers for the remaining middle schools.