



Elect Jim Ross, LRSD Board Zone 5

August 18

Dear Friends,

Our current school board allowed the superintendent to hire an overpriced consultant firm from Indianapolis to tell us what we already knew about our facilities. I have read their data, and frankly I'd like a refund. If we had listened to local people, they would have told you the following:

- We need to add space to many of our elementary schools.
- We need to repair almost every building in the district.
- We need a new middle school in the western part of our district.

We knew these things and should have already been meeting these needs. Instead, we spent more time talking and tossed away another million dollars in the process. It is time to act. If I am elected, we will rebuild the broken trust in our community and launch a successful campaign to pass the millage necessary to fund these improvements. Our comprehensive improvement plan should also include the following:

- We should close Fair and McClellan high schools and open one new high school near the population center of the southern part of our city. This state-of-the-art school would meet the population growth of our city's southern boundaries. It would not be named after two segregationists like J.A. Fair and John McClellan.
- We should expand Central High School.
- We should build a new high school near the population center of the northwestern part of our district. This state-of-the-art school would meet the population growth of our city's northwestern boundaries.
- We should convert Parkview to an arts academy where our most talented artists and musicians will receive the best art and music education in the country.
- We should convert Hall to a STEAM school to complement the Forest Heights STEM Academy.

All of our kids deserve better buildings, and our hard-working teachers deserve the best environment in which to practice their craft. More importantly, we have an obligation to educate every kid in our buildings. I will share more about education in a future post.

We need your vote. Thanks.