

Cross-section view of new spaces planned for Kitley Intermediate School under renovation and expansion plan



Watching every dollar - FTCSC balances budget again Welcome from new Board President Zachary T. Smith





Individuals



Peers



Small groups

## Kitley - Growing to meet the future

Plans are under way to renovate and add on to Kitley Intermediate School, with project design beginning this year, construction during 2022 and 2023 and completion by the start of the 2023-24 school year.

Why Kitley? While FTCSC's burgeoning enrollment - growing at the rate of more than 200 new students per year - requires a districtwide plan, the need for space is especially pressing at Kitley, the older and faster growing of our two intermediate schools. In fact, Kitley will be at 97 percent capacity for the coming school year.

What benefit? Additions will increase Kitley's capacity to 1,500 students with the addition of up to 12 classrooms, a new gymnasium, new cafeteria and computer science area. The project also will renovate existing classrooms and kitchen.

Cost? The Kitley project will result in NO increase in residential tax bills. Construction costs are an estimated \$14.3 million. "Soft" costs - for architectural work, construction management, technology and furniture add about \$3.1 million. Cash on hand will be used to minimize interest costs.

Big picture? Renovation and expansion of Kitley addresses one need. Districtwide enrollment is projected to reach more than 10,600 by the fall of 2021 and 11,200 only two years later. FTCSC continues to study long-range options to meet the needs of this growing student population and the community. Overall, Franklin Township Community School Corporation will be at 90 percent capacity for 2021-22, a percentage that will rise quickly with our enrollment projections.

## Watching every tax dollar

For the fourth consecutive year, Franklin Township Community School Corporation has balanced its budget. The corporation has achieved this even though it has the fewest financial resources per student in all of Marion County and nearby areas. This is because of the circuit breaker tax cap and lack of operation referendum that is aiding every other district in the county. Homes in the FTCSC district continue to have among the lowest tax bills in Marion County. The other side of this coin, of course, is that a low tax environment, combined with quality of FTCSC education and available land for new homes, continues to fuel enrollment growth.



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## **Community support appreciated**

To our family, friends, and neighbors: Franklin Township Community School Corporation would like to thank each of you for standing by our students and staff throughout a trying and unprecedented year. Each of us has had to adapt, refocus, adapt again, and continue to evolve our processes to continue to provide the innovative and high-level learning opportunities our

community deserves and expects. Staff and students continue to excel in ways that were unknown a year ago. On behalf of your School Board, I want to thank each of you (from those who directly interact with our students [online and in-person] to those who create a safe and healthy environment outside of the classroom) for your dedication and resiliency. We are hopeful that this spring will bring us closer to the sense of normalcy we all want.

Zachary T. Smith, Board President