

**After reviewing the materials once more, perhaps the most helpful approach for you to use in sharing your individual, anonymous input by Oct. 26 would take this form: “I recommend (Spence OR Hintgen) for closure because \_\_\_\_\_.”**

- I feel it is in the best interest of the community to sustain Spence, and, if we must, I then recommend closing Hintgen. My reasoning is based on pure data. 1,574 students live within walking distance to Spence vs. only 925 for Hintgen. An aerial view of Spence vs Hintgen shows that Spence has far superior walkability. 42% of Hintgen students live closer to another elementary school than Hintgen and 44% of Hintgen home boundary students opt to enroll in a different school all together. On the contrary at Spence, 33% live closer to another elementary and only 21% choose to enroll in a different school rather than their boundary school of Spence. 16% of Hintgen students are eligible for busing while only 5.3% of Spence students are eligible for busing. From a long-term perspective, we should keep a school on the Spence site due to it neighborhood accessibility and desirable community connections. I acknowledge the building itself presents challenges that must be addressed either by repair or by rebuilding on the site.
- I recommend Spence for closure because the school itself has greater deferred maintenance than Hintgen. Both of these two options do not significantly change bussing routes, and each are located close enough to student populations that other schools will be able to absorb their students.
- Spence for the simple fact that the building is in further disrepair than Hintgen. We owe our students the best possible facilities. If in the future, the Spence site is used for a new school, the Hintgen site can be revisited.
- I recommend Hintgen for closure because you could house students in Spence and then build a new school on the Spence site. Most Hintgen students are within walking to distance to another elem.
- I recommend Spence for closure because I feel that this space would be better suited for a long-term plan of building a new south side school and eventually closing Hintgen to go into the new school as well. The building at Spence is just in such poor shape and maintaining that while working on a long-term plan is not beneficial for the budget.

- It is important to acknowledge that this is not easy, to close any schools, but big decisions need to be made for the betterment of our students, teachers, and community. With that, I recommend Hintgen because of the financial savings on an annual basis..
- I recommend Hintgen for closure because it is not centrally located. Over 40% of the current student choose to go to other schools base on their location. It has exit doors in the classrooms that kids can use to vacate the classroom directly outside. Students can hear other classroom if they are in a room with a moveable wall. It is close to the railroad tracks. It does not have an adequate kitchen that can provide hot meals and all of the fresh produce to Hamilton like Spence does. Southern Bluffs currently supplies Hintgen with satellite meals. People who did not go on the building tours do not know this information.
- Hintgen
- I recommend Hintgen for closure because of the low number of students enrolled, location to three other elementary buildings near by, and layout of the room dividers/partitions between classrooms. By closing Hintgen and redrawing the boundaries, this allows for a rebuild (in the future) on the Spence site. In my opinion, Spence has a better location to community amenities/business (Trane Park, Erickson Pool, Erickson Park, Festival Foods, Fire Station, Altra, etc.) which allow for walking field trips. Spence is located in the middle of a neighborhood surrounded by families that attend their nearby school. Data shows that students are opting to go to neighboring schools (State Road, Southern Bluffs, Spence) even though they live in Hintgen boundary. For these reasons, and planning for the future of School District of La Crosse, my recommendation is to close Hintgen.
- Spence seems to require more future expense than Hintgen. And the site has more space for future alternative uses or sale by the district.
- I recommend Hintgen for closure because the Spence site is a more desirable site for a southside elementary school when taking into account the boundaries and overall socio-economic mix that results from a Hintgen closure. Spence is more centrally located in the proposed new boundary than Hintgen would be in its new proposed boundary. I believe focusing on the best building site (rather than building itself) will give our community the best options going forward as we continue to make decisions about how best to serve students in a district with declining enrollment and aging facilities.

- Hintgen for closure because the new boundary lines for keeping Spence option are more equitable and accessible for pedestrian and bicycle transportation. Best suggestion would be to rebuild on the Spence site, allowing for Hintgen students to then attend the new Spence or Southern Bluffs.
- I recommend Spence for closure because it is the building that is in the most disrepair, especially in comparison to Hintgen. My recommendation is based solely on the state of the building, cost of necessary repair and potential for students to be redistributed amongst the remaining schools with little disruption to travel time to school.