The purpose of this packet is to share information with the public pertaining to the possible consolidation of Exeter-Milligan Public Schools with Friend Public Schools.

Patrons are encouraged to review the enclosed materials. You are invited to contact school board members to offer support, criticism, or suggestions. Included within this packet is a timeline of future regular and special board meetings as well as joint school board meetings. Each school board **HIGHLY ENCOURAGES** you to attend any and/or all of these meetings. Your input is greatly wanted and appreciated.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to take an active role in this decision. There are a multitude of opportunities to attend regular and special/joint board meetings to learn more about the consolidation proposal. You are encouraged to embrace the expanded definition of community - just as you did over 20 years ago - which will strengthen our schools and our future.

Sincerely,

The Exeter-Milligan School Board

Adam Erdkamp, President (402-366-0815) - adam@erdkampmotors.com Eric Milton, Vice President (402-641-0216) - emilton@milliganagency.com Kendra Jansky, Treasurer (402-759-5022) - kendra.jansky@gmail.com Dan Kallhoff, Secretary, (402-641-5665) - dkallhoff88@live.com Paul Jurgensen, member (402-641-7120) - paul.jurgensen@emwolves.net Rachel Johnson, member (420-853-4012) - rachel.johnson@emwolves.net

The Friend School Board

Jamie Tuttle, President - jamie.tuttle@friendschool.org Scott Spohn, Vice President - scott.spohn@friendschool.org Nancy Vossler, Treasurer - nancy.vossler@friendschool.org Tyler Bartels, member - tyler.bartels@friendschool.org Tiffany Shonerd, member - tiffany.shonerd@friendschool.org Megan Weber, member - megan.weber@friendschool.org

Meeting schedule for possible consolidation with Friend Public Schools:

Regular monthly board meeting - October 2023 in Milligan – discussed Preliminary Petition

Regular monthly board meeting – November 2023 in Exeter – discussed Final Petition

Regular monthly board meeting – December 2023 in Milligan

Regular monthly board meeting – January 10, 2024 in Exeter

Special meeting Wednesday, January 17, 2024 in Milligan at 7 PM – Information Presentation – no public comment

Special meeting Tuesday, January 23, 2024 in Friend at 7 PM – Information Presentation – no public comment

Special meeting Tuesday, February 27, 2024 in Friend at 7 PM – Information Presentation – public comment accepted

Special meeting Monday, March 4, 2024 in Exeter at 7 PM – Information Presentation – public comment accepted

Regular monthly board meeting – March 2024 in Exeter – public comment accepted

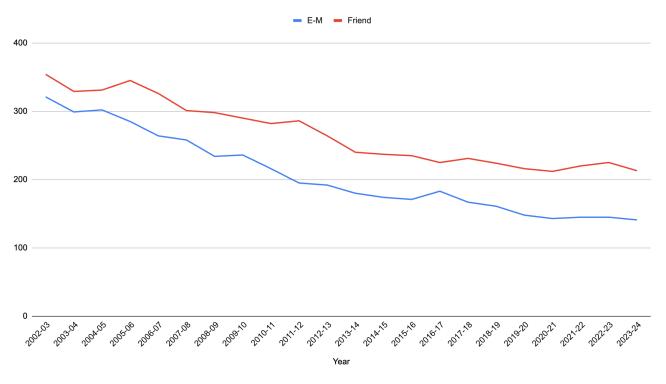
Regular monthly board meeting – April 2024 in Milligan – public comment accepted – consolidation vote

ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Year	E-M	Friend
2002-03	321	354
2003-04	299	329
2004-05	302	331
2005-06	285	345
2006-07	264	326
2007-08	258	301
2008-09	234	298
2009-10	236	NA
2010-11	216	282
2011-12	195	286
2012-13	192	264
2013-14	180	240
2014-15	174	237
2015-16	171	235
2016-17	183	225
2017-18	167	231
2018-19	161	224
2019-20	148	216
2020-21	143	212
2021-22	145	220
2022-23	145	225
2023-24	141	213

Statistics derived from NDE - Statistical Information for Public School Districits - https://www.education.ne.gov/fos/statistical-information-for-public-school-districts-levy-and-valuation-information/





OVERALL ENROLLMENT DECLINE:

Exeter- Milligan – 58% Friend – 40%

EMF ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

										-							1		
		2021-	22		2022-	23	2023-24				2024-25			2025-26			2026-27		
Grade	В	G	TOTAL	В	G	TOTAL	В	G	TOTAL		В	G	TOTAL	В	G	TOTAL	В	G	TOTAL
K	15	11	26	17	12	29	8	17	25		12	14	26	20	13	33	10	14	24
1	13	13	26	15	12	27	18	11	29		8	17	25	12	14	26	20	13	33
2	19	7	26	12	13	25	15	14	29		18	11	29	8	17	25	12	14	26
3	16	11	27	20	7	27	12	13	25		15	14	29	18	11	29	8	17	25
4	14	12	26	17	10	27	20	7	27		12	13	25	15	14	29	18	11	29
5	17	11	28	14	12	26	17	10	27		20	7	27	12	13	25	15	14	29
6	18	15	33	17	11	28	14	12	26		17	10	27	20	7	27	12	13	25
Total	112	80	192	112	77	189	104	84	188		102	86	188	105	89	194	95	96	191
7	15	13	28	19	16	35	16	10	26		14	12	26	17	10	27	20	7	27
8	17	10	27	15	13	28	17	15	32		16	10	26	14	12	26	17	10	27
9	14	13	27	17	10	27	15	14	29		17	15	32	16	10	26	14	12	26
10	15	8	23	15	13	28	17	10	27		15	14	29	17	15	32	16	10	26
11	10	13	23	16	8	24	15	12	27		17	10	27	15	14	29	17	15	32
12	17	11	28	11	14	25	16	9	25		15	12	27	17	10	27	15	14	29
Total	88	68	156	93	74	167	96	70	166		94	73	167	96	71	167	99	68	167
T7 5	0.4	65	150	0.5	~ ~	171	00	70	1.00		0.5	77	1.01	0.5	00	1.07	0.2	102	100
K-5	94	65	159	95	66	161	90	72	162		85	76	161	85	82	167	83	83	166
6-8	50	38	88	51	40	91	47	37	84		47	32	79	51	29	80	49	30	79
9-12	56	45	101	59	45	104	63	45	108		64	51	115	65	49	114	62	51	113
Totals	200	148	348	205	151	356	200	154	354		196	159	355	201	160	361	194	164	358

Consolidation process timeline:

- The Board of Education had initial discussions regarding the need for a curriculum/feasibility study in the spring of 2019.
- At a regular board meeting in August 2019 the board voted to go ahead with the study.
- Friend was invited to participate in the study due to the existing relationship with their district. o
 The goals of the study were to evaluate the current student experience at E-M, to find efficiencies that
 could help our district be more cost efficient in the future and gain insight regarding additional
 opportunities that may be available with Friend (sports, program sharing, etc.)
- The study was conducted in fall of 2019 by two professors from Wayne State College and their staff.
- The study was completed in December 2019; information from the study was shared with all board members for review on December 18, 2019.
- On January 15, 2020 the E-M Area Discussions Committee met with the professors from Wayne State to go over the study results.
- During the regular monthly board meeting on January 15, 2020 the Area Discussions Committee gave a report to the full board including information that was discussed during the meeting with study authors on January 15, 2020.
- A board work session was scheduled for February 19, 2020 to review the study in more depth, discuss potential cooperative/consolidation opportunities for the district and discuss the potential advantages/disadvantages of the district going to one educational site.
- At the work session on February 19, 2020, the board decided that the E-M Area Discussions
 Committee should meet with Friend; there was strong interest from board members to consider
 increased sports/activity cooperative opportunities due to decreased enrollment and participation
 numbers
- Members of the Area Discussions Committee met with representatives from Friend on March 2, 2020. The conversation included how an all-sports cooperative and/or consolidation could be structured between the two districts.
- The topics of an all sports cooperative and consolidation were listed as agenda items and were discussed at the regular board meeting on March 10, 2020. The public was able to ask questions and make comments regarding both subjects.
- At the March 10th meeting the board decided that the Area Discussions Committee should meet again with Friend and that our administrators should attend the meeting. The board also decided to reach out

to Fillmore Central to see if their district would be interested in discussing the options that would be available regarding an all sports cooperative or consolidation with their district.

- Members of the Area Discussions Committee and our administrators met with representatives from Friend on March 15, 2020. The conversation was a continuation from the initial meeting on March 2, 2020.
- Members of the Area Discussions Committee met with representatives from Fillmore Central on March 23, 2020. The topics of an all-sports cooperative and consolidation were discussed.
- The topics of an all-sports cooperative, consolidation and unification were listed as agenda items and discussed at the regular board meeting on April 8, 2020. The public was able to submit questions and comments to the board regarding all three items via email because the meeting was held via Zoom call due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The topics of an all-sports cooperative, consolidation and unification were listed as agenda items and discussed at the regular board meeting on May 13, 2020. The public was able to submit questions and comments to the board regarding all three items via email because the meeting was held via Zoom call due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The topics of an all sports cooperative, consolidation and unification were listed as agenda items and were discussed at the regular board meeting on June 10, 2020. The public was able to attend the meeting in person and ask questions and make comments regarding all three items.
- Members of the Area Discussions Committee and our administrators met with representatives from Friend on June 24, 2020. The conversation was a continuation from the previous committee meetings held earlier in the year. More specific information regarding the structure of a potential consolidation deal with Friend was discussed.
- Area Committee meetings to discuss all-activities coop as well as a consolidation:
 - o May 16, 2022
 - o July 26, 2022
 - o September 27, 2023
 - o June 5, 2023
 - o August 31, 2023
 - o December 4, 2023
- Joint Board meeting held to discuss all-activities coop
 - o August 31, 2022
- All-activity coop approved at September 14, 2023 meeting (effective the 2023-24 school year)

How would the agreement be structured if the E-M and Friend districts decide to consolidate?

- There would be a continued student presence in the existing Exeter-Milligan district. All grade K-5 students of the new district would be educated at the Exeter site. Two sections would be needed for each elementary class to maintain optimum class sizes for those age levels.
- All grade 6-12 students of the new district would be educated at the Friend site.
- Both the Exeter and Friend sites would have preschool programs.
- All staff members from both districts would be retained. The new district board would use attrition and a separation incentive program to reduce staffing levels over time to achieve optimum staffing levels.
- The identity of the new district would be Exeter-Milligan-Friend, and the Bobcats mascot that has been used for current cooperative activities would be used for the new district.
- Home high school and junior high sporting events would be held as currently held with the sports coop.
- Softball games and practices would continue as they have in previous seasons. All practices and home games would continue to be held at Fillmore Central's site in Geneva.
- Athletic practices for all sports teams would be held either in Exeter or Friend (except for softball as this is cooped with Fillmore Central); the Milligan site would also be available for additional practice space as needed. Practice location for each sport would be determined by school administrators and the coaching staff.
- Sites for other activities like music concerts, speech performances, and plays would be decided by district administrators. Whenever possible they would attempt to have these types of performances in multiple communities, or the performances would be rotated between each of the sites.
- Bonded indebtedness shall be the responsibility of the original district. For example, the bond debt currently incurred by Friend Public Schools would remain the obligation of the patrons of the original Friend School District and not shared with the patrons of the Exeter-Milligan district.
- Authority to add or eliminate grade levels at its sites or close sites must be approved by a "super" majority of the statutory number of members of the school board. A "super" majority is defined as 5 out of 6 board member votes for a 6-member board and 7 out of 9 board member votes for a 9-member board.

Benefits/Advantages of a Consolidation with Friend Public Schools

Enhanced educational opportunities:

- Auto CAD
- Electric Car
- College Composition/Literature our students currently take online via SCC
- Expanded Ag class offerings greenhouse, birthing barn, etc
- Enhanced Physical Education offerings due to having 2 PE teachers, more classes could be offered to high school students.
- Enhanced Music offerings due to having 2 music teachers, more advanced classes could be offered such as dual credit music appreciation
- Enhanced Art offerings due to having 2 art teachers, more advanced art classes could be offered.
- Additional opportunities to leverage community relationships and develop additional career pathways (CTEs/Internships)
- Course/class flexibility offer multiple sections of the same courses gives students the flexibility to take various courses and schedules
- Musical
- Foreign Language possibility to engage elementary students

Benefits of larger student body

- Allow for more collaboration and healthy competition in the classroom
- More social interaction among groups of students based on similar interests
- Kids feel less pressure to participate in everything and allow them to concentrate on the activities or sports they are most interested in
- Possibilities of additional club opportunities (robotics, STEAM, FBLA, etc)
- Increased internal competition for our <u>academic</u> teams

Benefits to staff

- Allows for grade-level collaboration in the elementary
- Allows for "additional" duties to be shared among staff (ex 2 teachers as class/activity sponsors)
- Allows for more collaboration in content areas

Grade 9-12 Course Enrollments for 2023-24

Total number of Required Courses	18
Total number of Elective Courses	38
11 Elective courses have	0 (zero) students enrolled
6 Elective courses have	1 student enrolled
9 Elective courses have	3 students enrolled
4 Elective courses have	4 students enrolled
3 Elective courses have	5 students enrolled
2 Elective courses have	6 students enrolled
3 Elective courses have	7 students enrolled
**No elective has more than 8 students except for band	

Estimated budget for a consolidated district

Below is a table with an estimated EMF budget. The totals for the budget, expenditures and taxes are a 4-year average. The total levy for 2023-24 includes the general fund and building fund - it does NOT include the bond fund amount for Friend.

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	TOTAL TAXES	AVERAGE TOTAL LEVY	TOTAL LEVY 2023-24
E-M	\$6,771,101	\$4,721,610	\$4,309,991	\$0.61158	\$0.58766
FRIEND	\$5,606,270	\$4,369,272	\$3,488,568	\$0.76031	\$0.71923
TOTAL	\$12,377,371	\$9,090,882	\$7,778,559	\$0.66982	
ESTIMATED for EMF	\$11,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$7,655,820		\$0.61589

THE TABLE BELOW DENOTES COMBINED EMF INFORMATION

GENERAL FUND		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	2023-24	AVERAGE				ESTMATED
Taxes Levied	\$	7,287,395.00	\$	7,264,952.28	\$	7,440,134.00	\$ 7,255,762.00	\$	7,312,060.82		\$	7,165,819.60
Budget	\$	12,035,037.00	\$	12,207,453.00	\$	12,664,026.00	\$ 12,602,969.00	\$	12,377,371.25		\$	11,758,502.69
Valuation	\$:	1,133,238,506.00	\$ 1	1,141,885,643.00	\$ 1	1,167,669,783.00	\$ 1,214,321,810.00	\$:	1,164,278,935.50		\$ 1	,244,679,855.25
Levy	\$	0.64306	\$	0.63622	\$	0.63718	\$ 0.59752	\$	0.62803		\$	0.57572
BUILDING FUND												
Taxes Levied	\$	454,545.00	\$	495,186.00	\$	497,272.00	\$ 498,989.00	\$	486,498.00		\$	500,000.00
Levy	\$	0.04011	\$	0.04337	\$	0.04259	\$ 0.04109	\$	0.04179		\$	0.04017
TOTAL LEVY	\$	0.68317	\$	0.67959	\$	0.67976	\$ 0.63861	\$	0.66982		\$	0.61589
Actual Expenditures	\$	9,137,057.00	\$	9,059,923.00	\$	9,075,665.00		\$	9,090,881.67		\$	9,000,000.00

Items to note for the estimated budget:

- As the new district progresses, additional efficiencies would be experienced through employee attrition. This should reduce expenditures and possibly tax asking over time.
- Reduce current administration to one superintendent an immediate savings of \$180,000 (includes salary and benefits.)
- Current building fund balances will be retained for use by the originators.
- Any building funds levied after the creation of the new district will be used at the discretion of the New District School board.

Final Organizational Findings and Considerations from the Curriculum Study performed by Craig Pease Consulting, Fall 2019

This study examined the setting and enrollment, curriculum, curricular and career pathways, staffing, and budget and finance of the Exeter-Milligan and Friend school districts. The purpose of the study was to look at the organizational challenges and opportunities for these two districts. This study is not intended to make political recommendations but rather to provide information so that the school district boards can make informed decisions about organizational changes. The following are findings and considerations for the school boards of these two districts.

- The Exeter-Milligan and Friend school districts would be an excellent fit for consolidation at some point in the future. The districts share a long, continuous, and contiguous border. They share similar student demographics and significant resources in the form of property valuations between the two of them. As one district, they could reduce operating costs by reducing program and staffing duplication, particularly at the secondary level. Together the school districts would likely see a tax levy at or below the levels currently assessed.
- 2) Short of consolidation, to increase financial efficiency, the districts could continue to explore the sharing of staffing between them as is currently done with the agricultural program. In addition to reducing staffing costs, the district can benefit from having more students enrolled in programs. Increased enrollment in programs can make them more viable to offer classes, especially upper-level classes, and increase peers in the classroom. The districts, for example, may want to consider the sharing of staff in business, foreign language, and other curricular programs in the future.
- 3) Technology allows for a variety of ways to deliver classes to students. While face-to-face is still the preferred method for most educators, distance learning,

- hybrid courses, and alternating-day schedules could be considered when sharing staff. These delivery options may make offering courses more viable than simply splitting an instructor's time between schools.
- 4) The school districts both are a part of the Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership (SENCAP) for accessing career academies for junior and senior students. The school districts should consider surveying employment needs in the community and student interests to identify career pathways on which the districts want to focus. The school districts should then consider aligning career exploration, and career and technical education classes below the junior year to coordinate and align the curriculum to these SENCAP opportunities.
- 5) The school districts are ahead of their peers in working cooperatively in the alignment of school calendars and providing in-service staff days. The school districts should consider expanding on this sharing by becoming high-reliability schools (HRS) and adopting the high-reliability framework. This process includes implementing the best practices of a safe, supportive, and collaborative culture; effective teaching in every classroom; a guaranteed and viable curriculum; standards-referenced reporting; and competency-based education. This study envisions the staff from the two schools working together to develop HRS so teachers are not working in isolation (i.e., preschool teachers in Exeter-Milligan and Friend working together to develop a guaranteed and viable curriculum for preschool students). The development of grade-level or subject-level professional learning communities can be a powerful organizational tool to improve the education of all students.
- 6) Exeter-Milligan should consider its continued operation of multiple building sites.
 With only about 150 students, operating out of two building sites, the district is less
 efficient. Multiple building sites are more expensive to operate. Multiple building

sites result in losing staff time and FTE to move staff between buildings. There is also a loss of coordination between staff as students transition from one building to another. Further, in making any decisions about the use of school buildings, the district should consider the long-term costs of maintaining facilities that are up-to-date with modern building, fire, life-safety, and accessibility codes. This study did not evaluate the building improvement needs in Exeter or Milligan. However, the district indicated they have had previous studies completed and are aware of the need for future building improvements.

Questions from the 17 January 2024 meeting in Milligan:

Will there always be 3 members from the original E-M district and 3 from the original Friend district? If not, how long will the 3-3 last?

For a minimum of 2 years, the board will be a 3-3 split. Two members from Friend and one member from E-M will have 2-year terms. The outcome of that election could change the make-up of the school board. We did investigate having wards, but wards are based on population, so that would not guarantee an even 3-3 distribution of board members from the original E-M and Friend districts.

Why are we so easily splitting back to 2 sites when we closed Milligan so easily to get all teachers/students at 1 site?

Closing the Milligan site was due to a multitude of reasons. Those included costs associated with keeping the building open for less than 50 students and having the elementary grades in the same building. By moving everyone to one site, we were able to have the elementary in the same building and not replace the 6th grade teacher (who was leaving at the end of the year.) We were able to utilize some of the current 7-12 teachers who had the extra time in their schedule to complete the 6th grade schedule. Our main goal for a few years was to have the K-5 together.

What will be done about asking for a specific elementary teacher over the other? How many times in elementary?

A parent may request a teacher, but that does not mean that the request will be granted. Many different aspects will be taken into consideration when looking at class placement in the elementary (academic performance, behavior, relationships with peers, etc).

If football practice is in Friend, can we build a locker room at the field site?

This is an undertaking that will take some time. One of the main priorities revolves around academics and making sure that both buildings are getting the attention and resources necessary for upkeep. This type of project would not be an immediate priority.

What will preschool/daycare look like?

It has been agreed upon that upon consolidation, preschool will take on a different look at the Exeter site as compared to what many are used to. Both sites will have a 3 year old preschool session in the morning and a 4 year old preschool session in the afternoon. This allows for more structure as well as increasing the numbers of children we can serve.

Questions from the 23 January 2024 meeting in Friend

What happens if we don't consolidate? When would the state step in?

This is a question that has a lot of what ifs attached to it. This has been the case in other states where political pressure has made the push for school consolidation. This could happen in the state of Nebraska when you look at the push to lower property taxes around the state.

What would the new graduation requirements be? How would valedictorian and salutatorian be determined? Would there be two from each school since there are different requirements/standards right now?

We would take a look at the graduation requirements of both districts. There are many similarities between the two and this falls within the realm of administration coming to an agreement to present to the school board.

Some school districts have moved away from a Valedictorian and a Salutatorian to embrace a college/university approach by honoring the top 10% of the class with the titles Suma Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Cum Laude. Once again, this is an administrative decision that would be presented to the school board.

Currently, Exeter-Milligan recognizes graduates in the following fashion: Graduates wearing medals with blue ribbons attained a GPA of greater than 95 Graduates wearing medals with white ribbons attained a GPA of 90 through 95.

This and many other items are included in a discussion/tenants document that will be developed once the consolidation is approved.

Why can't we use one school? Couldn't we possibly build a new school that could be "neutral"? Has there been a study for the cost of this?

Summerland is a fairly new consolidated school northwest of Norfolk. Four years ago, they passed a bond to build a new school in a neutral spot to serve the towns of Orchard, Ewing, and Clearwater. That school cost the taxpayers \$34.4 million in 2020. Doing the same thing would now cost the taxpayers of the consolidated district even more. With rising construction costs, the new construction can cost around \$50 million.

We would be neglecting an addition to the Friend building that is only a little over a decade old with a very nice gym that even C-1 districts would love to have. At the Exeter site, an addition in 2016 added 16,000 sq ft of space that will be utilized for pre-school as well as specials including art and music.

There has been no study on this, but neither board is interested in pursuing this option when we have two buildings that currently have students.

How does the district plan to save money if the consolidation only eliminates a superintendent and does not close any facilities?

As explained in the agreement, over time, some positions will not be filled through attrition and retirements.

What is the plan for the old Exeter High School building? Will the new district be required to demolish or update this building?

The plan is to not use the old building in Exeter with demolition on the horizon. The cost of the demolition will be paid for by the Exeter-Milligan district

Will we have only one high school football field with all the games in Friend? What is the plan for the Milligan football field?

The plan is to continue sharing football games between Friend and Milligan.

When is the plan for the consolidation to be complete?

The goal is to have the 2025-26 school year be the inaugural year for the consolidated district.

What does the future of the preschool look like? Who will be in charge of it?

Each principal at each building site would be in charge of the day-to-day functioning of each preschool.

What will the food program look like as EM does not participate in the federal lunch program?

We are in the beginning stages of discussion on what it would cost the consolidated district to run a lunch program apart from the federal government. We are currently looking at costs and weighing the pros and cons of not participating in the federal lunch program. With all this in mind, we are currently leaning towards not participating, with a final decision to be made after the April 2024 consolidation vote.

How will the new school locations as part of the consolidation affect the coop agreement that is currently in place?

The coop agreement will be superseded by the consolidation agreement. Once the consolidation agreement is approved, there will not need to be a cooperative agreement.

What is the plan for the AD position? Who will be in charge of athletics/activities?

We currently have two ADs—one for each school. As we go through the process of consolidation, we will address whether the need for two ADs is necessary. We will have discussions with personnel to gain an understanding of their intentions. With any employer, staff can retire or choose to take a different position. This can happen in schools and it is difficult to answer this question with certainty when we do not know every employee's intentions.

What decisions will get made about Homecoming? Prom? Will each town get a chance to host or will this be left up to the students?

In the past, students have been allowed some choice on these matters. This is a topic for discussion on continuing this arrangement as EMF.

Friend has more elementary students so what is the logic behind busing all of our students to Exeter? Then Exeter busing the Middle School students to Friend? You have to bus the elementary back at the end of the day to Friend...Then you have Exeter Middle students that may or may not go out for sports, so are we making a trip after school and then one after practice? Just trying to understand why we are having so many young kids on the bus every day.

With any major change, there is a "give and take." To provide more opportunities for our secondary students, changes need to be made. Space and functionality are a part of making these changes. We cannot fit all staff and students into one building. Two buildings are necessary. We also looked into the idea of a Middle School model at the Exeter site, but loss of instruction time was an issue due to teachers traveling during the school day. To create the most opportune environment with the least loss of instruction, it made sense to have the Exeter site be the K-5 building and the Friend site be the 6-12 building. Exeter-Milligan has been dealing with student transportation in this fashion for over 20 years. Other districts throughout the state of Nebraska do this same thing with an elementary school in one town and a secondary school in another. See Howells-Dodge (7.5 miles), Wilcox-Hildreth (8.5 miles), High Plains (11.7 miles), Diller-Odell (11.6 miles), Central Valley (13.9 miles), Boyd County (two elementaries 10 and 13.2 miles respectively), Bruning-Davenport (18 miles) and Elmwood-Murdock (6.3 miles). Median distance: 11 miles

What are the annual costs to maintain the Milligan location considering there are no classes held there?

The process has started to transfer ownership of the Milligan site to the Village of Milligan. Once that is complete, the school will no longer be responsible for the site. Funds from the current E-M Special Building Fund will be set aside to help defray the costs associated with the maintenance and upkeep of the building site.

Does the Friend site have the capacity to hold all of Pre-K through 12th grades at the consolidated enrollment?

With current levels of staff and students, no. Over the last 20 years, the amount of room it takes to educate students has increased as programming changes have taken place.

If the Milligan site is not used for educational purposes, what would be the plan for that site?

The process has started to transfer ownership of the Milligan site to the Village of Milligan. Once that is complete, the school will no longer be responsible for the site. Funds from the current E-M Special Building Fund will be set aside to help defray the costs associated with the maintenance and upkeep of the building site.

At the Exeter location, will the old High School building be used for any classes? If not, what is the plan for that building?

The plan is to not use the old building in Exeter with demolition on the horizon. The cost of the demolition will be paid for by the Exeter-Milligan district.