

City of  
**WALCOTT**

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September 6, 2022

Davenport Community School District  
Attn: Superintendent TJ Schneckloth and Board of Directors  
1702 N Main St,  
Davenport, IA 52803

The Walcott Mayor and City Council Members would like to take this opportunity to state our opposition to the Davenport School District's, Facilities Master Planning Committee's proposals.

The proposed reorganization of the Walcott School would definitely be a detriment to our community. Our school currently accommodates K-8<sup>th</sup> grades and provides a hometown feeling for its students. By converting this facility entirely to a middle school, it would require all elementary parents to have their small children ride a bus to a neighboring community to attend school. One of the attractive qualities for residents is the fact that their children will stay in the same school building for several years, thereby creating continuity and increasing school spirit. Walcott School's Parents' Organization is very active and receives long-term support from parents, while also actively engaging with the community, who view it as a "Walcott" school. We are concerned that potential residents looking for a community in which to raise their children, would look elsewhere due to the change in our school.

One side effect of the reorganization of the Walcott School, could be an enrollment decrease in the district due to parents choosing to utilize the option of open enrolling to other districts.

We are also concerned about the increase of our Police Department's involvement with school issues. Most of these issues arise from the older students in our school, therefore if the Walcott School is converted entirely to a middle school, we anticipate these issues will increase, putting an additional strain on our policing services.

We would ask that the School Board seriously consider the impact of this reorganization on our community. We consider our K-8 school a vital asset to Walcott and hope you reevaluate your future planning for our facility.


  
Mayor John Kostichek

  
Council Member Everett Bieri

  
Council Member Harry Knutsen

  
Council Member Kirk Koberg

  
Council Member Lisa Mengler

  
Council Member Jacob Puck