

*Schools & Local
Governments: Partnering for
the Community's Future*

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Schools & Local Governments: Partnering for the Community's Future

■ Background

- Casper Population – 53,000
- City/School Relations – Long History of Cooperation
 - Regular Meetings – 15 Years
 - Co-location of Facilities
 - Joint Use Agreements
 - Joint Funding of Special Programs

Schools & Local Governments: Partnering for the Community's Future

- 2001 State Supreme Court Case
 - Equalize State Funding of Schools
 - State Government Infusion of Funds
 - New Construction
 - Yearly Operations

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- Wyoming School Facilities Commission Created
 - Adopted School Construction Guidelines
 - Wyoming Guidelines
 - Elementary Schools – 4 Acres + 1 Acre/100 Students
 - Middle Schools - 10 Acres + 1 Acre/100 Students
 - High Schools - 20 Acres + 1 Acre/100 Students

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- Natrona County (Casper) School District
 - 4 High Schools
 - 7 Middle Schools
 - 27 Elementary Schools

- Most Schools Will Be Rebuilt

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- School Siting Issues – Why Important?
 - Role of School in Neighborhoods
 - Future Growth Patterns
 - Infrastructure Impacts
 - Traffic Patterns
 - Walkability
 - Appearance

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- Casper City Government Goals
 - Keep Schools in Place
 - Use Available Infill Sites
 - Promote Walkability
 - Promote Attractive Construction

- Park School Example

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- Park School Issues
 - Site Too Small for Rebuilding
 - Parkland Not Legally Available
 - School Administration Selected New Site
 - Third Party Ready to Purchase Old Building

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- Steps Taken to Achieve Goals
 - Research
 - Local Efforts
 - School Administration
 - Neighborhood Awareness
 - State-wide Efforts
 - School Facilities Commission
 - State Legislature
 - Governor

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- Outcomes & Lessons Learned
 - Working with State Government
 - Working with School District on Siting
 - Making Public Land Available for Schools

- **Clash Between Smart Growth Principals & School Reform Initiatives**
 - Unable to Resolve So Far