

---

## Space Study Committee

Oakdale Elementary School

Cincinnati, Ohio

Rush-Henrietta Central School District formed the Space Study Committee in 1991 to gain parental and community support in studying and advising on space issues and needs within the district. This group looks at such issues as opening schools, closing schools, finding space for new programs, and redrawing boundary lines.

The Space Study Committee, which reconvenes annually, is made up of parents, administrators, teachers, school staff, and community members. The committee affects space decisions in the entire district, so there are representatives from all schools and levels. Working in an advisory capacity only, the Space Study Committee makes recommendations to the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education.

The Space Study Committee has been effective in advising on several important decisions in recent years: opening a second middle school, proposing a bond issue to open a new elementary school, and proposing a bond issue to put an addition on the high school. All decisions were made by passing a public vote, and this proceeded quite smoothly because of the support from the Space Study Committee. There was an opportunity for total community involvement leading up to these major changes!

Because everyone serves as a volunteer, the Space Study Committee costs nothing to implement. The people who serve are recognized formally at an appreciation dinner each spring and are acknowledged in various news articles and district publications.

*Kay Lyons, District Coordinator*  
(716) 359-5029

District –Level Leadership

Promising Partnership Practices