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In January of 1993, in the middle of the school year, the Whitko Community School Corporation, a district straddling the line between Whitley and Kosciusko counties of Indiana, consolidated two junior high schools into one new building that, programmatically, was completely different from what had existed before. This paper examines this consolidation from two aspects: the facility and the philosophy change from a junior high program to a middle school concept. A local history project sparked the research through this school corporation's board records and interviews with past Board members, administrators, and current teachers to examine the basics of what drove the construction of the physical plant. A preponderance of research in the mid 1980's indicated that middle grades schools needed to change in order to better help their students reach their potential. Much of this research dictated how the building was designed. By examining this research, it is shown how a plan for middle grades education was envisioned and created for this middle school.