



PRESS RELEASE

Date: November 13, 2023

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School Board Presentation Highlights Long-Range Facilities Planning

West Bend, WI – At its November 13 meeting, the West Bend School Board received a high-level overview of the long-range facilities planning process that has been underway for several months. The planning is part of the West Bend School District's continuous improvement process, and includes a comprehensive facilities assessment of all school district buildings and sites. This is the first step in the long-range facilities planning process.

During a presentation to the board, representatives from EUA and J.H. Findorff and Sons, the district's architectural and construction manager partners, reviewed the process and outlined what to expect at future meetings when EUA and Findorff complete the facilities assessment in December and January. The final report will consist of three primary components:

- **Building Conditions Evaluation:** A detailed examination of the capital maintenance needs at the district's schools and sites. Findorff will be developing preliminary cost estimates associated with these identified capital needs.
- **Educational Adequacy Assessment:** An analysis of how well the district's facilities support its teaching and learning objectives.
- **Building Capacity and Utilization Review:** An examination of each building's student capacity and how efficiently the district's buildings are being used at this time.

"We believe in data-driven decision making," said Superintendent Jen Wimmer. "Many of our facilities are aging and need important capital maintenance repairs that have been on hold for several years. Coupled with the work ahead to right-size the district to reflect the current and future enrollment and our goal to meet the evolving needs of students and the community, we

have asked for objective information on our buildings to make informed and strategic long-range facility decisions."

Following the facilities assessment, the district will share the findings with staff and community this winter and work to gather feedback about priorities. This input will then inform and guide the development of a long-range facilities plan.

"Engaging district residents and staff is critical to developing a long-range facilities plan that our community can stand behind," said Wimmer. "As this process unfolds, the district is committed to keeping our community informed and involved. We have not yet begun to consider potential facilities solutions and we firmly believe our plan needs to reflect community values and priorities."

The West Bend School District is committed to facilities that are:

- Safe, secure, and accessible
- Welcoming, well maintained, and operationally efficient
- Adaptable to meet evolving student needs

For more information about the facilities assessment and long-range planning process, please visit the district website at west-bend.k12.wi.us.

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