



NEWS RELEASE

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Update on Referendum Projects Presented to West Bend School Board Construction on safety and other improvements to begin in June 2025

WEST BEND — After voters of the West Bend School District approved a facilities referendum in November 2024, the district and its design partner, EUA, and construction partner, Findorff, have been working steadily on designs and planning for construction projects. Updates on the work to date, including a modified construction schedule, were presented by EUA and Findorff to the West Bend School Board during its regular meeting on April 28.

The district has prioritized safety and security improvements at Green Tree and McLane Elementary Schools. Therefore, work on projects at these schools such as secure entrances, bathroom upgrades, window and door replacements, and other capital maintenance projects has been advanced by one year and construction will begin in June 2025, immediately after school is complete. Outdoor site work for both schools will take place in summer 2026.

Throughout planning for all projects, district staff, EUA, and Findorff have engaged with school staff on significant points. At Green Tree and McLane construction plans were reviewed and finer points discussed. The design process for the new Jackson Elementary has been actively underway since the referendum was approved in November 2024. A group of Jackson staff toured other schools and completed various planning exercises, while all staff met with architects for additional planning. Families were surveyed and students provided their ideas for what a new school should include.

Extensive site analysis for the new Jackson Elementary has been conducted to help establish the new school's location on the district-owned property in Jackson south of Main Street on Jackson Drive. Factors examined include:

- traffic flow and site circulation
- site security, views into the site, and controlled access

- safe drop off and pick up
- surrounding buildings and vegetation
- soil conditions
- natural lighting

At the May 27, 2025 West Bend School Board meeting, EUA and Findorff will present the first look at the preliminary exterior and interior design concepts for the new Jackson Elementary, including a preliminary budget update. Construction of the new Jackson Elementary is slated to begin in spring 2026 and be completed in summer 2027.

The West Bend Joint School District #1 is proud to serve more than 5,400 students and their families from the city of West Bend, villages of Jackson and Newburg, and townships of Barton, Polk, Trenton, Jackson, West Bend, and Addison. We strive to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts, and co-curricular activities. Within our community-based 4K program, Head Start program, five elementary schools (K-4), one intermediate school (5-6), one middle school (7-8), and two high schools (9-12), families can expect a caring, inclusive learning environment that supports the development of the whole child. Visit www.west-bend.k12.wi.us for more information.

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