



PRESS RELEASE

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Coming Soon: Community Survey On Cedarburg School District Potential Projects

Over the last three years, the Cedarburg School District (CSD) has examined facility and instructional needs to maintain the District's high academic standards. Through the development of a Long Range Master Plan (LRMP), the district identified planning for anticipated enrollment growth, supporting teaching and learning and improving safety and security as the top priorities to address.

With completed utilization and capacity studies at all CSD schools and feedback from more than 30 focus groups with 485 attendees, the Building and Grounds Committee has reviewed the identified needs and examined solutions to address the needs. According to Superintendent Todd Bugnacki, "After reviewing the studies and the feedback from various focus groups, it became apparent that most of our schools are already operating over the recommended capacity." He added, "Addressing our capacity issues also presents us with the unique opportunity to improve our curriculum offerings and better prepare students for future careers. As a high-performing district, it is our top priority to keep our kids safe and provide them with high-quality instructional opportunities."

Recently the Personnel & Finance Committee reviewed costing estimates to address the needs and financing implications along with tax impacts. The anticipated cost to address the identified needs at all five schools is \$72.3 million. The estimated impact on the tax levy would be .98 cents per \$1,000 of home value.

At the April 23, 2018 School Board Meeting, the Board approved proceeding with a community survey mailed to all residents. The school district is asking residents to complete the survey to provide feedback. The survey, arriving mid-May, will provide details on the scope of the project that addresses the needs in every school building. The School Board recognizes any potential referendum must reflect the priorities of taxpayers. All residents are urged to participate. The survey will articulate the District's needs, identify the potential plans for each school and provide costs while gathering feedback. Open forum sessions will be conducted at each school to answer questions regarding the survey.

The survey will contain questions regarding additions and renovation projects throughout the district. Addressing ongoing maintenance needs of the CSD facilities will remain a top priority of the School Board and will be done within the annual operating budget. The survey will be distributed to all Cedarburg School District residents through the mail. It will also include instructions on how to access the survey online. All survey responses are kept confidential and returned directly to the third party independent firm with expertise in conducting community surveys.

The Buildings & Grounds and Personnel & Finance Committees only included questions on the survey that address the current needs. For more information on the LRMP, including long range plans for 10-25+ years, can be accessed on the CSD website at <http://www.cedarburg.k12.wi.us/about/long-range-planning.cfm>.