

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

Facility Next Steps: A New Elementary School!

It's hard to believe it has been six years since residents of the Monticello Community School District voted to approve funding to construct a new middle school.

In the fall 2020, we celebrated the opening of the new middle school, and last year, our community said goodbye to the original middle school, which will be the site of a new Thiesen's.

In short, we've accomplished the first phase of the long-term plan agreed upon by the Facilities Advisory Committee made up of parents, staff, community members, business owners, and school board members six years ago.



Now, it's time to implement the second phase: a new elementary school.

Earlier this year, the district reconvened the Facility Advisory Committee to review the original plan. The committee included 30+ individuals, some of whom participated in the last planning effort and others who were able to offer fresh perspectives. They met three times in February and March to revisit the original plan and confirm that a new elementary school to replace Carpenter and Shannon Elementary is the next right step for the district.

After reviewing the original plan, touring both elementary schools as well as the new middle school, and learning about the funding strategy, the committee agreed that this is the right time to implement the next phase of the long-range plan.

Because the district has been diligent stewards of taxpayer dollars, and because our community has grown over the last few years, we are able to bond to pay for a new elementary school both earlier and with less impact to the tax levy rate than was originally projected.

Over the last month, committee members collected the more than 250 required signatures needed to petition the board to call an election to pay for the new school. At their April meeting, the board accepted the petition and called the election for Nov. 5.

What's the plan?

A new elementary school at the middle/high school campus that will replace both Shannon and Carpenter Elementary to realize the district and community's long-term of creating a central educational campus.

How will we pay for it?

To pay for the estimated \$26.5 million elementary school, the district is proposing funding from a combination of sources:

- General Obligation Bond: \$15 million
- Sales Tax Revenue Bond: \$10 million
- Dedicated Facility Cash Reserves: \$1 to \$2.5 million

What's next?

On Nov. 5, voters of the Monticello Community School District will be asked to vote on a measure that would allow the district to raise the property tax levy rate by \$1.10 per \$1,000 of taxable (not assessed) property value.

Learn more!

There will be many opportunities to learn more about the plan. We hope you will attend in person events and ask questions. Your participation in the vote is critical to our district and community's future.