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MTSD Board Approves Long Range Facilities Master Plan

MEQUON, Wis. — The Mequon-Thiensville School District Board of Education approved a long-range vision and master plan for its facilities at its regular business meeting on Monday, July 22, 2019.

MTSD partnered with Eppstein Uhen Architects to help facilitate the development of the all-encompassing, 10-year plan that aligns the district's current reality, impending forecasts and strategic direction, along with the community's priorities.

"Our goal in developing this plan, which we have described as developing a 'Framework for Our Future,' was to ensure we are planning strategically for the future and allocating resources appropriately to achieve that vision," said Matthew Joynt, superintendent of schools.

The process to develop the plan, which began in fall 2018, involved a comprehensive analysis of the district's facilities. EUA conducted interviews and site assessments at each district building to examine the state of its facilities and space requirements. Facilities and learning environments were analyzed for their capacity to support projected enrollment growth; provide modern, safe and secure environments; support community recreation and athletic usage; and manage ongoing infrastructure maintenance needs.

"Community members should note that the report concludes that Mequon-Thiensville School District buildings are well maintained and the district has a maintenance program in place to prioritize and address ongoing facility maintenance and building conditions," said Bob Morris, senior design architect at EUA. "The report also identifies strengths in safety and security and technology infrastructure."

The plan also identifies short- and long-term challenges, including projections that point to inadequate classroom space to meet expected enrollment growth at the elementary level. Outdated classroom configurations at all schools are not conducive to student-centered teaching and learning. Site circulation and traffic flow also present challenges at all campuses. The Framework for Our Future includes solutions to address these challenges.

Over the course of the plan development, the district provided progress updates through various channels, including the MTSD website, articles in the community's *MT Today* magazine, and community workshops offered in April 2019.

"Since the outset of this process in fall 2018, we have focused on keeping the community informed of our progress in the development of this long-term plan," said Joynt. "While our long-range plan is now complete, we continue to ask that community members stay informed, involved, and engaged as we seek to address some of the identified challenges in ways that align with our community's values."

All are invited to view the long-range master plan document online at www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/framework and watch for more opportunities to provide input in the near future.

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