



Superintendent
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Mequon-Thiensville School District to Launch Facilities Community Task Force

Task force will develop recommendations in response to facility needs

MEQUON, Wis. — The Mequon-Thiensville School District will assemble a task force of 19 community members to review and consider the district's Long-Range Master Plan and other relevant information. The task force will establish priorities and make recommendations to administration and the board regarding identified facilities issues.

The task force, an independent entity comprised of diverse stakeholders, including individuals who represent a spectrum of opinions and perspectives related to the school district and community. Former school board presidents Stephanie Clark and Peter Stone have agreed to serve as co-chairs.

The initiation of a task force is the next step in the district's long-range facilities planning process, which began in 2018. The process included a study of population and enrollment in the development of an all-encompassing 10-year framework. The study projects enrollment will continue to increase at the elementary level over the next 5-10 years.

The long-range master plan identifies several challenges, including projections that point to inadequate classroom space to meet expected growth at the elementary level. Outdated classroom configurations at all schools are not conducive to modern student-centered learning approaches. Site circulation and traffic flow present challenges at all campuses. The long-range master plan includes potential solutions to address these challenges and is available at www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/framework or by visiting the district office.

“We look forward to working with the seventeen other Community Task Force members to review and consider the district’s long-range master plan. We approach this project with open minds and will take an independent and critical look at the issues raised and options presented in the plan. The task force will carefully examine, discuss, and debate the most relevant information, and intends to formulate recommendations for the administration and school board. Ultimately, the board will decide how best to proceed, but we hope that the work of the task force will be of valuable assistance,” said Clark and Stone.

The district has a history of engaging the community through ad-hoc committee structures that explore district-wide issues and strategic planning. In 2004, 2007, and 2014, task force groups examined issues like school closures and cost savings in transportation, co-curricular activities, and the reconfiguration of schools. These groups have also developed recommendations for sustaining the district financially.

In each case, the ad-hoc committee or task force has operated independently from the board of education and district administration.

MORE



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ADD ONE/MTSD TO LAUNCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES TASK FORCE

“The Mequon-Thiensville School District has historically engaged community-led committees to study specific topics with the potential to impact the community,” said Matthew Joynt, superintendent of schools. “The administration believes the appropriate next step is to once again involve district and community stakeholders in meaningful and authentic engagement.”

The district invites community members to inform the work and discussion of the task force now by completing a brief questionnaire, which is available on the MTSD website or by visiting the district office.

The task force will meet this fall to engage in its review and work to develop recommendations. All meetings are open to the public and will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday, September 11, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 18, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 2, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 16, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 30, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

More information, including a list of task force members, a link to the community questionnaire, and a more detailed review of the district’s processes is available on the district website at www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/taskforce.

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