

For Immediate Release

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Ripon School Board Holds Workshop to Further Refine Plan C

Ripon, WI – The Ripon School Board and District Administration gathered on Monday, June 9 to review the community survey comment analysis, and to further refine the scope of the \$29.1 million proposed Plan C to combine the high school and middle school on the high school site.

The Board started the workshop by reviewing the survey analysis of all community comments prepared by School Perceptions. The comments were divided into themes and comments and were considered for incorporation into Plan C.

Comments included everything from providing enhanced security and reconfiguring visitor parking at the elementary schools, to making site improvements that provide tennis courts and additional parking for Ingalls Field at the existing middle school site. Critical comments regarding the combined building are auditorium upgrades with air conditioning, new state of the art science classrooms, new technical education rooms, dedicated middle and high school music center, flexible common spaces with new middle school cafeteria, new competition high school gym and locker rooms, technology infrastructure, energy efficiency upgrades, separate middle and high school entrances, and enhanced community spaces were among top community suggestions.

Refining Plan C is a continuous process, and during the pre-design phase the board, administration and staff will continue to make decisions at the 30,000 foot level relative to the educational model; relative size and capacity; number of education spaces; large system upgrades; site layout and viability; and programming adjacencies.

The community is favorable in continuing with the current tax rate under the \$500,000 operation referendum that is in effect. Of the proposed \$500,000 operational referendum for the 2016-2021 school years, the Board reviewed what would be included in the proposed operational budget (i.e. \$225,000 Curriculum; \$160,000 Technology; \$100,00 Maintenance; and \$15,000 for Vehicles).

As the process continues, the District will be meeting with city officials, staff, and hosting another Board Workshop on July 14. If the Board votes to proceed to referendum, the deadline for the Board to approve the resolution is August 18. For more information, the District will be hosting the eighth Community Engagement Session on Wednesday, June 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Ripon High School in Room 167.

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