

For Immediate Release

Monday, September 15, 2014

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Referendum Public Information Session Held September 15th

Ripon, WI – The Ripon School Board and District Administration hosted the first of five public information sessions and building tours on Monday, September 15 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ripon Middle School. The community heard a brief update on the facility improvement process from the building consultants, and then a tour of the existing middle school was offered. Community members had the opportunity to interact with board members, administration, teachers, staff and students to ask questions, while witnessing first hand the condition of the existing middle school. Renovations have helped extend the life of the middle school, but the building has been in use for 75 years, 35 years longer than the 40 year average expectancy for a school.

Facility experts were on hand to present the plans to construct an addition and renovate the high school to create a combined middle school/high school; demolish the existing middle school and convert the lot to parking and tennis courts; while adding safety and security upgrades to all schools. The community is also requested to vote on continuing with the \$500,000 Operating Referendum to update curriculum and technology; perform maintenance repairs; and replace vehicles.

The District will be hosting four additional public information sessions on the following dates:

- **Session 2:** Tuesday, September 30 at Ripon College from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room in Pickard Commons.
- **Session 3:** Wednesday, October 8 at Ripon High School from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Room 167. A brief building tour will be provided.

- **Session 4:** Friday, October 10 at the Ripon Senior Center from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Lower Level of City Hall.
- **Session 5:** Tuesday, October 14 at City Hall in the Council Chambers from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. prior to the City Council Meeting.

District residents should watch their mailbox for additional information regarding the combined middle school and high school plan, public information sessions, and voting information. Please refer to the district website at www.ripon.k12.wi.us for a countdown to referendum clock, tax impact calculator, referendum fact sheet (Spanish version too) site and floor plans, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and voting locations.

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