

For Immediate Release

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Ripon Area School District Plans to Break Ground for New Middle and High School Facility

Ripon, WI – The Ripon Area School District (RASD) Board of Education and Administration are pleased to announce the start of construction on the new combined middle and high school facility. The official groundbreaking ceremony will be held Wednesday, April 8th, at 2:00 pm. The Board encourages members of the Ripon Community to attend the event, taking place at Ripon High School.

The construction of the middle and high school facility was approved by voters at the November referendum. The referendum question passed with 65% of the vote. Specifically, the question asked to borrow funds to create the combined facility on the existing high school grounds, to upgrade safety and security in all schools, and to demolish the existing middle school and convert the lot to be used for parking, tennis courts, and green space.

Although the high school and middle school will be in the same building, they will remain separate schools with their own respective entrances and spaces. Additions and renovations to the existing high school building include STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) spaces; an agriculture room; a community room; a MS/HS music suite; separate middle and high school entrances, commons, administrative offices, classrooms; new high school gymnasium; upgrades to the existing auditorium and pool; and additional parking.

PRA architects and CG Schmidt Construction finalized plans and design by collaborating with RASD faculty and staff and the Ripon community as a whole. The phasing of the project work is planned heavily for the summer months over the next two years to minimize disruptions to class time, school events and normal operations. The work areas will be separated from the student areas to maximize safety and security for the students and staff. As a reminder, construction begins with the Groundbreaking on Wednesday, April 8, 2015, at 2:00 pm at Ripon High School (850 Tiger Drive, Ripon, Wisconsin). The event is open to all community members.

If you have any questions, please contact Superintendent Dr. Mary Whitrock at (920) 748-4600 or WhitrockM@ripon.k12.wi.us.

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