

For Immediate Release

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Ripon Board of Education May Approve Changes in Scope of Pool Renovation

Ripon, WI – Construction continues to progress on the combined middle and high school facility for the Ripon Area School District. Planned upgrades to the existing pool maintained the original footprint and increased the depth of the pool. The plan had pool coordinators and users concerned. A new proposal includes retaining the current pool depth and applying the savings to improve other items within the pool area. The Board Finance Committee saw the proposed change in scope earlier this month and the full Board will vote on the changes at the January 18 Ripon Board of Education meeting.

The current plan included removing 40 feet of the east end of the pool, increasing the depth to 4.5 feet and retiling the entire pool floor. The revised plan includes retaining the current depth, plastering the entire pool and retiling the pool gutter and lane markers. In addition, the savings allow the acoustical wall panels to be replaced, the air exchange (HVAC) to be improved, variable frequency drive (VFD) energy controls to be installed on pumps and motors, and a secondary ultraviolet light to be added to supplement the current chlorination system.

Items that remain consistent from the original scope include replacing all frames and hardware, replacing the unit heater covers, painting walls with epoxy paint, retiling the pool deck, replacing the stainless steel ladders and accessories, replacing the wall and deck markers tile, installing new starting block anchors, and upgrading the mechanical systems.

According to Superintendent Whitrock, “The original scope of the project which included increasing the depth of the pool to 4.5 feet concerned some pool users. The change in scope allows current activities to continue while adding important elements that will lead to an improved experience for pool users.” The timing of this change coincides with the pool renovations timeline set to begin in

March 2016. The renovations will be completed prior to the start of summer school in June so swimming lessons can proceed uninterrupted this summer. This change in scope is the result of many conversations regarding how the pool is used. The goal is to increase pool efficiency and aesthetics within the budgeted amount. The revised scope does that.

The Board encourages the community to attend the facilities tour on January 18 at 4:30 p.m. and check the District website for additional information. Weekly Construction Updates are shared on both the RASD website and Facebook page. Please contact Superintendent, Dr. Mary Whitrock, at whitrockm@ripon.k12.wi.us with any questions.

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