



NRHEG Public School

Independent School District No. 2168

High School
306 Ash Ave. South
New Richland, MN 56072
(507)465-3205
Fax (507)465-8633

Elementary School
600 School St.
Ellendale, MN 56026
(507)684-3181
Fax (507)684-2108

Our Mission

Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed.

Our Vision

To be the school district of choice, inspiring excellence in academics, arts, and activities.

Facility Planning Update - April 9 Special Election

Dale Carlson, Superintendent

January 2019

Our vision as a school community is to *be the school district of choice, inspiring excellence in academics, arts, and activities*. We strive to do this every day by *empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed*.

Progress continues with addressing facility needs in the school district. In my December 2018 Star Eagle article, I shared the Board of Education (BOE) would be taking action on approving a resolution that supported the recommendation of the *Facility Planning Task Force*. At the December 17, 2018, BOE meeting, the BOE adopted a resolution that included the following ballot question to put before voters on April 9, 2019:

Shall the school board of Independent School District No. 2168, NRHEG Public Schools, be authorized to issue its general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$9,100,000.00 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including safety and security improvements at the Elementary School; infrastructure improvements and completion of various deferred maintenance projects at school sites and facilities; completion of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility improvements; and the completion of construction, renovation, expansion, or maintenance of classrooms, labs, restrooms, and other instructional spaces at school sites and facilities?

The ballot question addresses the priority needs identified by the *Task Force* beginning with safety and security needs at the Elementary School by redesigning the main entrance so that all visitors must enter and exit through a secure pathway through the administrative office. Infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs at both buildings are addressed including updating the HVAC systems and controls, tuck-pointing and casework replacement, and water infiltration repair. The ballot question addresses Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) updates to various areas of both buildings including restrooms. Within the \$9.1 million funding, targeted classroom areas beginning with Industrial Technology classrooms/shops, Agriculture classrooms/shops, Family Consumer Science classroom, and the three Science classrooms at the Secondary School would be remodeled and expanded.

While additional needs were identified as a result of the facility study process, the BOE believed it to be most important to determine a maximum funding amount of \$9.1 million based on its review of the *Task Force's* recommendation as well as the results of the community survey conducted in September 2018.

Dale N. Carlson, Superintendent

David A. Bunn, High School Principal

Douglas A. Anderson, Elementary Principal

Depending on the results of the April 9 referendum election, the BOE will determine what if any of the remaining identified needs will be addressed including the renovation and/or maintenance of other instructional spaces including Special Education, Music, Art and Fitness classrooms.

The BOE will be holding a special work session on Monday, February 4, 2019, to discuss and plan for the April 9 election including providing opportunities for our communities within the school district to learn more about the needs included in the ballot question.

I invite you to view information about the facility planning process on the District's website at www.nrheg.k12.mn.us by going to the **District** tab and then **Facility Planning**.

A reminder that the School Board conducts its regular monthly meeting on the third Monday of each month. The location of the meeting is rotated monthly between the NRHEG Secondary School Media Center in New Richland and the NRHEG Elementary School Media Center in Ellendale. The January 22, 2019, School Board meeting will be at the Elementary School beginning at 6:30 pm., and the February 19, 2019, School Board meeting will be at the Secondary School beginning at 6:30 pm. Please note January 22 is a Tuesday meeting due to January 21 being Martin Luther King Day, and February 19 is also a Tuesday meeting due to February 18 being President's Day.

We celebrate together in the accomplishments of our students because we are in this journey together as a school community. Thank you for all you do to support NRHEG Public Schools and our students!