

MONONA GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

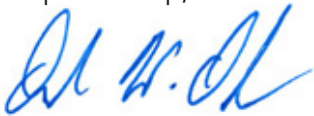
Dear Community,

In 2018, after years of extensive planning, committee work, and community input, voters in Cottage Grove and Monona supported a facilities and operating referendum for the Monona Grove School District. Over \$57 million was approved to **address enrollment growth, improve safety and security, and perform high priority maintenance and repairs**. Community input was a critical component of the process, and we continue to be committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility.

As the construction on our new elementary school, Granite Ridge, and the renovations in all of our schools wrap up, we present this report to the community. Here are just some of the photos that capture the incredible work of our design and construction team. There are more photos and many more details on the process on our website, www.mononagrove.org/report2021.

The construction and renovations provide the flexibility and creative use of space that will serve our district for decades. We take great pride in the students and staff of Monona Grove School District — perhaps this year more than any other. Our accomplishments are not possible without curious students, engaged parents, committed staff and a supportive community. On behalf of everyone at Monona Grove School District, thank you.

In partnership,



Dan Olson
Superintendent

TAX IMPACT LOWER THAN EXPECTED



In 2018, we estimated the tax impact on the facilities projects to be \$0.29 per \$1,000 of fair market property valuation. Using final interest rates and equalized valuation, the tax impact is \$0.15 per \$1,000 of fair market property valuation. In comparison to what we estimated in 2018, the final tax impact is **48% lower** than anticipated, resulting in a lower tax rate for our community.

DISTRICT-WIDE RENOVATIONS

Project highlights below. Other projects Include work at Taylor Prairie School and MG21 Charter School.

Cottage Grove School



Renovations on track to be completed by the start of the 2021 school year.

Glacial Drumlin School



Cafeteria and servery renovation completed in 2020.

Winnequah School



Renovated classrooms, IMC space and main entrance.

High School Athletics



New turf field and track.



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NEW CONSTRUCTION: GRANITE RIDGE SCHOOL



IMC



Modern school libraries are now called Instructional Media Centers (IMC). The IMC has two instructional spaces as well as two small group instruction spaces for students and staff to use. There is also a dedicated makerspace for hands-on learning.

Social Stairs



The social stairs are the heart of the school where students can meet with classmates or as a large group. The space allows the students to make independent choices and work creatively.

The Habitats

3rd Grade



The 3rd grade students are in the 'Grasslands' habitat. The habitat themes are represented throughout the grade wings with color-specific furniture and finishes.

4th Grade



The 4th grade habitat is the 'Wetlands.' Students have flexible furniture in the middle of the collaboration space and small collaboration spaces to the side.

5th Grade



The 'Woodlands' is home to our 5th grade students. There are small group instruction rooms with whiteboards, and an area under the stairs called the learning cave.

More photos can be found on our website: www.mononagrove.org/report2021

Local Ties

There are strong ties to Monona Grove School District within the project team that is working on our referendum projects. Monona Grove Baseball coach Brad Pastika and MGSD alum Graham Schroeder-Gasser both work for Findorff and play key roles in the management of our project. Also working on large portions of the projects are alumni Jon Vetter, a Project Manager at Faith Technologies and Derrick Rice, a Project Manager at RG Huston Company. It is amazing to see individuals with local ties working in the district.

“As an MG graduate and Monona native I have felt very fortunate to work on updating schools that I attended for 13 years, renovating the football field I played on growing up, and building Granite Ridge School from start to finish.”
~ Graham Schroeder-Gasser



BRAD
PASTIKA
baseball coach

JON
VETTER
class of 2006

GRAHAM
SCHROEDER
GASSER
class of 2011

DERRICK
RICE
class of 2006

Photo Courtesy of Robert Bertera Photography