



WAUNAKEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

WORKING TOGETHER for a STRONG FUTURE



FEBRUARY 2023

We are extremely excited to share with you an image of the most recent exterior renderings of the new Heritage Elementary. The new school will be located adjacent to Waunakee Intermediate School on Woodland Drive. Once complete in the Fall of 2024, the new Heritage Elementary is expected to serve students in grades Kindergarten thru 4th grade, plus early childhood students.

The School Board has approved bids for site earth work, concrete/redi-mix, and concrete/reinforcement. Site work will commence as weather allows, hopefully in April of 2023.

VISIONING TEAM

A group of Waunakee Community School District staff and administrators worked with architects from EUA to shape the design of the new Heritage Elementary School. These "Visionary Team" members met with the architectural team multiple times, providing input on the design principles and organizational concepts shaping Heritage Elementary.

An essential part of this process was a series of area school tours, which helped the Heritage Visionary Team members gather information and inspire creative thinking. The Heritage team spent time at Meadow View Elementary (Oconomowoc), Granite Ridge School (Monona Grove), Token Creek Elementary (Sun Prairie) and the Waunakee Community Intermediate School. These schools typify some of the most forward-thinking and innovative elementary school designs in the region.

As the design process continues, all staff members will be able to provide feedback to the architectural team. Staff are also welcome to contact Visionary Team members about the project.

MY DREAM SCHOOL

Earlier this year, Heritage Elementary School students spent a portion of their day designing their dream schools. Students read the Chris Van Dusen story "If I Built A School." Following the story, students drew their very own new Heritage Elementary School. Check out some of their amazing designs!



ROOTS AND SHOOTS

ORIGIN : POSSIBILITY : GROWTH

The new Heritage Elementary School design is being developed around the “Roots and Shoots” concept. Designers will shape the new Heritage Elementary School around the idea that safe, healthy, and inspiring spaces help foster student growth, development, and learning. Natural colors and materials will reinforce the “Roots and Shoots” design concept.

The design of the new Heritage Elementary School is organized around three guiding principles:



Heritage will be **FUTURE FOCUSED**. The design will be flexible, dynamic and will embrace evidence-based design practices.



Heritage will be **WELCOMING AND SAFE**. The design will foster learning by supporting an inclusive community and eliminating barriers to learning.



Heritage will be **IMMERSIVE AND INSPIRING**. A fun and engaging environment will inspire curiosity, inquiry, and exploration.

REFERENDUM FINANCIAL PLAN

The School Board has approved the first two phases of the referendum plan. The first phase was a \$9.98 million dollar borrowing in December of 2023. This borrowing allowed the district to take advantage of the annual \$10 million dollar bank qualified status. The second phase was a \$99 million dollar borrowing approved in January. This borrowing was approved as a bond anticipation note, which allows the School Board to refinance this debt within the next 5 years. In addition, the School Board has approved an investment strategy for the use of these funds. The investment earnings can be used towards project expenses, or to help pay for the debt, or a combination of both.

Please reach out to Steve Summers, Executive Director of Operations, with any questions on the financial plan (stevesummers@waunakee.k12.wi.us).

PLANNING AHEAD

Community members can expect to see the following activities take place over the next several months:

- **February 2023** - Waunakee Community Middle School Visionary Team work begins
- **April 2023** - Heritage Elementary School construction begins
Bid package 2 for Heritage Elementary School approved
- **June 2023** - Bid package 3 for Heritage Elementary School approved

For questions about the facilities design/construction process:

www.waunakee.k12.wi.us/community/fall-2022-referendum
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