



Madeira Board of Education, 7465 Loannes Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45243  
Contacts can be reached at 513.985.6070  
Kenji Matsudo, Superintendent  
Dave Bergan, Assistant Superintendent,  
Diane Nichols, Public Relations

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 13, 2020**

## **MHS to Update Performing Arts Spaces**

By the winter of 2021, Madeira High School (MHS) will house a renovated Commons Building, which will include a renovated auditorium, kitchen, cafeteria, and fine arts classrooms. The project is slated to begin in the summer of 2020.

In 2014, Madeira's Planning Commission began a study on the possibility of renovating MHS' Medert Auditorium. They reviewed current needs, usage, similar schools' facilities, and the feasibility of renovating at Madeira High School. The Planning Commission also interviewed key stakeholders that use the auditorium the most and toured six local private/public school district's auditoriums. After months of research and planning, the commission presented the findings of its study to the Madeira Board of Education in February 2015. "The District can and should turn the auditorium into a learning environment. While the District has a history of "doing more with less," the current stakeholders already work with a high degree of cooperation to maximize facility space and equipment," the study concluded. "We need to be proactive in addressing our current needs."

The auditorium and fine arts wing wasn't included when the district ran a levy in 2004-2005 to build a new elementary school, middle school, and renovate the high school. Based on the Planning Commission study, in 2015 the Commons Building was added to the Permanent Improvement Plan that guides the district's facilities.

Madeira Schools Superintendent Kenji Matsudo stated, "The district has benefitted from renovations in the athletic facilities with turf, a new track, concession stands and a new athletic center. The Board of Education's disciplined approach to planning for facility needs has included spending four years investigating when and how to best improve our performing arts areas."

Madeira has partnered with MSA Architects to redesign and reinvent the MHS Commons Building.



Renderings of the renovated MHS cafeteria (left) and Medert Auditorium (right)