



May 24, 2022

Dear Avonworth School Community,

I want to update you on our anticipated middle/high school renovation/construction project. For the past several years, we have been in various stages of research, design, and planning for expanding our middle/high school campus to accommodate our growing student population. With the emergence of the pandemic, we continued to push forward, given that our enrollment continues to grow and the project will address necessary upgrades to the secondary building.

The pandemic presented many challenges with finalizing construction design and cost estimates over the past year. The massive increase in materials pricing, supply chain issues/concerns, and a national shortage of qualified labor have contributed to the challenge. This was evident on May 17, 2022 when bids were received and opened for the middle/high school project. The bids came in 27% higher than anticipated. As a result, **the Avonworth Board of Directors rejected all bids received for the project at a special board meeting on Monday, May 23, 2022.** The Board and administration will now step back and assess how the project could be completed using different strategies and tactics to control cost and risk.

Massaro Construction Management, the District's construction manager, presented recommended next steps for the District and School Board to consider at the same meeting. The recommended strategy is to rebid the project in the fall with a different approach and timeline that may alleviate factors that drove bids higher than expected. Throughout the summer of 2022, Massaro will be working with the Administration and Board to determine the right path for the fall bidding process.

**On June 1, 2022 at 7:00 PM, a community meeting will be held in the Dr. Thomas Ralston Learning Lab at the rear of the high school regarding the project.** This meeting will provide additional information about the project, an overview of the project design, and an update on the next steps. You can also find updates and information regarding this project on our [construction updates webpage](#).

To ensure proper planning and space for the June 1st meeting, we ask that you register ahead of time if you plan to attend. You may participate in the meeting in person or remotely via Zoom.

[Click to register to attend the June 1 meeting in person.](#)

[Click to register to attend the June 1 meeting virtually.](#)

Thank you,

Jeffrey M. Hadley, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools