Center Grove Community School Corporation

MEDIA RELEASE

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Center Grove Breaks Ground on Walnut Grove Elementary School

GREENWOOD, IN (October 10, 2017) – Center Grove Community School Corporation (CGCSC) held a ceremonial groundbreaking for its sixth elementary school, Walnut Grove Elementary, on Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

Walnut Grove will be built on 57.5 acres of land the corporation owns off of Morgantown Road, approximately one mile south of State Road 144. The school is scheduled to open in August of 2019.

"We want this building to inspire learning and creative thinking, while being functional and fiscally responsible," Dr. Rich Arkanoff, superintendent, told the crowd gathered for the event. "We also want it to serve the needs of both today's students and future generations of students. To accomplish all of these goals and fulfill our vision, we did a lot of research and we turned to one of our most valuable resources, our talented staff. We pulled together teams of teachers and leaders in each area to provide input on designs for everything from classrooms and shared spaces to lunchrooms and traffic flow."

Walnut Grove will be the first Center Grove school to utilize solar energy. An array of solar panels will be installed on the school grounds. This array will produce enough energy to offset a portion of the electricity being used by the building. Solar power will also be used to heat the building's water. The landscape around Walnut Grove will include native grasses and plants found in the area. This prairie theme will reduce maintenance costs and preserve the habitats of wildlife in the area.

"We are extremely proud that the bonds sold to build this school will not impact our tax rate," Jack Russell, president, CGCSC Board of School Trustees, said to those gathered. "As you may know, utility costs come out of our General Fund. So, every dollar we can save on utilities, we can put back into our classrooms."

The building, designed by Lancer + Beebe, LLC, will include 38 classrooms over two floors. Grades will be groups into three communities, complete with shared spaces to encourage collaboration and collaborative learning across the grade-level.

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Photo attachment: Dr. Arkanoff, CGCSC Board of School Trustees, and other dignitaries turn dirt during the ceremonial groundbreaking for Walnut Grove Elementary.