



**RAYTOWN  
QUALITY  
SCHOOLS**  
Expect the Exceptional

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**Office of the Superintendent**  
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Raytown Quality Schools families,

As your Superintendent, I am committed to pursuing every opportunity to provide students with state-of-the-art facilities that continue to create more paths to student success and achievement. For that reason, I support moving forward with a no tax increase bond issue on the April 5, 2023 ballot to improve arts and athletics at both high schools.

Approval of the \$35 million no tax increase bond would allow the district to address the immediate needs at Raytown South High School for updated arts and activities spaces for our students. If passed, bond funds would support the district in moving forward with a two-part plan to raze the existing performing arts center and then turning it into an auxiliary gym, and to build a modern performing arts center. These necessary changes would set the RSHS arts and athletics program on par with the school districts in the metropolitan area.

Additionally, if passed, the bond would also allow the district the opportunity to build a much needed auxiliary gym at Raytown High School. Auxiliary gyms at both high schools would allow for space to host sports tournaments and provide room for various school groups and activities to meet and have practice.

In addition to the bond issue, there will also be a levy on the ballot. While bond funds must be dedicated to construction and renovation of buildings, levies are for all other costs of running our schools. The proposed zero tax increase levy transfer would authorize the transfer of 18 cents in excess levy from our debt service fund into our school operating fund. This would allow us to address some important needs and continue to pay our debts on time with zero increase to the total tax rate.

In the coming months we will hold public bond forums, visit staff meetings and PTA meetings, and attend community meetings to answer any questions you may have. I hope you can join us for the first form on December 6 at 6 p.m. at the Raytown Schools Wellness Center. You can find more information and stay up to date on the bond at [www.raytownschools.org/2023bond](http://www.raytownschools.org/2023bond).

For the children,

Dr. Penelope Martin-Knox  
Superintendent  
Raytown C-2 School District