



Lake Mills Area

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Advisory Team (CAT)

May 3, 2023



OUR STUDENTS. OUR COMMUNITY.



AGENDA

- Welcome from School Board & Administration
- Introductions
- Overview of Agenda & Processes
- Guiding Principles & LCAT Charge
- Timeline
- Ground Rules for Success
- Learning Topic #1: Facilities History, Part 1
- Future Meetings & Next Steps
- Closing Comments, Check-out, Adjourn



Welcome to the first collaborative advisory team meeting and thank you so much for giving your time to be here. I am Tonya Olson, superintendent for the school district. I'd like to start with a few housekeeping items before we start. Bathrooms are right outside the door next to the office. Please feel free to get up and get snacks. Cathy Kooiman and our food service staff prepared this for you tonight. Our food service staff is the best I have ever worked with! If you need to take a phone call, please step outside in the hallway to do that. This presentation is being recorded and will be put on our district website for viewing by those who want to see what is being discussed at these meetings. We will also be putting all of the documents from the meetings on line as well. I know that you all have busy schedules, so if you have to miss a meeting, please take the time to watch the videos of that meeting. You also have extra resources in your folder that I will not go through in these meetings, but are a good reference.

I want to introduce Megan Larrabee who is my executive assistant. If you need to miss a meeting, please let her know. I'd like to thank Megan for all of the behind the scenes organization that took place to make tonight happen. I'd also like to thank Chris Czerniak for the technical help tonight along with our custodial crew for helping to move tables and chairs. Peter Saindon, senior project manager for Findorff and Mike Schwindenhammer, senior design architect for EUA are here representing the two companies we have been working for the past two years on facilities. They are here to listen and will be sharing information at one of the future meetings. You will see members representing our administrative team at each meeting. Tonight we have Erin Siedschlag, our Director of Teaching and Learning.

FLIP TO NEXT SLIDE: Now, I'd like to introduce Amy Litscher. Amy—remind the group that they are serving in an advisory role to the board.

Finally, I'd like to introduce Drew Howick of Howick Associates and Debbie Brewster of DHB Consulting, who will be facilitating this entire process.

**FLIP BACK TO AGENDA SLIDE: DEBBIE—INTRODUCTIONS OF TABLES,
DREW: AGENDA AND PROCESS
MOVE TO SLIDE 5**

INTRODUCTIONS



**TONYA
OLSON**
District
Administrator



**TASHA
NAYLOR**
Director of
Business Services



AMY LITSCHER
LMASD School
Board President



**DREW
HOWICK**
Founder & CEO
Howick
Associates



**DEBBIE
BREWSTER**
DHB Consulting,
LLC

Introductions

LMASD SCHOOL BOARD



BRIANNA BEHSELICH, Vice President
AMY LITSCHER, President
KIRK LUND, Director
ANDREA GRAHAM, Treasurer
KEN EIMERS, Clerk



School Board members will be observers and here to answer questions. Otherwise, they will not participate in the table top exercises.

Table Introductions:

(1) Name

(2) What is your relationship to the district?

(3) Why did you volunteer for this committee?



LAKE MILLS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Our Mission

Preparing all of today's students for tomorrow's opportunities

Our Vision

A community passionate about inspiring all learners



OUR WHY—why we do what we do

Mission: why do we exist, who are we serving

Vision: our desired future

DISTRICT PILLARS



Fostering Student Engagement and Learning

- Implement ongoing professional development in order to enhance student engagement, relationships, and achievement.
- Develop a systematic structure to address opportunity gaps while promoting inclusivity and equity.



Developing and Retaining Effective Leadership and Staff

- Enhance diversity and collaboration through intentional engagement strategies, resulting in a strong culture of belonging.



Connecting School and the Community

- Foster meaningful dialogue, connections, and partnerships with families and community stakeholders to nurture a culture that values diversity, mental health, varied career pathways, and inclusivity.



Aligning Resources with Needs

- Create a sustainable and proactive operational plan that fosters growth and allows for flexibility as needs evolve.

Please take out the strategic planning document in your folder. The district is in its 2nd year of our strategic plan. The strategic planning process in 2021 engaged the community by actively soliciting input from staff, students, parents, and community members—several of you were part of that—please raise your hand if you participated. The goal of this process is to bring about consensus. The board and I value your input. We have lots of ideas of what we would like to see happen in the district, but **you** will determine what the best solution will be to our facility needs. Being here tonight shows me how much you value education in the Lake Mills Community. We have something very special here in Lake Mills, and we have an opportunity to make it even better. I also know that all of us probably have a picture of what that might look like, so your job on this committee will be to study several aspects of the district and **work together** to determine the future of the education of our students. I say that because quality of our facilities and our educational environment, plays a big part of how we **foster student engagement and learning**, how we **attract and retain staff**, and how we **connect to the community**. Your job for the next several months will be to figure out how we should **align our resources with our needs**. You will be charged with making that recommendation to the school board at the end.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

for Long-Range Facilities Planning

We believe that passion results when students are engaged in their learning.

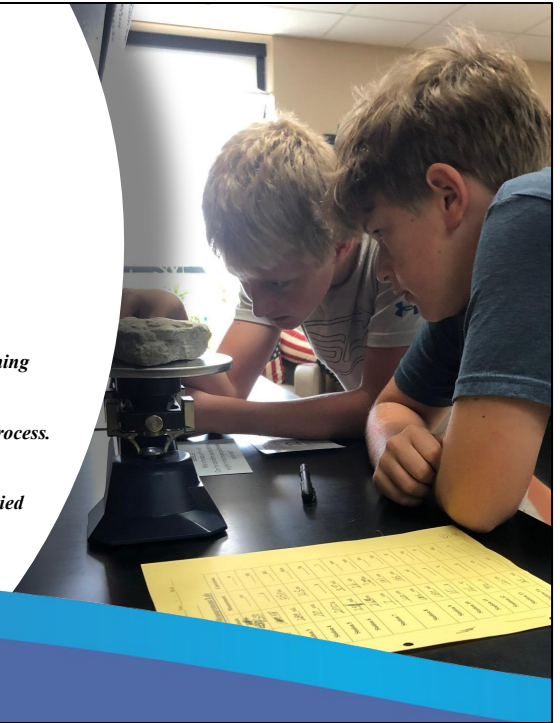
Learning must be innovative, personalized, and student-centered.

We believe reaching educational goals is the mutual responsibility of the student, the parent/guardian, the school, and the community.

We will strive to create and maintain school environments that adapt to current teaching methods and meet long-term student and community needs.

We believe in the importance of arts, athletics, and other activities to the education process.

We will foster meaningful dialogue, connections, and partnerships with families and community stakeholders to nurture a culture that values diversity, mental health, varied career pathways, and inclusivity.



(See full Guiding Principles document.) Please take out the guiding principles sheet in your folder and take a minute to read it over. This matches the strategic planning document. The facility solution that you recommend MUST align with these bullets.

L-CAT CHARGE

The Lake Mills Area School District charges LCAT, a citizen-based group of District residents and LMASD staff, to serve in an *advisory* capacity to the administration and School Board.

The LCAT will support the district's efforts to:

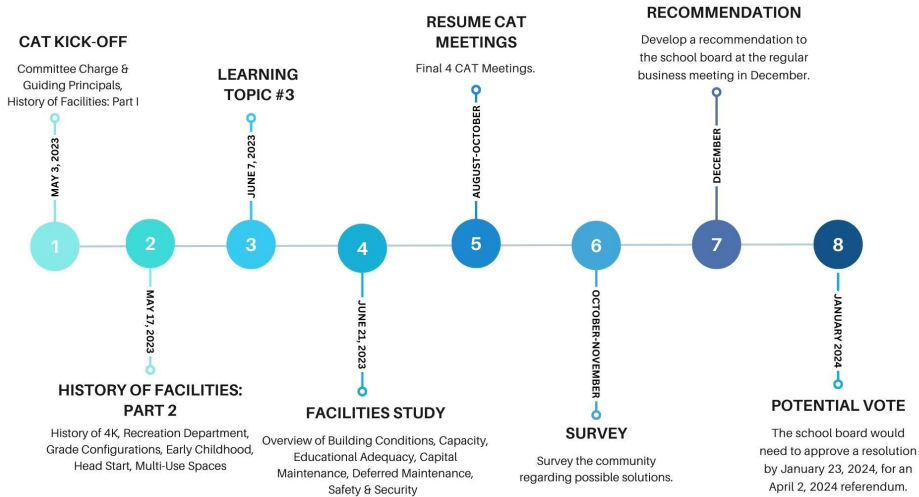
*explore long-term facilities options
that best provide the necessary space
for students and community stakeholders,
recognizing the need for both immediate solutions
and flexible, fiscally responsible solutions*

as critical components of a Long Range Facilities Plan.



See full L-Cat Charge document.

TENTATIVE TIMELINE



This process may take longer, but it is flexible. If the decision is to go to referendum for a solution, we have to do it on a regular elections date. I have April 2 at the end of this timeline, but you may think that the Feb. 20th election date will get us to the solution earlier. Or you may decide to wait until Aug. 13 or Nov. 5. Boards have timelines within which they have to vote on a resolution to go to referendum though and a district can only put two referendum questions on a ballot in any given year. Just a reminder that there is typically a year of design and engineering before we even start the public bidding process—it can be a two year process from election to completion.

GROUND RULES FOR SUCCESS



Debbie Brewster will facilitate this. The group will develop meeting norms.

ABOUT
LAKE MILLS AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT



LAKE MILLS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Approximately 1,550 students
- DPI State Report Cards: All buildings rated as “Exceeds Expectations”
- Tax Rate continues to be one of the lowest in our area
- 99% graduation rate
- 18 AP Course Offerings
- 50+ extra-curricular activities/clubs
- Our community is growing with changing needs, requiring facilities planning



Did you know?

The Lake Mills Area School District is the largest employer in the community.

240 Full- and Part-time employees

132 Certified Staff (*Teachers and Administrators*)

108 Support Staff

41 Para-Educators

12 Bus/Van Drivers

13 Food Service

14 Custodial Staff

28 Other (*Middle Managers, Rec, crossing guards, etc.*)



POINTS OF PRIDE

- Lake Mills High School ranked as Best School in U.S. News & World Report - 4 yrs in a row
- Associated Press District Nationwide Honor Roll
- Best Communities for Music Education Award (NAMM Foundation)- since 2018
- Award-winning musicals & Tri-M Music Honor Society
- Forensic State Teams awarded gold, silver, & bronze
- 2021 State Future Farmers Association Award Winners
- 2021 Division 3 State Champions for Girls Basketball
- 2021 Division 2 State Champion for Girls Shot Put



FACILITY PLANNING BACKGROUND

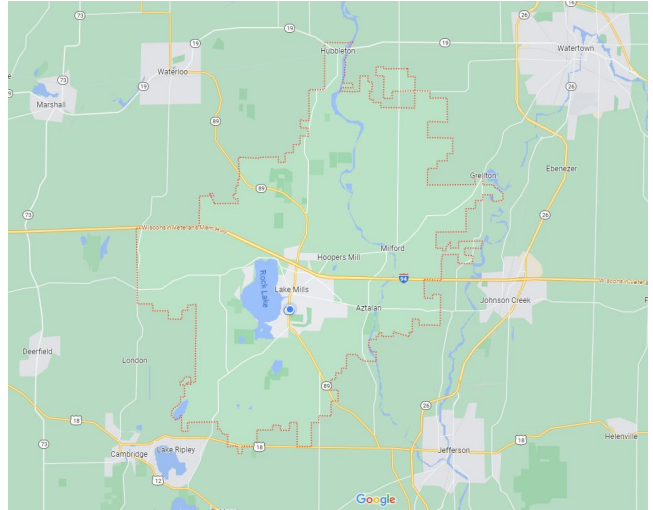


District Boundaries

78 sq. miles (outlined in red)

7 Municipalities

- ❖ City of Lake Mills
- ❖ Town of Lake Mills
- ❖ Town of Aztalan
- ❖ Town of Milford
- ❖ Town of Oakland
- ❖ Town of Waterloo
- ❖ Town of Watertown



Did you know?

LMASD proactively acquired 33.55 acres of land on Highway 89 near St. Paul's Lutheran Church in 1996 as a future school site. A portion of this site was donated to the District by the Untz family.

27 years ago, Dec. 13, 1996: Topel Farms sold (20.55) acres to district for \$6500 an acre.

Gilbert and Wilah Untz sold/donated the other portions.

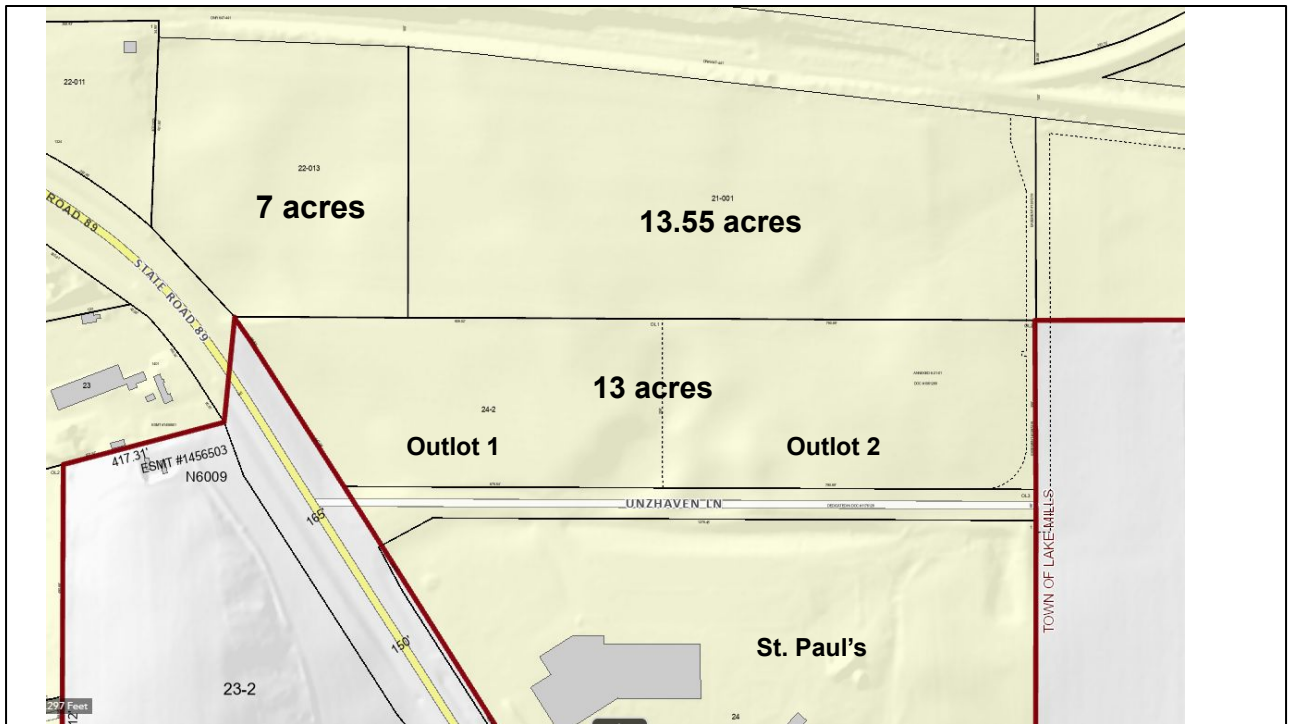
Outlet 1: 6.5 acres @ \$6500 per acre

Outlet 2 (6.5) & 3 (2.19) donation: 8.69 acres (gift) value of \$6500 per acre. Outlet 3 was donated for the construction of a public roadway to the property.

33.55 acres for LMASD, 2.19 for roadway. A portion of this land (Outlet 3: 2.19 acres) was granted to the City of Lake Mills for a public right-of-way upon which Unzhaven Lane was created. The road will eventually be extended to the east.

Currently 3 parcels: 7 ac, 13.55, (Topel) 13 ac adjacent to St. Paul's (outlet 1 & 2)

Outlet 1 and 2 are restricted to the construction and operation of a school building, athletic fields, or any other services related to education. In 2005, the children of Gilbert and Wilah Untz asked the City of Lake Mills to consider the name "Unzhaven Lane" for the roadway which separates the Lake Mills School District property and St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The request was made due to the Untz's commitment to education and the desire to "give something back to the Lake Mills Public School system and community for all they had contributed in their lives and the lives of their children."



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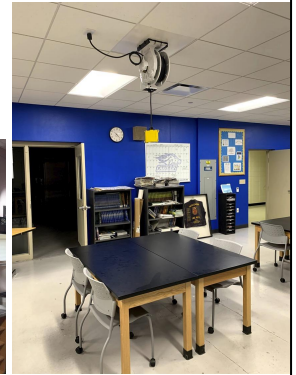
District Facilities



First (and only) school district in the US to have 2 LEED Platinum schools.
Pride in our facilities. Reduced sickness and absenteeism in the buildings with these renovations.

Lake Mills High School

- Built in 1962 as an elementary school
- Renovations in 64, 75, 88, 01, 05, 08
- Auditorium added in 2005
- 2020 renovation and addition:
 - Career and Technical Education (e.g. culinary arts, agriculture)
 - Library Media Center
 - Classrooms
 - Athletic fields
- 48.83 acre parcel



Project Overview: Original school built in 1962 with additions in 1964, 1975, 1988, 2001 and 2005 (auditorium). HS entrance done in 2011.

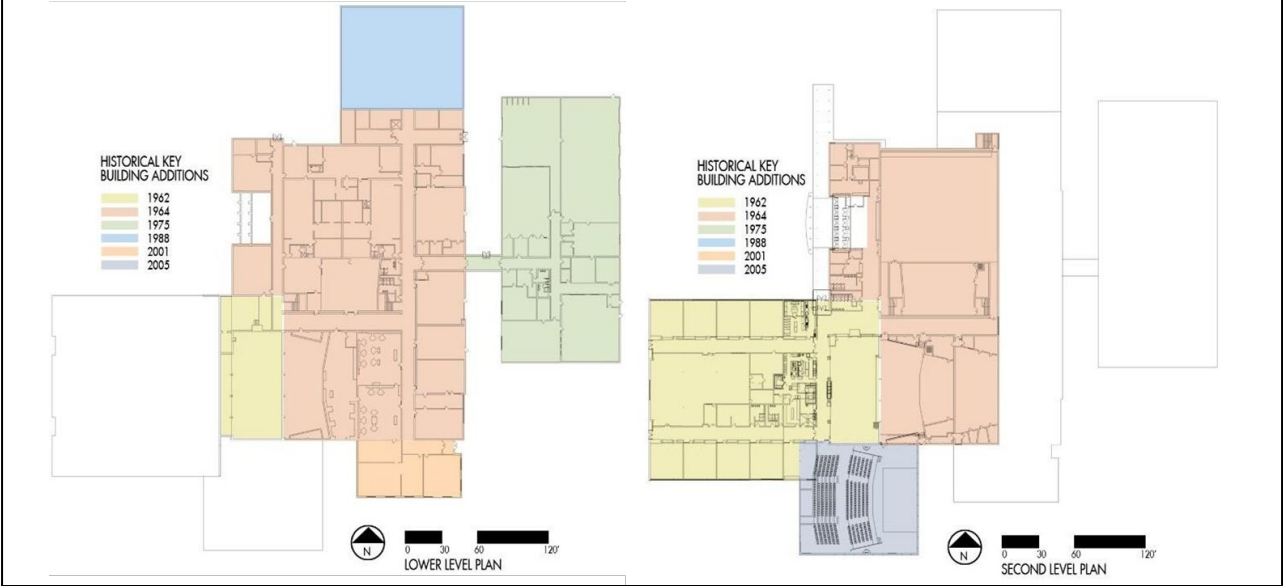
The 2020 addition houses four new English classrooms, a new library media center, two new business classrooms, the school store, new offices, restrooms, and study areas.

In the technical education wing, a new food science suite serves the agriculture and family and consumer science departments. Enhancements were made to all areas of the technical education department, including a new makerspace. Part of the remodel also includes an expanded wellness center with a weight room.

Outside, a new multi-purpose athletic field for football, soccer, and physical education space is surrounded by a new eight lane track. The field is artificial turf to allow extended use for the District.

48.83 acres

Lake Mills High School Building History



An overview of the various additions/improvements made to the high school.

Lake Mills Middle School

- Built in 1973
- Addition and renovation completed in 2010 and included a new gym and academic wing
- Allowed the district to move 5th grade to the MS
- LEED Platinum Award
- 9.61 acre parcel

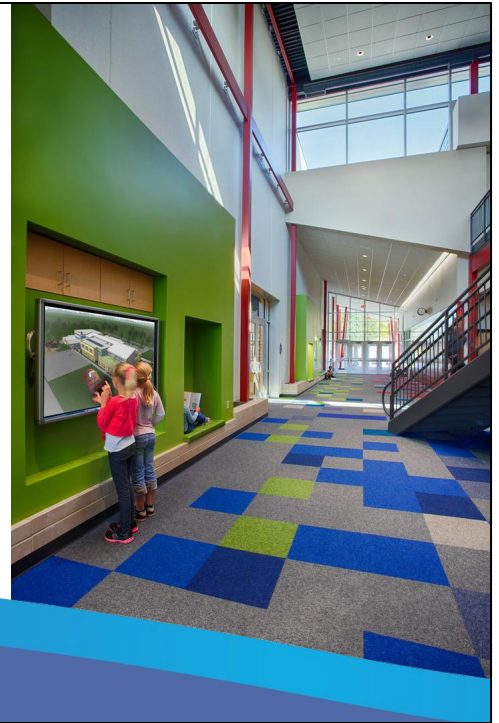


Lake Mills Elementary and Middle schools are both Platinum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified. LEED is a national certification system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to encourage the construction of energy and resource-efficient buildings that are healthy to live in. We are the only district in the entire nation to have two schools with Platinum certification. (Only 15 in WI)

9.61 acres

Lake Mills Elementary School

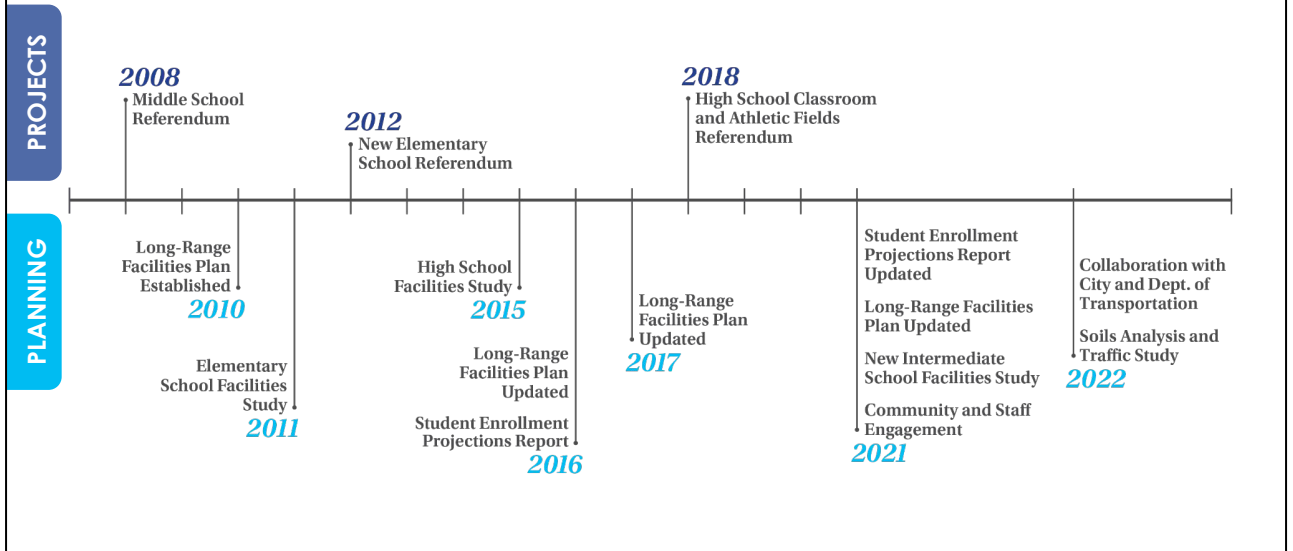
- New construction to replace Prospect Elementary School
- Opened 2015
- Grade level “neighborhoods” designed to enhance transparency, flexibility, collaboration
- Green and Healthy Schools Award
- LEED Platinum Award
- 2 parcels: 8.67 acres + 1.53 acres



Lake Mills Elementary School was the first K-12 school in the nation to achieve Platinum LEED v4 certification, earning 80 out of 110 points. It received the U.S. Department of Education’s Green Ribbon and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Green & Healthy Schools Sugar Maple award. More importantly, in its first year the school saw numerous year-after-year improvements in test scores, a 75 percent decrease in allergy- and asthma-related complaints, and a 15 percent reduction in absenteeism.

8.67 + 1.53 acres

Facility Planning History - Phased Approach



- Phased approach to district facility needs
 - Responding to community growth
 - Addressed aging, outdated facilities
 - Planning for the future

2018 High School classroom and athletic improvements (\$9.39M)

2012 New Elementary School Referendum (\$18.7M)

2008 Middle School Referendum (\$15.6M)

District Partners

EUA	Architectural and Interior Design
Findorff	Construction Management
RW Baird	Financial Advisor
MD Roffers	Demographer/Enrollment Projections
APL	Enrollment/Birth Rates
School Perceptions	Educational Research/Survey

EUA and Findorff were hired after a competitive bidding process. RW Baird has been a long-standing partner in our budgeting and financial wellness plan. The district used MD Roffers for an extensive enrollment study with an update in 2021. The district will be doing an additional enrollment study focusing on birth rates using Applied Population Labs.

Table Discussion:

- (1) What are your reactions to what you've heard?
- (2) What questions do you have?
- (3) What else would you like to know?

Open Q&A with time allowed - we are here for you.



What I found useful about tonight's information and discussion...

Some of my reactions to what I'm learning...

Questions or suggestions for future meetings...

Move to breaks out for 10-12 minutes with report out by facilitator.

Table facilitators compile notes/report out major themes; 10-12 minutes

THANK YOU!

Tonya Olson, LMASD District Administrator
tonya.olson@lakemills.k12.wi.us

