

November 18, 2021

Dear Auburn-Washburn Families,

I have exciting news to share. After two years of gathering feedback and data from you and stakeholders throughout our school community, we are scheduling a Special Board of Education meeting on Monday, November 22, 6:30 pm, in the Board Room located at Shuler Education Center to continue the community discussion about our students' needs and the future needs of our school district. Specifically, the Board of Education will facilitate additional discussion and a vote on the prospect of a mail-in bond election to be held in April 2022.

The last bond election in Auburn-Washburn was held in 2007. A great deal of credit goes to our entire school community for passing that initiative. The projects completed as a result of that initiative have served our district well for the last 15 years. Many needs have surfaced in our schools since that time, and we have reached a point of needing to increase capacity in each school as well as expand opportunities for students. The proposed bond election will be focused on all students ages 3 through high school graduation, investment in all schools with capital outlay, capacity, and safety improvements, as well as establishing and strengthening community and business partnerships through a Career and Technical Education center, early childhood expansion, and a multi-use community pool.

Here is a broad summary of items that would be contained in a bond election based on your input and the community discussions that have taken place over the past couple years:

- Increase the number of early childhood classrooms for 3- and 4-year-olds
- Build a second middle school on land already owned by the district and transition sixth grade to both middle schools
- Repurpose space in each elementary school to best meet the needs of PreK - Grade 5 students
- Update Washburn Rural Middle School and repurpose sections to accommodate a sixth grade pod as well as indoor classroom space for the Outdoor Environmental Lab program
- Add an innovative, industry-standard Career and Technical Education Center at WRHS
- Add and repurpose space at WRHS to accommodate academic and co-curricular programs
- Capital outlay maintenance, improvements, and safety upgrades
- Add a multi-use community pool at WRHS

Thank you for your continued engagement in our schools and the support you consistently provide to our students. Following the board meeting on Monday night, I will send an additional update on Tuesday as to what action the board took. By working together, we can take a very important step forward for our students in Auburn-Washburn.

Thank You,



Michael White  
President  
Auburn-Washburn Board of Education