

# NRHEG Public School

Independent School District No. 2168



High School  
306 Ash Ave. South  
New Richland, MN 56072  
(507)465-3205  
Fax (507)465-8633

Elementary School  
600 School St.  
Ellendale, MN 56026  
(507)684-3181  
Fax (507)684-2108

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March 29, 2018

NAME  
ADDRESS  
CITY, MN ZIP

## NRHEG Facility Planning Task Force

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I am delighted that you have agreed to serve on the District's Facility Planning Task Force. The Board of Education (BOE) is focused on addressing school facilities and programming needs for the future. The Facilities focus area of our District Strategic Plan establishes a priority that we *ensure the facilities and infrastructure of the school district are designed to optimize staff performance and student learning in a safe, sustainable, and attractive environment.*

The BOE has developed a work goal for this year to *develop a District master plan to address the adequacy and capacity of the NRHEG School District facilities for the next 5, 10, and 20 years*, and has been strategic in its response to the unsuccessful referendum vote in June 2015. Since the June 2015 referendum, the BOE has:

- Administered a community-wide survey in January 2016 to gather information from residents and staff to be used in developing a strategic plan for the School District including facility planning.
- Facilitated a strategic planning process that involved a task force consisting of staff, students, parents, and residents from our four communities. The BOE approved the recommended plan in May 2016 that included six priority or focus areas including facilities.
- Partnered with ISG out of Mankato to conduct a thorough assessment of all facilities and use the information from the assessment to determine short- and long-term facility needs as the next step in responding to the June 2015 referendum vote, 2016 Community Survey results, and the development of the Strategic Plan. The assessment was completed and presented to the Board on September 20, 2017. The report provided a detailed summary of the physical conditions of our facilities and identified suggested prioritized actions to address a number of maintenance-related improvements to our existing facilities.
- Approved moving forward with a second community survey in the past two years to gather information from the community in response to priority concerns and interests involving educational programming and facilities in the school district. The timeline to administer the survey has not been finalized.

**Dale N. Carlson, Superintendent**

**David A. Bunn, High School Principal**

**Douglas A. Anderson, Elementary Principal**

- Approved an agreement with ISG to provide the BOE assistance with planning and facilitating BOE facility planning work sessions; facilitating community engagement efforts; developing schematic concepts with associated cost estimates; and assisting with communication efforts specific to the development of a facility plan.
- Examined educational programming needs as identified by District instructional staff which will lead to determining priority concerns and needs.

This list of events and actions describe the BOE's commitment to conducting a thoughtful and systematic approach that incorporates a high level of scrutiny, examination, and review to ensure that maintenance-related deficiencies along with facility improvements based on student learning needs are necessary in order to achieve our priorities as a school district.

The next step is to bring together a representative group of our school community to examine data and information in order to provide the BOE with a recommendation on how to best move forward in making important decisions impacting the future of our school buildings and programs. More specifically, the Task Force will examine data and information including: survey results, facility assessment findings, programming priorities, finance analysis, and other relevant information. The Task Force will also have input into the development of the community survey to be administered to our communities in the coming months. The Task Force is advisory to the BOE as the BOE will make all final decisions.

**The first work session of the Task Force is planned for Thursday, April 12, 2018, beginning at 6:30 pm in the Media Center at the Secondary School in New Richland.** Representatives from ISG will be present to assist with facilitating the meeting. The work session will adjourn no later than 9:00 pm.

In an attempt to be able to communicate electronically, we would appreciate having your e-mail address. For Board members and employees, we will use your school district e-mail. For our committee members who are not employees or School Board members, you can forward your e-mail address to my assistant, Sue Kulseth, at [skulseth@nrheg.k12.mn.us](mailto:skulseth@nrheg.k12.mn.us). For those without e-mail, we would appreciate a call to Sue so that we know to either call you or communicate through the mail.

Your involvement and engagement in this process is greatly appreciated. This is an exciting time for our school district as we develop a facility plan that will move us closer to reaching our vision as a school community where we are *the school district of choice, inspiring excellence in academics, arts, and activities*. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. If you know that you will not be available to attend the April 12 meeting, please contact Sue Kulseth at 507-417-2600.

Thank you again for being part of this important work and for all you do to support NRHEG Public Schools!

Sincerely,

Dale N. Carlson  
Superintendent