

2 – 23 – 2022

Dear BP Parents & Staff:

I hope that everyone is doing well! We are now over halfway done with our 2021 – 2022 school year. It is hard to believe that we are getting to the end of February already. I want to provide you with an update of where we are at with the planning of our building project.

Our Core Planning Committee has met 5 times to determine the layout of our building and best plan for how each piece fits into the flow of the building. That committee also did tours of four other schools that have done building projects that have some of the same components as our project. I am very excited about the progress the committee has made and the work that they have done. Again, the committee is made up of staff, students, school board members, and community members (25 members). Wold, our Architect and Engineering Company, presented the committee's work at our February school board meeting. You can find that presentation on our school website (main page) under the "Building Project" tab. We will continue to add to that tab as we move through the building process.

Our next step is to meet with "user" groups. The purpose of these meetings is to obtain input from individuals on specific room arrangements, equipment, and furnishings without affecting the overall building organization or building philosophy that was developed by the Core Planning Group. We have had 13 meetings so far with "user" groups (round one) and will be meeting with those groups again soon to fine tune the details.

We also have a Project Oversight Committee in place, which has met once so far. This committee will meet every two weeks. The committee is made up of school board members, superintendent, high school principal, members of Wold, and members of Kraus-Anderson. Kraus-Anderson is our construction management company.

We sold our first round of bonds for 1.98%. We sold our second round of bonds at 2.43%. We had two sales of bonds to take advantage of selling \$10,000,000 (limit) worth of bonds that are considered bank qualifying bonds (1.98%). This round was done right before the new year to take advantage of that interest rate. The second round of bonds was sold for 2.43% and that was done in early January. We projected bond rates to be around 3% and are very pleased with the process and the sale of our bonds.

We will continue to provide updates, timelines, and further information as we work through the planning process.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Staloch
Superintendent
Blooming Prairie Public Schools