

## Tiger Pride News and Notes Kristy Cook School Board Director

## Bond Referendum 2023: Ready for Anything

Hello! This is Kristy Cook and I am writing to you as a member of the Stewartville School Board and a member of the Board Facility Committee.

As we engaged with community members to work on the plan for the future of our facilities, it became clear that our residents envision bright futures for our students, whether that's college or careers after high school. This vision aligns with our ultimate purpose as a school district; to prepare all students for success in their futures. In order to achieve this goal, we are in need of updating our facilities.

Investing in our facilities is crucial to prepare students for future jobs and careers. With updated facilities, we will be able to provide access to programming that will ensure students are ready to succeed in a rapidly changing world. By providing up-to-date educational spaces, our staff will be able to foster an atmosphere that encourages hands-on learning and problem-solving.

Our current High School science classrooms were designed for instruction in the 1970's and do not provide for programming to support students studying biology, chemistry, and physics for modern-day careers. Access to power, operable sinks and water for science labs, working propane access, and stations for teacher demonstrations would be addressed. The Family and Consumer Science classrooms are reminiscent of yesteryear and do not provide opportunities to prepare students for working in the hospitality industry. Many of the science and STEM courses in the Middle School are currently taught in classrooms that were not intended for these purposes.

The school district's commitment to prepare students for a successful future begins with our facilities. By providing facilities that have up-to-date learning spaces and environments, we will be able to work together to develop generations of innovative and skilled individuals who will be future-ready.

We are seeking the approval of our voters to invest in the futures of our students through new and updated learning environments for all children in our school district.

On November 7, the School District is seeking voter approval of two questions on a bond referendum. Question #1 is for the construction of a new K-2 school facility, new science classrooms at the High School, renovated science, STEM and general purpose classrooms at the Middle School and High School, secure entrances and offices at the Middle School, High School, and Bonner in the amount of \$55,670,000. Question #2 includes the construction of a second athletic court at the K-2 facility, a new community fitness center and weight room at the High School, and renovation of the weight room into a classroom at the Middle School in the amount of \$7,250,000.

If you have any questions about the bond referendum, please contact any School Board member and/or Mrs. Selfors, Superintendent of Schools. You can also find additional information about the bond referendum at our school district website (ssd.k12.mn.us) under the 2023 Bond Referendum tab.

Go Tigers!