

For Immediate Release Monday, May 7, 2018 Contact: Rick Waski <u>rickwaski@monroe.k12.wi.us</u> (608) 328-7135

School District Facilities Committee Finalizes Recommendations, Reviews District-wide Survey

Monroe, WI – The Monroe School District's Facilities Committee met on Monday, May 7 with District Administration to finalize and prioritize the building maintenance needs as part of the facilities longrange master planning process. These maintenance needs were identified over the course of the last several months as committee members toured the district's buildings and interviewed teachers and staff. While the total potential costs to address these issues is not finalized, Superintendent Rick Waski affirmed that these projects would not be able to be funded within the school's annual operating budget. Several committee members have volunteered to present their final recommendations to the Board of Education on Monday, May 14.

In 2016, voters supported two operational referenda that allowed the District to maintain programs and services as well as address safety, security and maintenance needs. The funding will end on June 30, 2019 for the day-to-day operations referendum. In order to maintain current programs, the District will need to secure approval of another \$1.5 million operational referendum for each of the next five years, or make budget cuts. The District will not be asking to renew the second referendum, but rather look to address future safety and maintenance projects as part of the long-range facility plan.

The facilities committee reviewed the final draft of a district-wide survey meant to solicit feedback from the Monroe community about potential options to address both the immediate and longrange building and maintenance needs. The survey was prepared and will be conducted by an independent consulting firm, School Perceptions. Individual feedback will be returned directly to School Perceptions and all feedback will remain confidential. The survey will be mailed to all district residents some time next week and responses will be accepted through June 11. The survey can also be taken online with instructions on how to do so on the mailed form.

"This survey is a great way for everyone in the Monroe School District to let us know how they'd like us to proceed. Everyone deserves to have input about the future of our schools and I urge everyone



to take the time to send us their responses, either with the mailed form or online," said Administrator Rick Waski.

Those interested in learning more about the facilities planning process or the district-wide survey should contact District Administrator Rick Waski via email at <u>rickwaski@monroe.k12.wi.us.</u> More information on the Facilities Master Planning Process may be found on the District's website under the District Facility Section at <u>www.monroeschools.com</u>.

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