

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kate Hughes
The Winnetka Public Schools District 36
847-501-5174
katehughes@winnetka36.org



The Winnetka Public Schools to Complete *FUTURE READY D36*, an Educational Master Facility Plan

Facilities Assessment will Focus on Aging Infrastructure, Enrollment Imbalance, & Ensuring Innovative Educational Programming

(Winnetka, Ill., July 13, 2017) — The Winnetka Public Schools Board has selected DLR Group to conduct *Future Ready D36*, an Educational Master Facility Plan (EMFP), the District’s first building study in 20 years. The facilities assessment will focus on designing a strategic, long-term plan to address the District’s aging infrastructure and enrollment imbalance, as well as ensure innovative educational programming so The Winnetka Public Schools students are best prepared for the future.

“This transition from the Enrollment Balancing Project into *Future Ready D36*, a long-term Educational Master Facility Plan, is an opportunity for the District to address its enrollment imbalance, aging facilities and educational programming needs in a holistic and fiscally responsible manner. Our school community is a vital part of this process, and we are dedicated to working together to determine solutions that meet the needs of our current and future students,” said Trisha Kocanda, Superintendent.

Future Ready D36 will build upon the research conducted during the Enrollment Balancing Project, which began in summer 2016 to immediately address the District’s enrollment imbalance. The School Board approved a short term solution, *All Crow Island Kindergarten students will attend Greeley or Hubbard Woods School*, while a long-term plan is determined over the course of the next year.

The District will host a series of community meetings throughout the *Future Ready D36* process, allowing community members to learn more about the existing facilities, provide feedback to shape the plan. The first community meeting (Physical Condition and Indoor Environmental Quality Assessment Reports for each school) will be held at each respective facility the week of Monday, September 25.

Future Ready D36 will involve five phases over the course of the 2017-2018 school year. Further details as to what each phase will entail may be found on www.winnetka36.org under Educational Master Facility Plan.

“DLR Group collaborates with Districts across the country to elevate education by solving facility challenges and creating innovative, flexible spaces that evolve with learners,” said DLR Group Principal Jason Lembke, AIA. “Throughout the planning process, DLR Group will partner District 36 and the broader community to consider the needs of students today, as well as the next generation of learners, to align facility needs with the community’s vision for teaching and learning in Winnetka.”

About DLR Group

[DLR Group](#) is an integrated design firm delivering architecture, engineering, interiors, planning, and building optimization for new construction, renovation, and adaptive reuse. Our promise is to elevate the human experience through design. This promise inspires sustainable design for a diverse group of public and private sector clients; local communities; and our planet. DLR Group is 100 percent employee-owned and fully supports the initiatives and goals of the 2030 Challenge, and is an initial signatory to the China Accord and the AIA 2030 Commitment. DLR’s [view of the world](#).

About The Winnetka Public Schools District 36

The Winnetka Public Schools is a community that honors the whole child, fosters creativity, inspires lifelong learning, and develops civic responsibility. District 36 is comprised of three elementary schools (Crow Island School, Greeley School, and Hubbard Woods School), The Skokie School (grades 5 and 6) and Carleton Washburne School (grades 7 and 8), where there is a progressive, experiential approach to developing learners who are compassionate citizens, who contribute to their community, and are well prepared for a dynamic future. For more information, visit www.winnetka36.org.

###