

## Educational Master Facility Plan (EMFP): Future Ready D36

*Update October 2, 2018*

In early fall the School Board affirmed the [EMFP Working Assumptions](#) and the [2018-2019 Timeline](#) leading to a potential facilities referendum on April 2, 2019. On September 25, the Board heard results from the fall community **Survey-poll** conducted by Paul Fallon of Fallon Research & Communications, Inc. Mr. Fallon presented the survey methodology, including controls for balanced demographic representation, and results from the telephone survey of 301 randomly selected Winnetka residents. Respondents provided feedback on community priorities, funding support, and readiness to address multiple aspects of the District's aging schools, infrastructure, and upgrades to learning environments.

Key **survey results** shared include:

- 92% of respondents rate the quality of education provided by The Winnetka Public Schools as "excellent/good."
- 82% of respondents think maintaining neighborhood schools is very or somewhat important even though this configuration is more expensive to operate than consolidation of schools.
- 74% of respondents think it is a good idea to repair and upgrade Winnetka schools.
- 88% of respondents support repairs and upgrades to Winnetka schools within the current bond obligation, so these taxes would not change; 43% support comprehensive upgrades that could potentially increase taxes by \$1,000 (per \$1 million of property value).

The **Educational Master Facility Plan** data gathering process is now complete. The vision for the EMFP is focused on a K-4; 5-8 Concept which would maintain all (3) neighborhood elementary schools as a grade K-4 configuration and consolidate to a single (1) grade 5-8 campus. The Skokie School would be decommissioned. Adoption of the long-range EMFP is anticipated at the October 23 School Board meeting followed by a work session to define the implementation plan for a Phase I facilities project. The Phase I Facilities Plan is expected to be finalized in late November/early December. Per state laws ballot resolutions must be adopted by January 14, 2019 for an April 2, 2019 referendum.

A required **Redistricting Plan** to balance enrollment is currently under review and will reflect the Phase I Facilities Plan. Alignment will minimize disruption to students and families and recognize the target capacity and optimal function at each of our schools, *both during a potential construction period and for the long-term*. Therefore, the outcome of a spring referendum will be a critical factor for consideration. The criteria for defining new attendance boundaries, and supporting families impacted by current redistricting is also critically important, and currently under review with District, Village, and safety officials.

- An update will be provided to parents in advance of the December 2018 Kindergarten registration to inform family decision-making for the 2019-2020 school year.
- A final Redistricting Plan will be determined following the outcome of a facilities referendum in April 2019 and shared with all stakeholders..

For documents and meeting materials regarding Future Ready D36, please see below.