

Fearless Pursuits

Inspiring Creativity, Innovation, and a Desire to Achieve Greatness!

REEDSBURG CELEBRATIONS



RAHS Drama Production MAMMA MIA! Nominated For Jerry Awards

The RAHS Drama Club's production of MAMMA MIA! has received 17 Jerry Award nominations. The Jerry Awards, Wisconsin's High School Musical Theater Awards Program, encourages, recognizes, and honors excellence in high school musical theater. At two performances of MAMMA MIA!, critics evaluated every aspect of the show. Based on those evaluations, each of the three critics gave valuable feedback and recommended nominations for the Jerry Awards Program.

The 2024 Jerry Award nominations included Outstanding Musical; Outstanding Ensemble; Outstanding Orchestra; Outstanding Leading Performance by Ariana Noga (Donna), Finnley McGowan (Sophie), Comila Paz Nava (Tonya), and Noah Showalter (Sam); Outstanding Supporting Performance by Jordan Matyas (Bill); Outstanding Directing - Jeff Herschleb and Kristen Sporakowski; Outstanding Musical Direction - Kristen Sporakowski and Scott Bruer; Outstanding Choreography - Josh Hayes; Outstanding Overall Design - Outstanding Scenic Design - Jeff Herschleb; Outstanding Lighting Design - Brian Pittman; Outstanding Costume, Wig/Hair, and Make-up Design - Drake Leverenz and Binnie Simon; Outstanding Sound Design - Andrew Herschleb; and Outstanding Stage Crew.

In May 2024, winners will be announced and school and student achievements are honored and featured in an awards show held at the Overture Center in June.



New National Board Certified Teacher

Congrats to Amy Bass, a 4th-grade teacher at Prairie Ridge Intermediate School, for achieving National Board Certification! This certification is awarded to teachers who demonstrate standards-based evidence of a positive impact on their students' learning, and only about 3% of teachers nationwide have achieved it. The School District of Reedsburg has ten National Board Certified Teachers, with more working towards it. Find the link below to all board-certified teachers. <https://www.rsd.k12.wi.us/district/national-board-certified-teachers.cfm>



During the first day of the new Robotics class, students explore and familiarize themselves with the tools they will use throughout the semester while applying logic and critical thinking to create multiple projects.

Donation Funds Robotic Kits for New Class

Thanks to the generosity of the W.R. and Floy A. Sauey Family Foundation, 8th-grade students at Webb Middle School can now explore new innovations through their Robotics class. The foundation has fully funded the VEX IQ Robotics kits, which will allow students to learn essential skills such as coding, problem-solving, teamwork, strategizing, and programming - all of which are highly sought after in the job market. The foundation's support has made it possible to turn a dream for this new class into reality.

In addition to this support, Seats Corporation is opening its doors to these students. Engineers will visit the classroom several times during the semester to bridge the experience gap and further solidify their support for student career development.



Message from Superintendent Rindo



Greetings! We are pleased to bring you a new edition of Fearless Pursuits. In the School District of Reedsburg, our vision is to provide a world-class educational experience to all students at all levels and to inspire creativity, innovation, and a desire to achieve greatness. It is one thing to talk about creating a world-class school district. It is a different thing altogether to take targeted steps in that direction. I am excited to share with you some of the initial steps we have taken.

When the Board established our strategic plan 18 months ago, we hit the ground running. We established high-functioning student success teams in all of our schools that harnessed the very best of our teacher leaders with a focus on continuous improvement. We have implemented multi-tiered support systems with both intervention and extension opportunities and a focus on academic growth for all learners. We have identified the most vulnerable learners at each grade level in every school and have provided incredible support for those students. We successfully implemented new Math programs in grades K-8, and we have already increased student performance in that area. We are in the first year of a multi-year implementation of more inclusive practices in our classrooms, targeted at increased academic growth for our students with disabilities. Last month, 8th graders at Webb Middle School had the chance to participate in a new program with VEX IQ robotics. At Reedsburg Area High School, we have added multiple career pathways and courses to support those new pathways.

Last June, the Board approved a long-term facilities plan that set the course for the future of our schools as a part of its strategic direction to develop innovative facilities with modern learning environments. Since then, the Board and administration have continued exploring and evaluating options for the first phase of this important work, and recently, the Board completed the development of a potential scope for this first phase that is being considered for a November 2024 referendum. This preliminary phase 1 project scope and the chance for you to provide survey feedback in March is explained in greater detail in this newsletter.

This is such an exciting time to be in Reedsburg, and we're just getting started. Our community and our school district are on the rise, and we are proud to be a part of that energy. Please feel free to stop in and visit any of our schools. I am confident you will be pleased by what you see.

Go Beavers!

Board of Education Seeks Input on Potential Phase 1 Project

The long-term facilities plan approved by the board outlines the roadmap for the future of the District's school buildings.

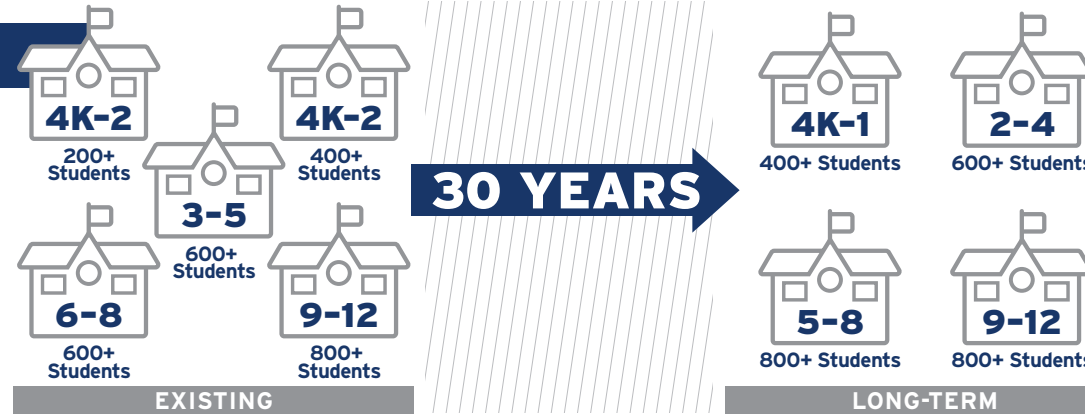


BUILDING EXCELLENCE
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF REEDSBURG

Long-Term Facilities Plan

The facilities plan strives to achieve several key objectives over the next 30 years:

- Address significant capital maintenance needs confirmed at Webb Middle School.
- Address future capacity needs at our elementary schools associated with projected enrollment and community growth.
- Reduce operating costs long-term by realigning grade levels and reducing the total number of school district buildings.



Responsible Fiscal Management

The board thoroughly evaluated the challenges faced by the district facilities, the need to align facilities to academic programming, and cost estimates. They found that this potential phase 1 project aligns with the long-term facilities plan and strategic goals while balancing the tax impact of this community-wide investment. Through strategic fiscal preparation, the board has saved more than \$3.3 million in future interest expenses by paying off its current debts early and making room for future facility improvements like this.



Preliminary Phase 1 Scope

Over the last six months, the board has diligently cross-examined and evaluated the district's many educational facility needs. They worked through a prioritization exercise that resulted in a consensus on the scope of a potential project.

The preliminary phase 1 project scope includes the following:

- » Construct a new middle school serving grades 5th-8th.
- » Renovate and modernize the Construction, Manufacturing, and Engineering classrooms and labs at Reedsburg Area High School (RAHS).
- » Update existing Agriculture classrooms and construct a new lab and greenhouse at RAHS.
- » Modernize and update the cafeteria/commons space at RAHS.

A significant factor in pursuing a new middle school is the condition of Webb Middle School. It was built in 1954 as a high school, expanded in 1970, and then converted to a middle school in 1998. The building sits next to a 100-year floodplain, and it cannot be expanded. The district faces \$30.2 million in capital maintenance projects (2026 dollars) and Webb Middle School accounts for over half this total of \$15.6 million.

Another key influence is the need for more hands-on learning and skills development at all levels and the vital role Career and Technical Education plays in preparing students for real-world success. Teaching and learning has changed significantly over time. Critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration are hallmarks of schools today. However, bringing this strategic focus area to fruition requires the buildings to support this type of learning environment through improved, flexible, and adaptable spaces.

» Proposed New Middle School:

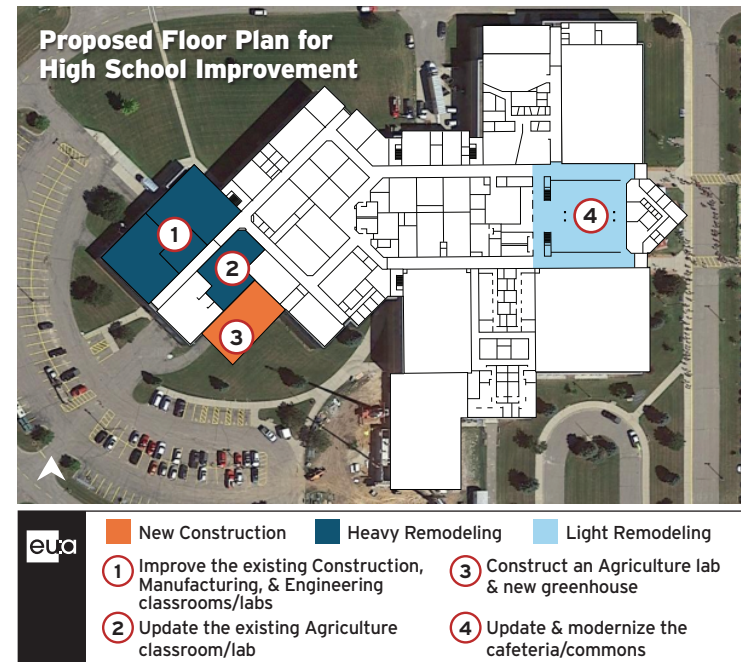
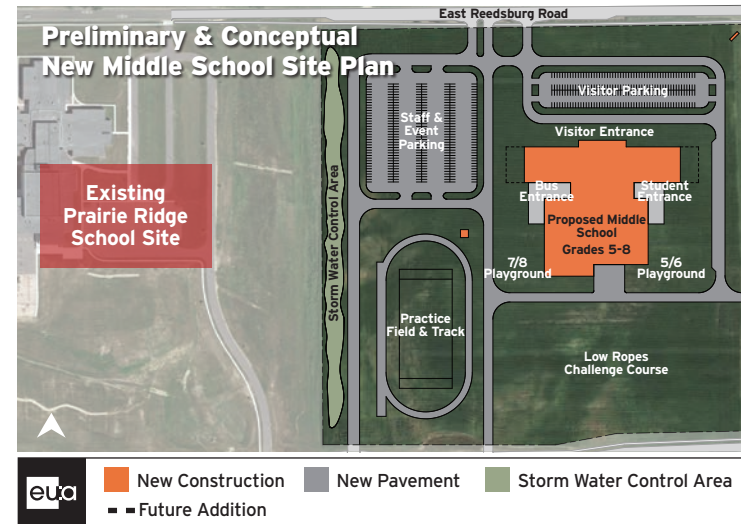
The proposed new middle school would be built on the district-owned property across from Prairie Ridge Intermediate School. The building design would incorporate new innovative learning spaces, allowing for further career pathway development, student collaboration, project-based learning, and student performances.

The facilities plan recommends a middle school for 5th-8th grades. This would allow 5th-grade students to access more advanced courses and electives. Moreover, this shift would also free up space at Pineview and Westside Elementary Schools for anticipated future enrollment growth at those levels.

» Proposed High School Renovations:

In order to fulfill the district vision of providing a world-class educational experience to all students at all levels, inspiring creativity, innovation, and a desire to achieve greatness, the high school needs to have adaptable spaces that support its current and future academic programming.

Student interest in technical education has nearly doubled in recent years. However, classrooms and labs have not been updated to meet the new learning needs of these career pathways. These areas lack the space and equipment required to properly train students for jobs in agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and engineering - all of which are key technical careers and businesses located within our community and county.



Survey Coming Soon



In early March, a community-wide survey will be distributed to gather your input to help the board determine its next steps, whether to continue moving forward with the current project scope, make adjustments, or pause its facilities planning. Implementing the long-term facility plan in phases spreads costs over time and makes it more affordable for taxpayers. Your input and direction from the survey about the first phase is extremely important; please take time to complete it.

TO LEARN MORE

about Building Excellence at the School District of Reedsburg, scan this code.



Save-The-Date:

2024-2025 DISTRICT-WIDE REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will be available through the Skyward Family Access system from July 15 to August 6, 2024. Families in

the School District of Reedsburg will receive additional information by mail in July. In-person registration will occur on **Thursday, August 1, and Tuesday, August 6, 2024.**



CONGRATULATIONS



Reedsburg Teacher to Receive Governor's Financial Literacy Award

RAHS Business and Marketing teacher Palmer Schroeder has been chosen to receive the Governor's Financial Literacy Award for 2023. This prestigious award recognizes individuals and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional abilities in enhancing financial literacy, capability, and inclusion. The award ceremony will be held on February 29, 2024, at the State Capitol Building.



We are hiring!

The School District of Reedsburg has some amazing opportunities for you or others to join Team Reedsburg and help support all of our children in the greater Reedsburg community. For more information and to apply go to: <https://www.rsd.k12.wi.us/district/employment-opportunities.cfm>

QUICK LINKS:

Are you looking for something specific? Please take a look at the below links for the District's most requested information. **Still, need assistance? Contact us at (608) 524-2016.**

District Calendar: <https://www.rsd.k12.wi.us/family/calendars.cfm>

Activities/Athletics Calendar: <https://badgerconference.org/public/genie/77/school/15/>

TeamReedsburg.live (Streaming): <https://teamreedsburg.com/>

Employment Opportunities: <https://www.rsd.k12.wi.us/district/employment-opportunities.cfm>

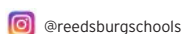
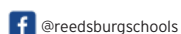
Skyward Family Access: <https://www.rsd.k12.wi.us/family/skywardfamilyaccess.cfm>

Lunch and Breakfast Menus: <https://www.rsd.k12.wi.us/district/breakfastandlunchmenus.cfm>

CONTACT US:

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Website: www.rsd.k12.wi.us



SDR Board of Education

Board of Education meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Central Office Building Board Room.

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Ross Retzlaff, Board Vice President
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