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Voter-Approved Construction Underway at Mequon-Thiensville Schools *Community Members Can Watch Progress on Live Webcam*

MEQUON, WI. — Construction is well underway across the Mequon-Thiensville School District after voters approved an \$18.2 million referendum on April 7, 2015. The referendum will finance \$14.4 million in capital improvements, including the replacement of roofs, windows, and boilers at several school buildings and renovations to the Homestead auditorium and athletic fields. The referendum also includes \$3.8 million for student-centered learning environments at the middle and high school levels.

The district began multiple capital improvement projects shortly after the passage of the referendum, with much of the work occurring over the summer months. All projects authorized by the voters are scheduled to be completed by the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

Today, work is scheduled to begin at Homestead High School's outdoor athletic facility. MTSD will replace the outdoor track as the current track is beyond its useful life. Referendum dollars will also be used to level and irrigate the soccer field, improve tennis courts and replace deteriorating indoor locker rooms. Additionally, MTSD will install a multi-sport turf field funded entirely by the Homestead Booster Club's Highlander Strong Campaign. A webcam will broadcast the construction work 24 hours a day.

"We have been extremely busy this summer trying to complete as many projects as possible before the start of the school year on September 1," said MTSD Director of Buildings and Grounds Kyle Thompson. "We will address site, safety and security projects first."

The majority of the referendum work deals with projects where existing facilities have already provided decades of service. "Most of the items that hold our school buildings together are original to the buildings and have reached the end of their useful lives," said Thompson. "We've worked and worked and worked to keep them going as long as possible; however, we have reached a point where it makes both economic and engineering sense to replace them with new, energy-efficient alternatives."

The single-pane windows at Wilson Elementary School were installed when the school was built in 1957. The boilers in most of the buildings are 40 to 50 years old. All seven schools are experiencing failing roof or ceiling elements. In short, the facility improvements are a necessary investment into the community's schools.

The referendum passed on April 7, 2015 with 61 percent of the vote.

More information about projects, including timelines, updates and a webcam link, will be posted on the District's website at: <http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/about/construction.cfm>

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