
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCHOOL SITE UPDATE

Oregon School District Will Hold Public Meeting to Approve Land Purchase

Oregon, WI, November 27, 8:30 AM - On December 10, 2018 the Oregon School District will hold a public meeting to approve the purchase of land sites for two future schools: the elementary school that was approved in the November 6 referendum, and a middle school for grades 6-8 that is projected to be needed around 2022 or 2024. The selection of the final two sites was the result of a review process that addressed evaluative measures of the school site including size, location, price and proximity to growth.

The elementary school will be built in the northern part of the Oregon School District, in the Terravessa development. The District currently has an offer to purchase 12.1 acres from Phil Sveum at a price of \$926,080. The land comes with water and sewer already run to the school site, but the District will pay \$250,000 for road developments to access the site.

Once fully developed, the school will be part of a development of an estimated 1,800-2,000 new dwellings. "Establishing a school in this location will create a neighborhood school in the northern part of our District," said Dr. Brian Busler, "It is an attractive school site because it honors the age-old guideline of building a school close to the students."

In addition to these benefits, building a school close to where children reside reduces transportation costs. The land is also adjacent to a nature conservancy and wooded properties. This is a great asset to the District's already strong focus on the environment.

The District is also proposing a purchase for a 107 acre parcel of land just southeast of the Highway 14/MM interchange at a cost of \$2,140,000. This land is currently owned by the Donaldson Family. Busler says that the District is planning to obtain sewer and water through an intergovernmental agreement between the Village of Oregon and City of Fitchburg. Approximately 30 acres of this land will be used for the future 6th-8th grade middle school. The remaining acreage could be used to accommodate future needs of the District.

In the long-term, placing a school in this central location will allow the District to position middle schools to serve both the northern and southern portions of the school district. In addition, Busler notes that having a school establishes a "front door" to the Village of Oregon. "What could be a better welcome to our community than a public school!"

The Oregon School District serves over 4,100 students in southern Wisconsin. The District spans all or parts of ten municipalities in three counties (Dane, Rock, and Green).

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If you would like more information about this topic, please call Superintendent Dr. Brian Busler at 608-835-4003, or email bsb@OregonSD.org.