

The Time is Right

I've had the privilege of sharing information on the upcoming referendum with our community and it has been great talking with so many of you to provide greater clarity to the project and answer your questions.

In less than one week, our community will have an opportunity to vote on a very important project. In January, the school board passed a resolution to go to a referendum on April 3rd. This resolution was passed to address the long standing needs of our primary school that's currently in disrepair, along with the lack of gym and performance space for the arts that has existed for many years.

The plan presented to the community meets the long-term needs of our district and provides updates mandated by the ADA. Our intent is for the new construction to match our current school in both quality of materials and overall design without being extravagant or incorporating unnecessary square footage or features. The plan provides quality spaces for learning and provides learning opportunities that are not currently possible

While no one can predict the future, current market conditions are financially favorable to address long-term needs of the district. Interest rates are at a historic low. These low interest rates will reduce monthly payments and reduce tax impact. We are also fortunate to be a debt free district, are financially strong, and experiencing steady increased enrollment. It's important that we look forward as a community. The need to improve our facilities has been a topic of discussion for many years. Our needs will not go away and construction costs will continue to increase each year.

Exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, April 3. If you have questions regarding the referendum, get the facts on the district website www.shelllake.k12.wi.us or call David Bridenhagen, superintendent of the School District of Shell Lake 715-468-7816. Not registered to vote? All it takes is proof of residency (electrical bill, bank statement) and a photo id (a valid Wisconsin driver's license). Additional voter registration information can be found at <http://myvote.wi.gov>