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Greendale Board of Education Approves Referendum Resolution District to Ask \$33.8 Million Referendum Question on November 6 Ballot

Greendale, WI (August 6, 2018) -- At its meeting tonight, the Greendale Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt a resolution to place a referendum question on the November 6 General Election ballot. The District will be asking the community to invest up to \$33,800,000 for District-wide facilities improvements representing an annual tax increase of \$1.11 per \$1,000 of property value.

Academic base plan improvement projects in all five of the District's school buildings will focus on:

- Increasing School Safety and Security
- Improving Learning Environments
- Creating Flexible and Adaptable Workspaces
- Improving Building Efficiency and Sustainability

"Greendale residents are outstanding supporters and advocates for the schools, rallying behind our teams, musical programs, and promoting student celebrations and success," said Joe Crapitto, President, Greendale Board of Education. "With this referendum, we are asking the community to support a major facility improvement proposal to help keep our educational spaces relevant and viable for the type of learning we expect now and for future generations."

Greendale Schools began the facilities planning process in spring 2016 by conducting a study to evaluate the condition and lifespan of its school buildings. The process since that time has included a Community Visioning session, the development of a facilities advisory team comprised of Village citizens, and school tours and focus groups to help determine community priorities on its school facilities. The process culminated in a survey asking all Greendale residents for their input on how to improve school facilities. The survey results reported that over 60 percent of the 1,074 respondents would support a \$33,800,000 referendum to address projects in the academic base plan.

The academic base plan calls for renovations in all Greendale Schools to allow for active learning practices, including collaboration, critical and creative thinking, and communication. It includes the construction and renovation of academic, cafeteria and multipurpose room spaces at Canterbury,

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College Park and Highland View Elementary schools, renovations to athletic, music and tech education areas at Greendale Middle School, and construction of music instructional spaces and an event lobby at Greendale High School. District-wide safety and security improvements include secure main entrances and parking, traffic flow and site circulation improvements at the elementary schools, in addition to capital improvements at all schools such as ADA Code compliance and HVAC updates.

“With community input, the District engaged in strategic planning in 2016 that identified three priorities for learning in Greendale Schools, including project-based learning to personalize learning experience, exploration of pathways into viable careers, and youth engagement in the community,” said Dr. Gary Kiltz, Superintendent of Greendale Schools. “The proposed improvements will help us to match the learning environments in our schools to those strategic priorities to make our exceptional schools even better.”

An informational flyer will be mailed to all District residents in September outlining the proposed improvements. In addition, a number of events will be held for community members to learn more about the projects that will be completed should the referendum be supported by voters. More information on the referendum is available on the District website, www.greendale.k12.wi.us/referendum. Questions can be sent by email to referendum@greendale.k12.wi.us or asked to Dr. Kiltz directly by calling 414-423-2701.

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ABOUT GREENDALE SCHOOLS:

Established in 1938, Greendale Schools is home to more than 2,600 students. The District prides itself in providing an outstanding education for all students from 4K through twelfth grade at Greendale High School, Greendale Middle School, and three elementary schools (Canterbury, College Park and Highland View). Greendale Schools, in partnership with students, families, and the community, is committed to developing leadership, creativity, and educational excellence. By creating multiple opportunities for learning, each student’s unique abilities are developed to achieve success and contribute positively to our global society.