



**ISD #709**  
**Duluth Public Schools**  
HOCHS Relocation Project

Monthly Progress Report  
February 2021

Address: 215 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East, Duluth, MN 55802

### Recent Progress and Activities:

- The Central on the Hill site is currently in ongoing negotiations and the District has been in discussions with a number of interested parties.
- Project information and monthly update(s) have been posted to the Duluth Public Schools website.
- A public hearing is scheduled for March 2, 2021, to share Duluth Public Schools' plan to sell Historic Old Central High School and strategy for programs/staff currently located in the building. The public hearing will provide interested parties the opportunity to formally comment.
- The project consulting team has been formally engaged by the District, and planning efforts are ongoing.
  - Subgroup meetings are continuing and provide guidance and leadership throughout the planning process. Currently, the team is working on the refinement of space needs within the District Services Center, Transportation Facility, and Facilities Building remodel.
    - Construction of a new District Services Center
    - Renovations of the existing Facilities Building
    - Construction of a new facility for District Transportation
    - Off-site improvements and roadways
  - Existing site survey and soil borings have been completed on the proposed site. Structure locations within the project site have been selected to maximize the plat for both present and future use. District Services Center is to be a 2-story building spaced appropriately away from the Transportation and Facilities buildings. This maximizes the project site logistics and allows for potential future usages.

- The City of Duluth's Deputy Director of Planning & Economic Development is being updated as to design progress.

### **Upcoming Activities and Next Steps:**

- Project consultants will be working with the District administration to comply with all required approvals associated with the special legislation process. Notable aspects of this process include:
  - Holding a Public Hearing on the sale of Historical Old Central High School (HOCHS) and the alternatives for programs and staff located therein – scheduled for 3/2/21
  - Development of required documentation for submission to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) for review and comment – tentatively scheduled for Late April 2021
  - With schematic Design nearing completion, the schematic design round of budgeting will be completed during February.
  - Development of a detailed financial analysis of the proposed plan for submission to the MDE