

## memo

To: The Board of Education and Dr. Patrick Broncato, Superintendent

From: Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services/CSBO

Date: November 15, 2024

Subject: Construction and Bidding Update

I am providing a quick construction update on the 2025 projects currently in process, as well as a brief update on the 2026 projects that recently went out to bid and will be brought to the Board for your consideration in December. Overall, everything is going well, and we are on track to complete our work on time and hopefully under budget. We are working with PSI and its related subcontractors to finish the solar array installations, with the Park District and its subcontractors to finish the playground installation at Meadowview, and with ICI and Wight to finalize bids for next summer's planned construction work.

After meeting with PSI last week, the roof work is done at all three schools, and the solar installation at Edgewood is complete. It has been punch-listed; the solar array at Goodrich was just finished and should be punch-listed soon, and the solar array at Meadowview is almost done and will be punch-listed in late November. There is a planned shutdown with ComEd for all three schools on November 26th (the day before Thanksgiving) to activate the newly installed switchgear and get those systems operational. Then, as we move into December and January (after all punch listing is completed) we will be testing and verifying the solar array systems at all three schools, working with Illinois Shines and the Illinois Power Authority to get the State Renewable Energy Credit Contracts for each school finalized, and working with ComEd to get approval to "go live" and energize the system, so we can start generating power and potentially providing electricity back into the grid. Our goal is to hopefully do that by the beginning of February or March, as long as we don't encounter any delays from ComEd, the IPA, or Illinois Shines. Then, once that is done in the spring, we will also start the process of registering with the Federal Government and filing Federal Clean Energy Tax Credit Claims through the Inflation Reduction Act, to generate about \$1M in Federal Energy Tax Credits (hopefully to be paid to us by the end of 2026). The contracted cost of the work was just over \$5.9M (the budget was \$6M), and we currently have just over \$300K left in our allowance/ contingency fund, so with any luck we expect our net cost to come in at around \$5.6M-\$5.7M.



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The playground work at Goodrich is all done and it looks great! The new Meadowview playground was temporarily delayed in October while we relocated an underground natural gas line. Still, that project is back up and running and the new playground should be installed and ready to go any day now. We removed the old playground on October 31<sup>st</sup> with the help of Kids Around the World, and they took our old playground back to Rockford to rehab it and then will be reinstalling it in an impoverished community in the Caribbean (possibly in Jamaica to replace a playground that Hurricane Melissa heavily damaged. We will send you pictures of both playgrounds as soon as the Meadowview playground is in use.

Finally, we recently completed a final review of all proposed construction and bid documents with Wight and ICI for the Summer of 2026 Capital Improvement Plan work that includes bathroom renovations at Goodrich and Meadowview, ceiling replacements at Murphy, staff lounge and office renovations at Murphy, a bathroom renovation at Murphy, spandrel panel replacements at Edgewood, staff lounge renovations at Edgewood, door and door frame replacements at Sipley and Willow Creek, and a few other small miscellaneous projects. The budget for this anticipated work is \$1.5M. ICI prepared the bids for release in the first week of November and we put them out on the street on November 7<sup>th</sup>. We also put an ad in the paper that same day. We conducted a non-mandatory pre-bid walkthrough with all interested parties/contractors on November 12th, and we have a bid opening scheduled for December 4th at the District Office. We hope to bring recommendations to the Board on December 15<sup>th</sup>, and with Board approval, we would sign contracts immediately thereafter and begin scheduling and planning for this work to be completed between June 1<sup>st</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup> next summer.

As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.