

**For Immediate Release**

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**Monona Grove School District Continues Long-Range Facilities Planning**

**Monona, WI** – The Monona Grove School District Board of Education and Administration met on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, to continue their investigation of grade configurations for the district as part of their long-range facilities planning. A specific Grade Level Configuration Committee began meeting earlier this year to research various styles of grade configurations. The committee is working to determine how to organize schools in the future in order to best address projected enrollment increases and provide modern learning environments for the entire district. The committee discussed their work with the Board of Education at the Wednesday night meeting.

The research and exploration of grade level configurations started with community members on the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee considering different options. As the committee evaluated the condition of facilities within the district, they made a series of recommendations to the Board of Education including the further investigation of grade configurations. As a result, the Board charged the Grade Level Configuration Committee, comprised of Administration, School Principals and teachers, to generate options and consider the advantages and disadvantages of each potential configuration. The committee has explored a vast range of options including different variations of both grade level schools and neighborhood schools.

The next step will be for consultants Eppstein Uhen Architects and CG Schmidt Construction to create plans of what would need to be completed at each school to make each of the various options a reality. Additionally, the committee will continue to compare each option against three criteria – social, academic, and financial implications. This criterion was initially included in the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee’s recommendations, and the Grade Level Configuration Committee has worked to actively vet all options against these three focus areas. Finally, the Board will also bring the final options back to the Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee for community input. By conducting such a detailed investigation of grade level configurations, the Board of Education and Administration will determine a configuration that will best suit the Monona Grove School District in the future.

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