

PARENT CARDINAL UPDATE – 11/30/23

I hope this message finds everyone happy and healthy after the Thanksgiving Holiday. Before we know it, the next holiday season will be upon us. It is such a fun time of the year with so much going on in the District. We have our most up-to-date [DISTRICT CALENDAR](#) on our website that highlights all of those activities.

This is a reminder that we are releasing early next Wednesday, December 6 for a teacher workday. Elementary students will be releasing early at 12:50 p.m., the Middle School at 12:55 p.m., and the High School releasing at 1:00 p.m.

This is the time of year when the weather can affect our school days. In the event of a cancellation, a late start, or an early release, parents will be notified through our school Instant Messaging System. Weather at this time of year can be very unpredictable, but we do our best to provide as much advance notice of any cancellations. The obvious first choice is to give notice the day before, but that is not always possible. We rely on our bus company and area superintendents driving back roads and communicating to make the best decision as early as possible. If school is canceled, our bus company needs notification prior to 5:30 a.m., so notice will be early if it is on the day of the weather event. We do our best to get all notifications out prior to 6:00 a.m.

If school needs to be canceled, that information will be posted on Channels 3, 15, and 27 out of Madison. The information will also be on radio channels WEKZ out of Monroe (93.7) and WCLO out of Janesville (92.7).

Our office staff tends to get bombarded with phone calls inquiring if school will be released early. Please know that they do not have any advance notice of early dismissal and will not be able to give out that information. An early dismissal will be communicated in the same way, by our instant messaging system, and on the previously noted television and radio channels. We ask that parents rely on these forms of communication and not call the school office.

Our School Board developed a Facility Planning Committee in January of last school year with a task of developing a funding plan for District deferred maintenance projects and educational inadequacies. That group was composed of 25 individuals including community members, parents, teachers, administrators, and Board members. That group met monthly from February through September and brought forth a recommendation for our School Board to consider. That recommendation included: Safe and secure entries for all three schools, a four year-old kindergarten addition for Albrecht Elementary School, additional classroom space in the Middle School to support a 5th grade move to that school, and expansion/renovation of classrooms and the lunchroom at the Middle School to accommodate the added student population. The Board is also debating adding an additional cost for replacing windows and remodeling bathrooms at the Middle School and the Elementary School. Totals for these projects would range between 15.5 million and 17.5 million dollars and would require a referendum to support these suggested improvements presented by the committee.

The Brodhead School Board is working with the Morris Leatherman Company out of Minneapolis, Minnesota to conduct a survey of our community in order to determine whether our District residents would support this plan. The surveys will be a random sample survey conducted by phone and will start on December 10 and continue through the month. The Board will review the results of those surveys in early January to determine the next steps.

If you wish to learn more about our facility planning process, we have a section on our District website: www.brodhead.k12.wi.us under the tab "Facility Planning". This page contains our Facility Assessment Report, our community survey from last December, and the agendas, minutes, and presentations from all of our Planning Committee Meetings.

Have a great rest of your week.

GO CARDS!

Respectfully,

David Novy
District Administrator