



**To: Green Bay Area Public School District Board of Education**

**From: Dr. Claude Tiller, Superintendent**

**Date: August 14, 2023**

**Subject: Facilities Master Planning Update - Wequiock Resolution**

---

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Board of Education with an update on the planning specific to Board Resolutions Related to the Facility Master Planning Task Force Recommendations for Wequiock Elementary School made on June 5, 2023.

**WEQUIOCK RESOLUTION:** The Green Bay Area Public School District is directed to initiate planning activities, to effectuate the closing of Wequiock Elementary School, relocate that student population to Red Smith Community School (4K-8), and explore the viability of moving the environmental programming to Red Smith Community School (4K-8) for grades 4K- 5 for the 2024-2025 school year and present the plan for board approval on or before 11/1/2023:

1. Revising transportation plans to ensure safe and timely transit to and from school for all students by bus.
2. Documenting the necessary boundary changes
3. Determining the feasibility of providing equivalent environmental education programming at Red Smith Community School (4K-8)
4. Creating a detailed list of non-referendum dependent projects and their capital requirements to address physical plant and educational adequacy concerns at Red Smith Community School (4K-8)
5. Documenting the necessary agreements with the city of Green Bay to ensure that students at Red Smith Community School can use the adjacent Red Smith city park for educational purposes

**UPDATE:** On Thursday, July 27 a team from the District Office along with Superintendent Tiller, Board President McCoy, and Vice President Lyerly, met with parents, staff, and community members at Wequiock. At that meeting Dr. Tiller reiterated the Board resolution of planning for the school closure. A [follow-up message](#) was shared with parents and staff.

- 1. Revising transportation plans to ensure safe and timely transit to and from school for all students by bus.**
- 2. Documenting the necessary boundary changes**

For 2023-24 School Year we have two bus routes in the morning and afternoon that serve Wequiock Elementary school. Upon closure, we would route them to and from Red Smith keeping this change **cost-neutral**. Bus route construction will cover different region areas within the current Wequiock boundary in order to help keep the ride time to under an hour, efficiently serving all the students from the 4k to 8th grade level. Currently we transport the 6-8 graders in the Wequiock area to Red Smith.

- 3. Determining the feasibility of providing equivalent environmental education programming at Red Smith Community School (4K-8)**

On August 3, 2023, Nancy Chartier, Andrea Landwehr and David Johns met with Joanna Wiitenan, Administrative Intern of Wequiock, and William Birkholz, Principal of Red Smith, to determine the feasibility of providing equivalent environmental education programming at Red Smith Community School (4K-8). The following actions were agreed upon:

- a. The current Edventure partnership with Wequiock Elementary will be expanded to Red Smith PK-grade 5 beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Edventure is a community based organization that supports teacher professional development in the area of environmental science.
- b. The district Teaching and Learning department will assign a curriculum coordinator to a team of Wequiock and Red Smith teachers who will review and revise the current Wequiock environmental curriculum maps to align with the 2018 [Wisconsin Standards for Environmental Literacy and Sustainability](#). Content essential documents will be developed following our curriculum writing process and units of study will be designed by a team of teachers representing grade level bands throughout the 2023-2024 school year with implementation at Red Smith beginning 2024-2025 school year.
- c. Current Red Smith outdoor learning spaces will be evaluated throughout the 2023-2024 school year to provide opportunities for authentic learning experiences.

Facilities, in collaboration with the Teaching and Learning Department, is working on a list of environmental based supplementary items that would be moved over to Red Smith (EX: green house) along with financial implications. This will be a one-time cost estimated to be approximately \$60,000.

**4. Creating a detailed list of non-referendum dependent projects and their capital requirements to address physical plant and educational adequacy concerns at Red Smith Community School (4K-8)**

Per the Facilities Cost Index report, there are \$96,300 worth of high priority physical plant needs at Red Smith. The boilers have 5 years of life left. Additional educational adequacy concerns would likely need to be addressed through a referendum, e.g., auditorium addition, asphalt track.

**5. Documenting the necessary agreements with the city of Green Bay to ensure that students at Red Smith Community School can use the adjacent Red Smith city park for educational purposes**

All city agreements have been documented to ensure Red Smith students can use Red Smith city park for educational purposes.

**OTHER:**

- **How much will the District save per year by closing Wequiock?**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Classroom Salaries - 2 FTE (saved through attrition, this is not a layoff of Wequiock staff)   | \$126,056.00        |
| Other Salaries - 7 FTE   | \$309,733.70        |
| Benefits (43% of salaries)   | \$187,389.57        |
| Utilities and Cleaning   | \$21,755.60         |
| Other Non-Salary Overhead (technology devices, furniture, fixtures, supplies and contracted labor associated with maintenance and repair, per-site software licenses, mileage paid to traveling staff, etc.) | \$239,000.00        |
| <b>Total Approximate Annual Savings</b>  | <b>\$883,934.87</b> |

Clarification on overhead costs: Wequiock will need a new roof and HVAC along with some window work over the next 10 years. This totals approximately \$2.4 million. For the purposes of annual saving estimates, this was spread out over 10 years even though the projects would be handled as one-time capital expenditures, likely in 26-27 and 27-28.