



April 29, 2020

Dear Northeastern Local School District Community,

We are pleased to share that the estimates for both PK-12 schools in the NELSD Facilities Project are within the district's available funding for the construction of new schools for our community.

The district will be able to fund the costs for both buildings using the district's co-funded budget, the co-funded amount guaranteed by the state's Ohio Facilities Construction Commission, and Locally-Funded Initiative funding included in the bond issue approved by voters in May 2018. As the board assured the community in previous updates, the district will **not** need to request additional construction funding for the project.

The **Northeastern PK-12 building** that will be located adjacent to the site of the current South Vienna School is at the end of the Design Development phase of the project and will soon move to the Construction Document stage. During CD, the final blueprints for the project are created and the district and its construction partners reach a Guaranteed Maximum Price for the cost of the project. This is also when the bidding process begins. Although construction costs are still somewhat higher than anticipated, an additional \$2.4 million has been trimmed from the estimates for the NE building, which is currently about \$4 million, or 11.9 percent, over the original budget. The estimated costs are within the available amount including LFI dollars. We anticipate the bidding process will begin this fall.

The **Kenton Ridge PK-12 building**, which will be located near west and south of the current Kenton Ridge High School, has completed the Schematic Design phase and moved into the Design Development process. Thanks to the work done to bring the Northeastern building estimates down, the same changes were also applied to the Kenton Ridge facility and estimates are 8 percent over the original budget. The estimated costs are within the available amount including LFI dollars. We anticipate some early site work of putting in a cut-off drain will begin at Kenton Ridge in May.

Due to limitations on large gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the groundbreaking ceremonies scheduled for May 15, will be rescheduled to the fall when we can safely have a large gathering. This does not impact the work schedule for the facilities in any way. We will share a new date when we are able to come together as a community to celebrate the ceremony of the groundbreakings.

NELSD is committed to constructing buildings that are safe, secure and support learning for students and to making sure that the facilities can be constructed with the funding approved by the community in May 2018. Thanks to the diligent work of our construction team over the last few months, the designs for each building meet the educational needs of students and are within the funds available to our district. We continue to move forward with this project and will keep you updated about its progress.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at johnkronour@nelso.org.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Dr. John Kronour