

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO THE DEERFIELD INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
From Deerfield Community School District
For questions, please contact Superintendent Michelle Jensen

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Citizen Advisory Committee Tours the Deerfield Elementary and Middle/High Schools

On February 19th, the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and some community members attended a tour of the Deerfield Elementary and Middle/High Schools. During the tour, the attendees also learned the history of the buildings and the referenda that supported them.

The Deerfield Middle/High School was originally built in 1966. Since that time, many upgrades and additions have been made to the school through public funding and referenda. The largest changes and additions were made in 1978, 1997, 2003, and 2016. It was clear from the tour that the school district has been diligent in their maintenance routines to extend the life of everything in the school as much as possible, and has been creative in how they use space. However, the original portions of the school are in need of improvements. A few of those improvements are listed below:

- Demountable walls installed during the 1978 addition are showing damage, and they cannot be repaired.
- The hallway carpet was installed in 1997 and 2003 and is showing wear.
- Asbestos tile in the hallways of the 1978 portion of the school is breaking and coming up in high traffic areas and cannot be repaired.
- The classrooms in the original portion of the building are being used for maintenance, storage, and an added Mac lab - but they are not well-equipped for those functions.

The Deerfield Elementary School houses 4K-6th grade, as well as early learning. The building was built with a referendum passed in 2003. The district has also worked diligently to keep this building in good repair. However, now that the building is 16 years old, it's important to start looking at the life of some of the larger items, such as the roof and mechanical systems. In addition, there are areas starting to show wear, such as the flooring and cove base in the stairwells, and chipping on the tile in high traffic areas.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25th at 5:30pm, in the DHS Sewing Room. This meeting will focus on reviewing previous community survey drafts and results. The public is welcome to attend any of the meetings. If you have questions or concerns you would like to share, please reach out to any of the committee members or email the committee at cac@deerfield.k12.wi.us. In addition, updates will be shared in The Independent, WDEE, the Deerfield Schools website, and the Deerfield School Facebook Page.