



# West Allis-West Milwaukee School District

## Administration Office

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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**From:** West Allis-West Milwaukee School District

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### **West Allis-West Milwaukee School District Increases Budget for a New Recreation and Community Services Center**

On November 26, 2018, the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District Board of Education voted to increase the project budget for a new Recreation and Community Services Center from \$6 million (approved June 2018) to \$8 million. The original project budget proposal was based on available funding at the close of the 2016-2017 fiscal year and anticipated fund balance from the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The budget was also set prior to creating and analyzing several schematic and design plan options and budgets with the contracted design build planners, CG Schmidt and architects, Groth Design Group. The increase will **not impact** property taxes.

The current center on 2450 South 68th Street will be remodeled and an addition to the building will be built. The center will house registration services, department staff offices, and space for current and expanded programming. These spaces include a gym, indoor walking track, preschool classroom, a large multi purpose room, and space for fitness and art classes.

According to the Director of Recreation and Community Services, Shelly Strasser, “After working closely with our department team and the architects and project planners, and evaluating and assessing several budget and design plan options, we determined that in order to best meet the needs of the community and maximize the opportunity, we needed to increase the construction budget for the center. The additional budget increase will allow for an indoor walking track and a safe and secure building for programs including our preschool, community events, adult exercise, enrichment programs and open gym activities. We want to create a Recreation Center that will be

multi functional, provide opportunity for growth, that will be of great benefit to the community for years to come.”

“We are very excited to be moving forward. We have carefully allocated funds so that a new center would become a reality. We already have over \$6,500,000 in our fund balance to allocate to the project. The additional money will come from Fund 80 over the next two years. The increase will not impact property taxes. Through visionary planning and strategic fiscal planning, the department team has been able to save money through decreased expenditures and increased revenues in order to fund the project. The new Recreation Center will allow the WAWM RCS to better serve our district residents and provide a permanent home for department operations thus creating additional savings.”



The West Allis-West Milwaukee School District Recreation and Community Services is working with CG Schmidt (Project Management) and Groth Design Group (Architects) to remodel the Recreation and Community Services Center at 2450 South 68th Street.