



Centerburg Local School District

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Construction Update

The engineering and approval process for the athletic portion of the project (track and softball field) was completed at the end of May and went to bid the first week of June. The estimated cost of this portion was anticipated to be between 1 million and 1.2 million. The district received only 1 bid from a company in Texas for 2.3 million. When our architect polled various companies, the reason they did not bid was due to a very busy summer construction environment. The board chose to reject all bids, to wait until the VoAg portion was designed and approved, and to rebid the project. Because the VoAg part requires occupation permits, the engineering and approval process is much more detailed. The approval of the plans was completed the third week of August. On September 5, the project will be advertised again for bid. Companies can bid for the entire project, just the athletic part, or just the VoAg part. We feel this will give the widest availability and improve the chances of receiving multiple bids. Currently, we have had seven construction firms express interest in bidding the project. Bids will be opened Oct 2. At that time, we will have a better idea of the timeline for the project and what parts of the project we will be able to afford. Our hope is the VoAg portion can start this winter and the athletic portion will start in the spring.

As a reminder, the construction process for schools is to hire a firm to estimate the cost of the project. The firm MS Group was hired in the spring of 2016 to determine the amount. The county auditor determines the millage needed for a levy to support the project. The School Board then votes to place the levy on the ballot. Once the levy passed, a design/engineering firm is selected and the engineering and permit process is started. Once all the design is complete and the permits are received, the project is advertised for bid. The estimated cost may or may not match the actual cost. If the actual cost comes in higher than expected, then certain parts of the project will not be able to completed. Our hope is the bids come in very near the estimated amount, so we can complete the project as proposed.

We will continue to update the community as the project progresses. If you have any questions please feel free to call me. With any luck, our kids will be benefiting from the added facilities soon.

Mike Hebenthal, Superintendent