

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 25, 2024

CPU to Host Community Meetings Focused on Bond Referendum

CENTER POINT, IA — The Center Point-Urbana Community School District will host two informational meetings focused on the \$20.61 million bond referendum on the November ballot.

The first meeting will take place Wednesday, October 2, in Urbana at the CPU Intermediate School Library, beginning at 6 p.m. The second will be in Center Point on Monday, October 28, at the CPU High School Library, with a start time of 6 p.m.

Representatives from INVISION Architecture will provide details about the proposed projects that would be possible with an approved bond referendum. Attendees will have the chance to ask questions and provide feedback.

"We encourage all our community members to make time to attend a meeting and get more details about the bond issue on the ballot in November and the ways it would benefit our students," said Superintendent John Elkin.

CPU's decision to pursue a bond referendum is the result of approximately four years of facility assessments and project planning. This process included the creation of a Master Facilities Plan to guide future development, community engagement, and a partnership with INVISION.

An approved referendum would provide general obligation bond funds that would be used in concert with revenue that CPU receives from its voter-approved Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (<u>PPEL</u>) and the statewide one-cent sales tax fund (known as <u>SAVE</u>) to move forward with a multiphase facility plan. Bond referendums require voter approval of at least 60% to pass.

The first phase of proposed improvements would coincide with CPU's ongoing maintenance plan using PPEL and SAVE funds. This includes roof repairs and replacements at the primary school and middle school, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) updates to the prekindergarten rooms at the intermediate school, and HVAC improvements at the middle school and high school.

In the project's second phase, general obligation bonds will be used to enhance security and safety systems at both the Primary and Middle Schools. Additionally, a 600-seat auditorium will be constructed at the high school, along with a new weight room and multipurpose space. Improvements will also be made to several athletic fields, including upgrades to the baseball and softball fields and the concessions area.

More information about the bond referendum, including answers to frequently asked questions, can be found at <u>https://www.cpufuture.org</u>.