

Press Release - "Community Survey"  
November 14, 2022

*East Troy, WI* - The East Troy Community School District has distributed a community-wide survey about the district's operational and facilities needs. The survey will be delivered via USPS to households the week of November 14.

The East Troy School District faces many of the same challenges as other districts in Wisconsin. There is a gap in operational funds; this is because revenues are not keeping pace with expenses toward running the district's day-to-day operations. Additionally, there are many long-range facilities needs that must be addressed.

In April 2021, the district proposed a referendum, but it was not approved by the majority of the voters. Consequently, for the 2021 - 2022 school year a budget deficit of \$780,000 was addressed by making various cuts and reductions. In addition, the 2022-23 school year budget deficit was \$1.1 million. Cuts made included one administrator, one elementary math interventionist, reducing extra duty stipends, eliminating benefits and hours to certain position(s), and other budget balancing efforts including other smaller reductions in purchasing and supplies. The district also budgeted nearly \$800,000 in one time federal relief funding to balance the remaining deficit for the 2022 - 2023 school year. The challenge is that the East Troy Community School District does not have enough predictable and sustainable funding within the state-established revenue limits toward addressing projected structural deficits into the foreseeable future.

Referendums are one way districts are allowed to address the budget deficits they face.

A facilities study was completed and shared with the Board of Education at its August 2022 meeting. Through a series of public workshops in September and October, the Board of Education has considered the relevant facts and is considering its options to address the budget deficits and costly facilities needs.

Before deciding next steps, the Board is seeking broader input through a community-wide survey. Every resident is urged to complete the survey. The response data will be helpful to the Board as planning is done toward meeting the District strategic priorities that support quality educational opportunities for our students, attract and retain quality staff, and address our school facilities.

A paper survey has been mailed to every district household. To save on mailing costs, the District is asking residents to take the survey online by going to [www.Feedback2000.com](http://www.Feedback2000.com) and entering a survey code. If residents do not have Internet access, completed paper surveys

can be returned to any school building or mailed to School Perceptions, P.O. Box 607, Slinger, WI 53086. Surveys should be completed before December 5.

Individual survey results will be confidential. Surveys can be used only once. If additional surveys are needed for other adults over the age of 18 in the household, please call the District office at 262-642-6710 ext. 1230 or email [smiama@easttroy.k12.wi.us](mailto:smiama@easttroy.k12.wi.us).

An informational meeting about the survey will be held on November 21 at 6 p.m. in the East Troy High School.

Final survey results will be reported at the Board of Education meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022.