



PORT WASHINGTON-SAUKVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

We Educate All Children To Reach Their Greatest Potential

Superintendent of Schools
Michael R. Weber, Ph.D.

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June 12, 2009

Natalie Rew, Finance Team
Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction
125 S. Webster Street, PO Box 7841
Madison, WI 53707-7841

Dear Natalie,

On behalf of the Port Washington-Saukville School District, we are applying for consideration for \$1,000,000 of funding through the Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) afforded through Economic Recovery Reinvestment ARRA funding. The \$1,000,000 of funding will be used to purchase available property for the construction of a new high school.

Our current Port Washington High School sits on a land-locked 12 acres of property that supports a student population of 850 students, including athletic fields. Our physical school building was built in 1931 with added wings constructed in 1949, 1954, 1974, and 1975. Through various updates, the District has worked to be safe and energy efficient. Updated mechanical systems and florescent lighting have helped to lower energy costs, and door locking security systems have been installed. This is still an old building with much inefficiency, a "patchwork" of additions, small instructional spaces, and land-locked on a very small parcel of land. Even though the building has charm and character, it cannot offer the learning environment conducive to effective learning and ever-advancing technology and education.

The District has been presented with an opportunity by one of our former manufacturing businesses that has relocated. They have 45-50 acres of property that offers the ideal location for a new high school and situated in an optimal position with respect to our five communities, that provides efficient access for the school property and that has ample adjacent land to the offered property for playing fields and green space.

Knowledge of this offer to purchase from this national manufacturing business is known by only a select few including some School Board members, a community member, our high school principal, our Director of Business Services, and the selling party. Shortly, the information will be reviewed by the Board Buildings and Grounds Committee and then the full Board for review and public comment. The attraction of the property and a request by the manufacturer requires that knowledge of the potential acquisition not be released in open session until an option for sale is in place for approval.

The property is being offered to us without third party involvement for \$1,000,000. We are currently having the property appraised by our council and have on hand previous appraisals of the property at values significantly greater than the price at which the property is being offered. A date for initial construction on the project will be determined by the School Board in the near future. This debt would be paid for under the revenue limit.

Our District has an AA rating from Standard & Poor's, and only has three years of referendum debt totaling less than \$1,500,000.

The District is committed to comply with the Davis Bacon prevailing wage requirements once the construction phase of the property takes place.

Thank you for your consideration of our project. Please feel free to contact our Director of Business Services, Jim Froemming (262-268-6081) or me if you have questions in regard to our application or need additional information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Weber". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael R. Weber, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

MRW/dg

C: James Froemming, Director of Business Services
Patricia Ruth, School Board President
Brian McCutcheon, Board Buildings and Grounds Committee Chair