

January 20, 2020

Dear Maroa-Forsyth Employees,

When Maroa-Forsyth employees talk, people listen! Your help is needed to inform our parents and other community members about the upcoming school referendum on the March 17 ballot. I'm sure you've heard about this important proposal, but I want to share key points about the referendum and ask for your help to encourage others in our community to learn more.

Important Information About the Referendum:

- \$33 million proposal will provide funds to build a new middle school connected to the high school.
- Maroa-Forsyth Middle School is in need of extensive repairs and renovations to accommodate today's best practices in education.
- The school is old, has extensive needed repairs and is expensive to operate.
- A new middle school is essential so that our kids have the type of schools they need and deserve so they can be well-prepared for high school and have a competitive edge moving forward.
- Building a new middle school connected to the high school has many educational, student services, safety and financial advantages.
- Getting a new middle school now provides a financially responsible long-term solution for our district.
- We must make sure our buildings support today's curriculum and instruction and measure up to that of other districts in the area.
- The committee made decision to build in Maroa after taking into consideration the generous offer by the Village of Forsyth to help build the school in that Village. The ability to coordinate middle and high school program and facilities was the key factor in making this decision — a decision with consequences for many years to come.
- Our plan was developed in partnership with the community. In one manner or another, hundreds of our citizens participated in meetings and a survey to develop our plan for our kids.
- New middle school and high school improvements will benefit many future generations of Maroa-Forsyth students and homeowners.

Over the next few weeks, we will provide more information about the referendum. Thank you for the work you do every day! You impact our students and our community in so many ways. I hope I can count on your continued support for our students and our schools and also count on you to share these important facts with others. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dr. John Ahlemeyer
Superintendent of Schools

PS – if you know of anyone who would like to register to vote or take part in early voting please share the following:

Early Voting and Weekend Grace Period Voter Registration & Voting*

Macon County Office Building, County Clerk's Office
141 S. Main St., Rm. 119, Decatur, IL

www.co.macon.il.us/download/early-voting-information-2/

**Residents not registered to vote can register and vote at the same time.*