

# REFERENDUM

## NEED TO KNOW: PROPOSED CHILD CARE FACILITY



### ALL SCHOOLS, ALL STUDENTS

According to a survey conducted by the Barron County Economic Development Corporation, there is a need for additional child care in our community. As a service, the District is looking to partner with all local child care providers to better serve our communities and address the ongoing child care need.

On April 6, Barron Area School District residents will have the opportunity to vote on a \$1,900,000 referendum question that, if approved, would add a new community child care facility onto Woodland Elementary School.

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### Does the District have a business model for the proposed child care center?

Yes, the facility will be run as a traditional licensed child care business, open year-round with accommodating hours for working families. The facility will be available to all residents with traditional child care fees required. The goal is to be self-sustaining through fees while providing a vital service to growing families in the community.

### What is the anticipated capacity of the proposed child care facility?

This 5,000-square-foot addition to Woodland Elementary School would serve our families by providing capacity for more than 100 children from infant through school age. This facility would be open year-round, provide 12 hours of daily care, and be staffed by 20 employees to meet the needs of our children. The business plan for this project is being created in partnership with local child care facilities within our District so that we can meet the child care needs of our

community together. This need for additional child care in our area was identified in two surveys: the first was a housing survey done by our Economic Development Corporation, and the second was completed by our Barron Area School District administrative team.

*“Child care largely determines where families live, work and send their kids to school. We want to bridge the gap in our communities. We believe that a child care facility on our BASD campus would serve our communities and would add strength and vigor to our District.”*

*- Diane Tremblay, District Administrator, BASD*

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*For every \$1 spent on early childhood education/preparedness, \$4 - \$9 are recouped in our society and aid the individual in the form of lower special education costs, higher income, lower health expenditures, higher graduation rates and other indicators.*

*- Wisconsin Blue Ribbon Commission on Rural Prosperity*

**Who can attend the proposed child care facility?**

The child care facility will be open to all local families. Enrollment will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Once capacity is met, children will be placed on a waiting list.

**What are the financial implications on the general operations of the District?**

The goal of the child care facility is to be self-sustaining. The financial accounting and transactions for the child care center will be completely separate and will have no bearing on the general education of BASD, positively or negatively. The indirect financial motivation of a child care center is retaining children and families in our District long-term.



*“We are excited about the opportunity to partner with the District to better serve the needs in our communities.”*

*- Kris Lindstedt, Owner & Operator  
Creative Kids Discovery Center*



The proposed child care addition would be constructed on the south side of Woodland Elementary. The adjacencies of the addition allow the child care center to use existing space in the building, outside of school hours.