

717 JORDAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS JOURNALIST

Communicating information, events, and activities of the Jordan Public Schools for over 37 years

2018-2019
YEAR END
EDITION



COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Join us to discuss continuing needs, changing needs, and next steps for Jordan Public Schools.

Wednesday, June 12, 2019
7:00pm
Jordan High School

LOVE MAROON LIVE GOLD HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR... so far!

- 4 day preschool, busing, staff trained in SMARTroom, unpacking ECIPs (standards for early childhood)
- Implemented new Kickstart to Kindergarten – led to hosting the 2020 State Kindergarten Conference
- MN Teacher of Year finalist – Stephanie Olstad
- First Grade Foresters continues and expands to more classrooms
- Indoor garden carts at JES and JMS – students growing vegetables and fruits from seed
- Added teaching staff to better support academic and social-emotional learning for students and staff (TOSAs, mental health staff, counselors, teachers at secondary level to help reduce class size)
- Implementation of Mindfulness Curriculum for students in all buildings
- Expansion of Summit Academy programming – Multicultural Education and Healthcare and Medicine Careers courses
- Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT) training for certified staff and paraprofessionals
- Equity Education in action with “Caring and Committed Conversations” - hosted Shakopee and Prior Lake
- First student honors banquet for American Indian Parent Advisory Council (AIPAC)
- Refreshed branding and mascots
- Student showing at State Visual Arts Exhibition
- Tennis Conference Champions and State Tournament Appearances
- Girls Team and Boys Individual Cross Country State Tournament Appearance
- Football District Champions and State Tournament Appearance
- Speech Conference Champions and Individual State Tournament Appearances
- Boys Basketball Conference Champions
- Wrestling Individual State Tournament Appearances
- Adapted Floor Hockey State Tournament Appearance
- Girls and Boys Golf Conference Champions
- Baseball Conference Champions
- Boys Track and Field Conference Champions and State True Team Runner-up
- All School Band Concert (300 students participating from grades 5-12)
- JHS Harmonix women's a cappella competes at the ICHSA Midwest Semifinals in Milwaukee
- District served as shelter for flood victims
- Presented on innovative teaching and programming at MN School Board Association (MSBA) Conference
- Informative speakers for the student and/or Jordan community – The Courage to Speak, Warp Speed, Top Secret Project
- Hosted Southern MN Directors Conference (Nutritional Services) with 230 attendees

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CELEBRATING SUCCESSES AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE OF JORDAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

We hope that you'll enjoy this special year-end review edition of the Spring 2019 Jordan Journalist, complete with highlights from the 2018-2019 school year, updates on programming, a snapshot of our winter parent survey results, and a look ahead to next fall when the district plans to run an operating and bond referendum aimed at continuing our forward progress.

Excellent staff, quality instruction, strong student achievement, and innovative programming are what make our district desirable for families. We are focused on responsible, continuous growth of our district, and of the quality services we provide our students and families. In order to remain a "destination district," and one that is competitive with our fast growing progressive neighbors, we must continue to think proactively about how we educate our students. Our goal is to support students. They need to be happy, well adjusted, productive members of our community, and prepared for whatever postsecondary opportunities await them. In addition, our community is built on the backbone of our schools. **All ages look to the schools for a place to learn, enjoy the arts, take in an athletic contest, have a conversation, or exercise and recreate.** We are proud to serve the Jordan community and all resident age groups.

This referendum proposal, with its operating levy question and two bond referendum questions comes after a long range facilities and operations planning process which began in November of 2017 and **culminated in the sharing of the 20-30 year vision in March of 2019.** This nearly 16 month process involved parents, community members, school board members, teachers, our architectural firm, the District's financial advisors, and District administrators. This team developed a responsible plan to address our needs, driven by growth and an ever-changing society, in order to meet the expectations of our students, families, and the residents of our district for years to come. **The committee developed ideas that led to the creation of a 4 phase plan that outlines the projects and progress that will take place over the next 3 decades,** dependent on growth of our student and community population, and their future needs.

Separate from this planning process, **the District has worked with the City of Jordan in partnership to discuss current and future challenges and needs through a series of committee meetings with the City and School Partnership Committee.** We've met with various real estate developers to obtain an understanding of potential future growth, and we've commissioned the assistance of a proven demographer to help us understand and predict growth trends.

WHY NOW?

We've listened to the needs of our families and there is an expectation of greatness. The positive impact of the 2014-2015 middle school and the building of the Jordan Community Education and Recreation Center (CERC) has changed the way we educate students across the district and the positive connections forged amongst community members. We have been inspired! We're focused on a proactive approach when educating students and providing our community with opportunities to learn and grow. A recent demographic study points towards continued growth which we must account for in a responsible manner. **The long range vision reflects the need for continued, responsible growth of future ready programming, and facilities for our students and District residents.**

JOIN US FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONVERSATION on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 7:00pm at Jordan High School. We will discuss immediate priorities, changing needs, and the next steps for our District and community.



FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Jordan is awarded the "MN School Finance Award" for 5th year! This is awarded annually by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), Division of School Finance, to recognize schools for meeting statutory deadlines for submission of audited fiscal financial data and reporting criteria. Criteria includes:

- ✓ **Timely Submission of Financial Data and Compliance with Minnesota Statutes**
- ✓ **Presence of Select Indicators of Fiscal Health**
- ✓ **Accuracy in Financial Reporting**

Additionally, we take pride in our financial leadership! Amy Hafemann, Finance Director for Jordan Public Schools has completed the Minnesota Association of School Business Officials (MASBO), Leadership Academy, a 13 month course. Also, Amy was recently elected to Region V Computer Service Board of Governance. This is the kind of knowledge and oversight our community can be proud of!



PHASE ONE

The work of our *Long Range Planning Committee* and the *City and School Partnership Committee* has led to a recommendation to the school board that next fall is the right time to ask voters to consider passing phase one of the long range plan. On Tuesday, November 5, 2019, Jordan Public Schools district residents will vote on three questions:

QUESTION

1

An operating levy of \$300 per pupil unit

- An operating levy helps support student programs and services. Currently, we DO NOT have a voter approved operating levy in place. These additional operating dollars are needed to:
- continue to maintain low elementary class sizes
- improve STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) programming
- attract and retain high quality teachers and staff
- provide operating dollars for our campus to include the new proposed facilities found in Question 2 and 3

QUESTION

2

A bond referendum of \$24.5 million

- ELEMENTARY RENOVATIONS**
 - significant renovation and gymnasium addition to our current elementary school
- NEW EARLY LEARNING SERVICES BUILDING**
 - new early learning services building on the new property, complete with new classrooms for preschool and kids company students
- HIGH SCHOOL REMODEL AND SECURE ENTRANCE**
 - remodel of our high school to build a new secure entry area and STEAM lab to serve the needs of our kids and prepare them for 21st Century jobs
- IMPROVED PARKING AND DRIVES**
 - improve the function and safety of parking, driveways, walkways, drop-off/pick-up loops at our elementary school, high school, ball field area, and CERC

QUESTION

3

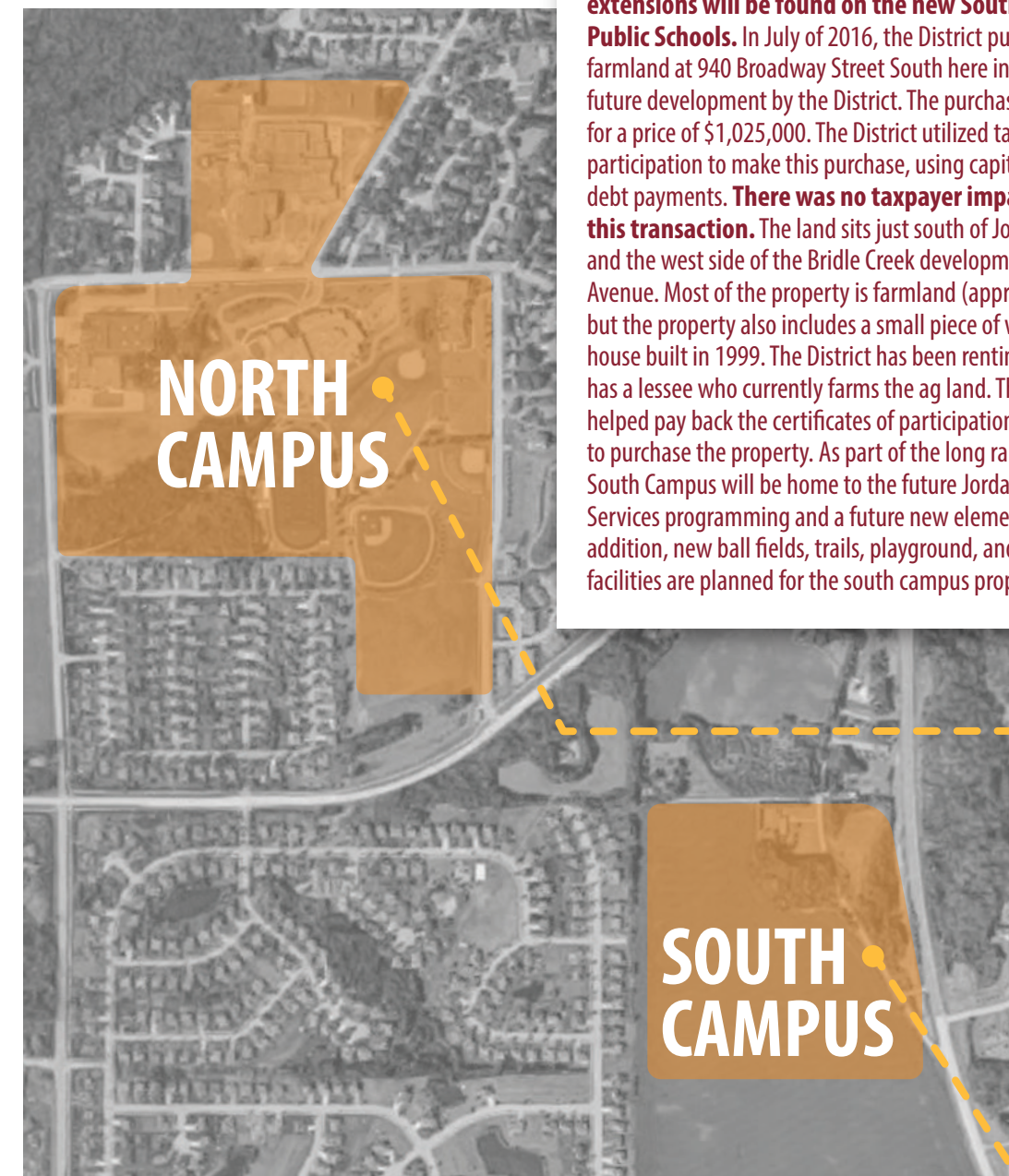
A bond referendum of \$15 million

- HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM EXPANSION**
 - adding approximately 200 seats to our current JHS auditorium, along with new technology and features to ensure it continues to be a performing arts space that meets the needs of the community
- MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY ON SOUTH CAMPUS**
 - a large indoor facility with field turf, golf simulator bays, archery simulator bays, and other amenities aimed at serving the entire community as an extension to the CERC

Question 1 must pass for the others to pass

Question 1 must pass for Question 2 to pass

Question 1 and 2 must pass for Question 3 to pass



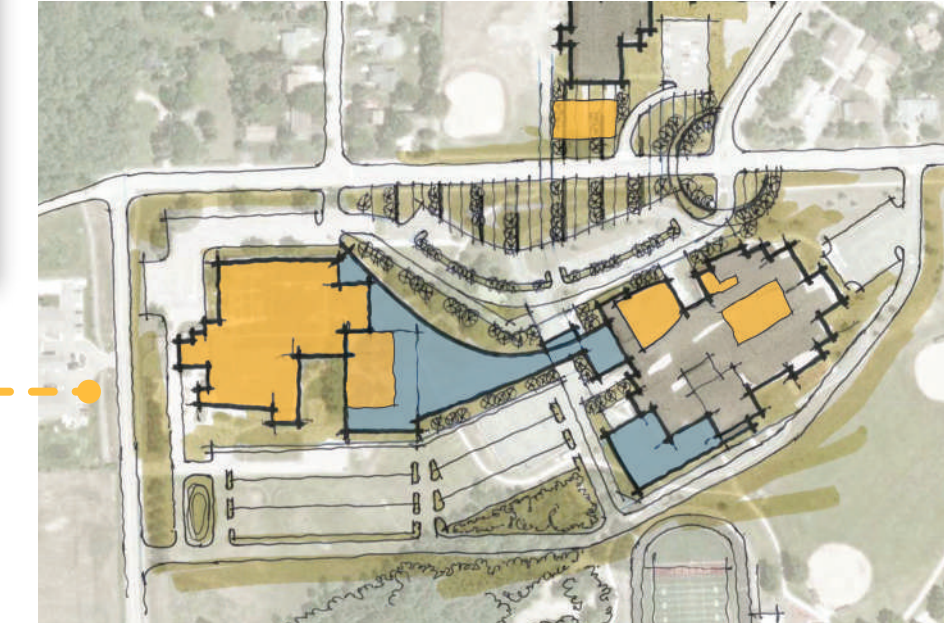
North Campus congestion relief and District programming extensions will be found on the new South Campus of Jordan Public Schools. In July of 2016, the District purchased 40 acres of farmland at 940 Broadway Street South here in Jordan to be used for future development by the District. The purchase of this property was for a price of \$1,025,000. The District utilized taxable certificates of participation to make this purchase, using capital dollars to make debt payments. **There was no taxpayer impact associated with this transaction.** The land sits just south of Jordan between Hwy 21 and the west side of the Bridle Creek development along Hope Avenue. Most of the property is farmland (approximately 33 acres), but the property also includes a small piece of wooded land and a house built in 1999. The District has been renting the house out and has a lessee who currently farms the ag land. This rental income has helped pay back the certificates of participation (loan) that was used to purchase the property. As part of the long range facilities plan, the South Campus will be home to the future Jordan Early Learning Services programming and a future new elementary school. In addition, new ball fields, trails, playground, and indoor recreation facilities are planned for the south campus property.

WE HAVE A PLAN

The plan will be dependent on growth and needs over the next 20-30 years

Our continued growth, evolving needs, and future steps have been examined closely by our Long Range Planning Committee. We are excited to share these drawings based on educational and community priorities and desires.

20-30 YEAR PLAN FOR NORTH CAMPUS



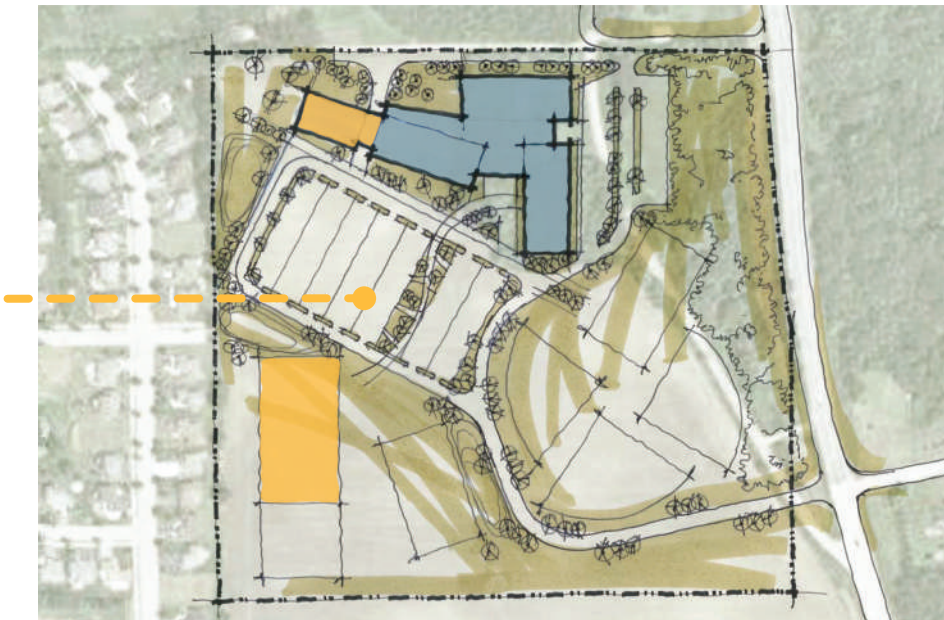
PHASE ONE

- Renovation of existing elementary
- Revised parking and drives (will be determined by current traffic study)
- Renovation of existing high school (secure entrance, STEAM Lab)
- Expansion of current high school auditorium

FUTURE

- Extended learning labs/Summit Academy (formerly JES)
- District support and welcome center (formerly JES)
- Community Connection (connecting JHS and former JES)
- New top-loading gymnasium and expansion of weight room
- Additional artificial turf
- 1,000 seat performing arts center
- Renovation and deferred maintenance of existing middle school

20-30 YEAR PLAN FOR SOUTH CAMPUS



PHASE ONE

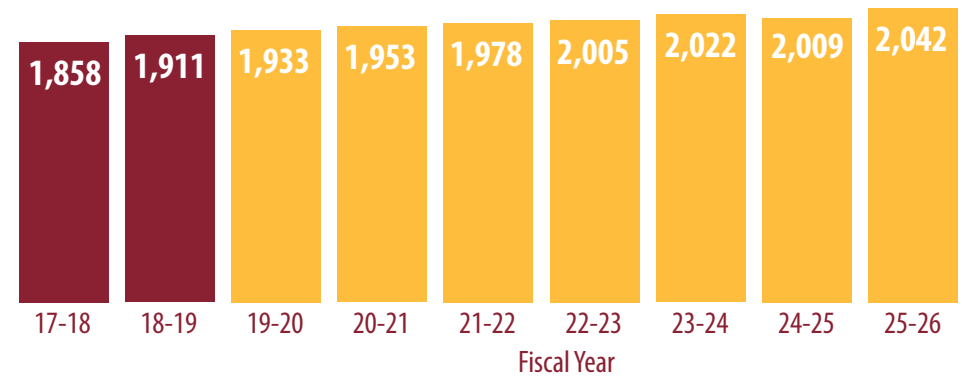
- Early Learning Services Center
- Parking and drives (will work with City of Jordan and Scott County)
- Multipurpose Recreation / Athletic Facility (school and community)
- Playground

FUTURE

- 800 student Kindergarten – 4th Grade Building
- Community Recreation Fields
- Community trails

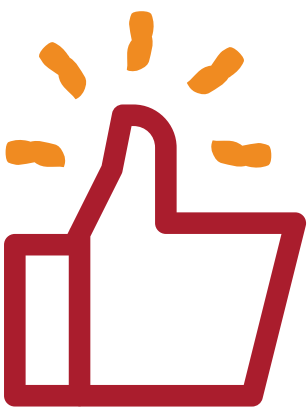
GROWING ENROLLMENT

Our demographic study shows continued growth for Jordan Public Schools. Our City and School Partnership Committee has also given insight on a proposed 400 home development close to our North Campus. This recent news was not part of the demographic study (or the numbers below) and could certainly add to the growth of our student population.



COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Join us – Learn more
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
7:00pm at Jordan High School



PARENT APPROVAL RATINGS

Agree or Strongly Agree responses were tallied to make up the mentioned percentages. The complete survey results with graphs, along with a Question and Answer Session to address comments made as part of the survey, will be shared as part of our website sometime later this summer.

95%

of parents **believe their child receives quality instruction**



Outstanding teachers that help prepare these kids for college. I was told by my college age child that his AP class was more difficult than his college class and that he felt extremely prepared for college. These classes especially helped as they can be very difficult in college and due to their guidance he felt extremely prepared.

94%

of parents are **satisfied with their child's educational experience**



My daughter has had three wonderful grade school teachers, two great pre-k teachers and great Kids' Company support at JES. I am proud to tell people she is a student in this district.

92%

of parents **report their child likes to go to school**



I have been really impressed with the way the school has handled my child. Everyone says hi to him when they see him. It's made an positive impact on him.

92%

of parents **reported an overall satisfaction with the District**



I have been nothing but thoroughly impressed by all the teachers my kids have had. As a community we are so fortunate and blessed to have our children attending a school knowing they are being cared for, nurtured and are getting ready for the "real" world. Thank you Jordan Public Schools and to all the teachers and paraprofessionals a HUGE thank you!

91%

of parents are **satisfied with District leadership**



I volunteer at JES and have seen both the principal and assistant principal in the classrooms interacting with students and teachers. I believe they both do a great job and I am impressed with their connection to the students and parents.

97%

of parents **report that they feel their child's school is safe and secure**



It is clear that teachers are attuned to changes in a student's behavior/mood. They display a genuine sense of care and concern. My child believes that her teachers care about her as a person.

95%

of parents **report that their child knows at least one adult at school with whom they feel comfortable sharing concerns and successes**



My daughter has had such a positive experience with her teacher this year! Her teacher has shown empathy and compassion and has done a nice job of creating a respectful classroom environment. She seems to know her students well.

95%

of parents **reported an overall satisfaction with District-wide communication**



Been in three other districts. Best communication yet!

99%

of parents **report that the school buildings and grounds are clean and well maintained**



The district does such a nice job maintaining their grounds and buildings. Everything is very clean and well kept when I attend school functions. The buildings are a community asset!



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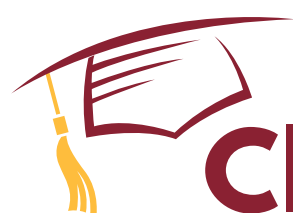
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Congratulations to the Class of 2019!