EASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

11479 U.S. HIGHWAY 62 Phone (937) 695-6275 WINCHESTER, OHIO 45697 Fax (937) 695-9046

Jordan R. Michael – Superintendent

Kevin Kendall - Treasurer

February 9, 2024

Parents/Guardians:

As communicated last spring via Final Forms and parent letter and as you may have seen in the "Weekly Warrior" newsletter or the district website, the Eastern Local School District has been working hard to secure a bid to complete a construction project at Russellville Elementary.

As previously shared, the ELSD is excited to communicate that this project will be funded with federal grant dollars and no additional local tax dollars. The federal government issued three rounds of relief funding to Ohio school districts in response to the coronavirus pandemic, which many school districts, including the ELSD, consider to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to address the health and safety of district students. The most recent round—created by the American Rescue Plan and referred to as ESSER III or ARP ESSER—is the largest round so far and made \$4.5 billion available statewide to Ohio school districts.

The ELSD has worked very closely with DS2 architects to secure a bid from a reputable construction company that fell within the budget of the project. We are happy to report that the ELSD has entered into a construction contract with Perkins Carmack Construction, LLC.

This project will include a renovated front entrance to Russellville Elementary. This project will create a more secure entrance to the school building and create a safer environment for students and staff. This project will also free up current space for mental health services and other health related services.

Reminder about the building project updates page on our district website. The website will continue to be updated throughout the process. (https://www.elsd.us/BuildingProject.aspx)

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External construction on the front of the building will begin during the school year at the end of this month (February). Construction will only take place at the front of the building. Access to the front of the building will not be available and we ask that building visitors utilize the back of the building to check in until the project is completed. Visitors will be greeted by staff upon arrival. Drop off/pick up procedures will remain the same. Bus loading/unloading procedures will be altered.

We have made and continue to make every effort to keep disruptions day to day operations at a minimum, as construction will inevitably take place during the school day/year. The safety of students, staff, and community will be the top priority as we continue to make plans for having school during a project.

Sincerely,

Jordan Michael, Superintendent

Eastern Local School District

Ryan Wagner, Principal

Russellville Elementary