

Community Members of Glenville and Emmons,

For the past 32 years I have had the opportunity to teach and administrate in three different small school districts. One of the things all three districts share is their pride and support for their school district. During the past four years I have witnessed firsthand the pride that the community members of Glenville and Emmons have for this school. This pride is demonstrated in many different ways from the positive support at extracurricular events to the donations given for those in need to the number of volunteers that help out at the school. The staff members at Glenville-Emmons Public School have done a fantastic job at educating your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends. The facilities at both the high school and elementary have served these communities for several decades, but the time has come to address the condition of these facilities. One of our main goals is to provide a safe, secure and efficient facility for our students to receive an education. To ensure we are able to continue providing a quality education in such a facility, we need your help.

In 2016 the past administration paired with a company called Unesco to perform a comprehensive facility assessment. After completing the assessment, it was determined the timing for such a project wasn't right for our communities. Fast forward seven years and it is safe to say those same systems and components have not improved. The thought of renovating and/or building is overwhelming in itself. Add the cost and the complexity associated with such a project and the whole idea is quite daunting. But, there are several systems in both buildings that have reached a critical level. Therefore, we believe that now is the time to address the current and future needs of Glenville-Emmons Public School.

Last spring, we paired with the same company who assisted back in 2016. Unesco has now become Sitelogiq but is essentially run by the same people. The benefit of using the same company is they already have the completed assessments from seven years ago. They have spent some time revisiting our facilities to become familiar with where we were then and where we are now. An additional component that Sitelogiq brought this time is the creation of a group made up of community volunteers. This group was tasked with making a recommendation to the school board regarding facilities. After meeting throughout last spring and summer, the group did bring a recommendation to the school board. Their recommendation: Our school facilities are in dire need of help and something needs to be done right now. This recommendation was accepted and approved by the school board last fall.

On Tuesday, January 17, 2023 a representative from Sitelogiq attended our board meeting to present the make-up of their team, the process they use to facilitate decisions that may lead us to a referendum and a timeline. Much of this information is not new to those of you who have followed our progress since last spring. We want to continue to provide information to all stakeholders to keep you informed so when it comes time to decide how to proceed, you will have the most up-to-date information possible.

Part of our timeline involves working with the community to enlist your assistance in determining what you feel are the most pressing needs for our school. We will collaborate with you so you will have a voice in what this school district will look like now and in the future. In addition to addressing our educational needs, we also want to create a place that can provide more opportunities for community involvement. Obviously a school's main function is to educate students but in small communities a school can be so much more.

We look forward to working with all of you to help Glenville-Emmons Public School remain a great place to send children to receive a quality education.

Respectfully,
Brian Shanks
Superintendent
Glenville-Emmons Public School