





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caledonia Community Schools and the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids Break Ground on New Community Center

West Michigan school district encourages healthier lifestyles through public facility

CALEDONIA, Mich., October 27, 2021 — Today, <u>Caledonia Community Schools (CCS)</u> broke ground with the <u>YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids</u> on a new community facility at 9757 Kraft Avenue SE in Caledonia. The new community center is funded through the passage of the school district's <u>2020 Bond</u>.

The 47,000-square-foot community center will feature a swimming pool and multi-use gymnasium and will be open to both the general public and the CCS community.

"We want to provide our community every chance to get together, get active and practice healthy lifestyles, which is why we're thrilled to announce the groundbreaking of our new community center," said Marcy White, president of Caledonia's Board of Education. "In addition to physical exercise, the center will serve as a hub for further learning opportunities outside of our traditional academic buildings."

The YMCA will work with the school district to provide sanctioned facility management and operations.

"We're thrilled to provide expanded health and wellness services for more communities in West Michigan," said Scott Lewis, President and CEO of YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids. "At the YMCA, our goal is to strengthen communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. This partnership allows us to advance the work of our mission, expand our impact in the region and offer residents accessible and fun ways to get active."

Rockford Construction is leading the construction work for the Cal Community Center, which is projected to be complete in Spring of 2024.

"We feel tremendously honored to work with great partners like Caledonia Community Schools and the Y who are committed to creating spaces where students and community members can learn and thrive," said Rockford's president of construction, Shane Napper. "At Rockford, we don't just build buildings. We take on projects that provide greater meaning and value to communities, and the Cal Community Center is an excellent example of that."

"This new community space will help bring our residents together to improve overall health and wellbeing," CCS Superintendent Dr. Dedrick Martin said. "We want to thank our partners for investing in Caledonia. This project would not be feasible without the community and local support of the 2020 Bond, as well as the YMCA and Rockford Construction. This is a team effort, and we are looking forward to building a stronger, healthier community together."

To learn more about the Cal Community Center, visit https://www.calschools.org/2020-bond/.

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Located in Kent County, Caledonia Community Schools serves students grades K-12 in a 100 square-mile area, including Kent, Allegan and Barry Counties. The school district focuses on academic growth through personalized learning and educating the "whole person" through extracurriculars, community services, internships, field trips, and more. Over 90% of the district's graduates pursue secondary educational opportunities. To learn more, visit calschools.org.

YMCA

The YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids is West Michigan's leading nonprofit strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Through its seven branch locations, YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin, community outreach programs, and childcare sites, the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids is committed to improving the health and well-being of children and families. YMCA programs impact thousands of lives annually and respond to unique community needs across West Michigan. To learn more, visit grymca.org.

ROCKFORD CONSTRUCTION

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