

RED ROCK CENTRAL SCHOOL SALES TAX EXEMPTION REQUEST



UNPRECEDENTED CONSTRUCTION INFLATION

- The voters in Brown, Cottonwood, and Redwood Counties, part of the Red Rock Central School District approved a referendum for a new PK-12 School building to be built in Lamberton, MN in November of 2021. The referendum passed with over 57% support after two unsuccessful attempts.
- The Red Rock Central district was thrilled to be able to offer our Blue Ribbon Award winning students a new building to replace the current 1915 building.
- Unfortunately, due to rising costs we were forced to reduce aspects of the original plan, cut additional areas such as technology, furniture, theater rigging, playground equipment to name a few examples after our bids came in over 30% higher than even our adjusted estimates.
- Sadly, we are not able to deliver to our students, staff, and community the building that we had promised them due to the increased costs.
- Even with value engineering and cuts the overall budget remains 11% over budget.
- Without additional aid, the district will be forced to further use general funds, issue abatement bonds, continue to seek grants, and take capital loans.
- **Thank you for your time and consideration.**

The Springfield and Red Rock Central School Districts are requesting legislative support for Senators Dahms and Weber have proposed a bill that would allow for a state sales tax exemption and refund on materials and supplies used to help complete our voter approved school improvement project.

The Legislature has approved this request by school districts in the past and has stepped in when other unforeseen disasters have impacted the usability of our local school buildings – special funding has helped address the damage from floods, tornadoes, and fires. Today, school districts that passed bond referenda in the years of 2021 and 2022 are faced with a new and serious challenge in their efforts to improve the quality and durability of their local schools: unprecedented construction inflation.

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