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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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School District and Village of McFarland Reach Agreement Regarding the Sale of the Land at Conrad Elvehjem Early Learning Center

A collaborative agreement has been reached between the boards for the School District of McFarland and Village of McFarland. The agreement outlines the terms of the sale from the Village to the School District for the property on which the Conrad Elvehjem Early Learning Center is located. The property is part of a project to expand the facility with a new addition to house the first and second grades as a replacement for the McFarland Primary School, which is located presently in a separate facility on adjoining District-owned property.

“The School District is pleased to reach this agreement, and we look forward to continuing a collaborative relationship with the Village of McFarland in the future for the benefit of taxpayers who both Boards serve.” Andrew Briddell, Superintendent of Schools, announced.

The terms of the agreement provide that the Village will accept the School District’s offer to purchase for the sale of the property in an amount of \$335,000. The District will also provide a separate contribution to the Village of \$165,000 to support the ongoing operations and programming of the McFarland Youth Center, a community based organization. This secondary amount shall be payable over the next four years. The total dollar amount of the agreement is \$500,000. The McFarland Youth Center is a program that the School District and Village support collaboratively to enhance the quality of life in McFarland through programming that supports McFarland School District students in grades 6-8. The organization is currently housed in the former library facility owned by the Village. The agreement further allows for the Village and the Youth Center to work out a separate agreement regarding the details of the future use of these funds.

“The Village is certainly excited for the growth and further development of public facilities within the community, regardless of who owns the improvements,” explained Matt Schuenke, Village Administrator. “The projects put forth within the referendum and to be reviewed shortly for implementation will continue to enhance the quality of life for all residents, and we are eager to begin the next phase in the process. We look forward to continuing our work with the Youth Center as we always have and the future opportunities this may bring us.”

Closing for the transaction will take place as soon as is practicable once final paperwork is prepared by legal representatives for each entity. The improvement at the Conrad Elvehjem Early Learning Center is one of many projects authorized in the School District’s November 8, 2016 referendum. Facility planning and final design is currently underway with plan submittals imminent for review by the Village in late winter or early spring. Likewise, the Village will move forward with the development of a Facility Master Plan to help chart future improvements of its facilities. The Youth Center, along with the public, Village Departments, and other entities, will be integral to this process by assisting in the decision making on the future of Village Facilities.

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