

# Falcon STEAM Referendum Acts on Community Survey

by District Administrator Mike Richie

For the past 22 months, the Tomorrow River School District has invested significant time and energy to understand the educational and facility needs of our district and the direction our community wants to take regarding our schools. We have asked district residents for feedback, including the recent community survey. This survey asked our community specifically about a potential facility plan.

The District learned very important information from this entire process and the survey. From the survey we learned that “The Tomorrow River School District scored above average in terms of overall satisfaction as compared to similar school districts.” You also indicated by your responses that “A majority of resident respondents support the District pursuing a capital referendum to update the schools.” Most importantly, we listened, and we are responding with a referendum to address educational and facility needs on April 5, 2022.

In addition to supporting the base \$21.3 million secure entry and STEAM addition project, you showed support for an additional \$4.4 million of projects to improve the middle school classroom areas along with library and food science areas. Support was not as strong for the gymnasium and auditorium projects, which will not be part of the project at this time.

There will be two questions for this referendum: the base \$21.3 million secure entry and STEAM project, and the \$4.4 million of projects to improve other school areas.

You will see or hear the acronym STEAM many times in the future. STEAM is short for science/technology/engineering/art (agriculture)/math, which is a coordinated educational effort of applied skills and technology meant to prepare students for a rapidly evolving technological world.

Over the next few months leading up to April 5th, you will have the opportunity to learn more about the projects, the process that brought us here, and why this referendum is important to our community. We will be writing more articles in the next two months about these topics. We encourage your feedback and questions.

We have scheduled two opportunities for you to tour our school and ask questions – March 10 at 6:30 p.m. and March 22 at 6:30 p.m. Both meetings will be held in the cafeteria. Our entire community will be receiving additional information in the mail in February.