September 30, 2026

Dear EGRPS Families,

I am writing to share an update on the work of the Joint Parking Subcommittee of the City of East Grand Rapids (City) and the Board of Education which was originally discussed in the March 31, 2026, High School Transformation Update and further described in the May 12, 2026, Joint Parking Design Process letter.

The Joint Parking Subcommittee met routinely throughout this past summer with a focus of a potential parking structure located at the high school's Bagley lot. Three community input meetings related to the possibility of a Bagley parking structure were held, sharing detailed information about the design, answering attendee questions, receiving feedback, and identifying questions for further study. Separate meetings were also held with Gaslight Business Village Association, business property owners to the north, and residents of the Bagley condos to the west of the lot. Informational slidedecks from the community engagements can be viewed online at www.egrps.org/parking.

As of this letter, no decision to build a parking structure on the Bagley site has been made by either the Board of Education or the City of East Grand Rapids. The conceptual design of a potential structure was advanced to approximately 50% of the design development architectural phase which the Joint Parking Subcommittee believes is sufficient for the concept to be well understood and functionally evaluated by stakeholders. Due to stringent campaign finance laws governing elections, the District can only discuss aspects of the project that directly impact school operations.

Key District Related Facts of the 50% Design Development Bagley Parking Structure Concept*

- The District would fund 50% of all capital expenditures for the construction using existing resources
- The District would fund 50% of the operational costs using General Fund resources
- The design allows for 240 parking spaces (the final number could be less but not greater than 240)
- On school days during school hours, approximately two-thirds of the parking spaces would be dedicated to school usage only
- On non-school days and outside of school hours, school event attendees could access 100% of the parking spaces on a first-come, first-served basis
- School event attendees would not be charged a fee when using the facility
- An elevator is integrated into the design on the southwest corner next to the Performing Arts Center entrance
- The design maintains a dedicated drop-off lane next to the Performing Arts Center and existing Door #35
- The north edge of the Bagley site design provides a 10 ft pedestrian pathway allowing access to the Community Pool

*Note: If the structure proceeds to the 100% Design Development and Construction Documentation design phases, modifications may occur.

East Grand Rapids Public Schools
Heidi S. Kattula, Ed.D., Superintendent
2915 Hall Street SE | Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616-235-3535 | Fax: 616-235-3256 | egrps.org

High School Campus Parking Statistics

- The high school had 216 on-site parking spaces prior to the start of construction in June 2026
- Excluding the temporary parking lot at the east end of the track, the high school currently has 77 on-site parking spaces
- The temporary lot provides approximately 155 parking spaces for student and event use (the temporary lot will be removed in the spring of 2028 to allow for reconstruction of the track and field)
- During Phase 2 of construction from 2028 to 2030, the high school will have approximately 65 on-site parking spaces and no site exists to house another temporary parking lot
- When the high school transformation construction project is finished in late summer 2030, the high school site will have approximately 144 parking spaces

City of East Grand Rapids Election

On August 6, 2026, the City Commission passed a resolution approving a ballot question for the November 3, 2026, election. This ballot question will ask voters if they will approve a City millage to allow the City to issue and repay bonds for the City's portion of a potential joint parking structure at Bagley (among other allowed related uses)**.** Please note that this ballot question is the result of an independent act of the City Commission under state law. The District respects and honors the autonomy of the City in this regard. The District is legally required to remain a neutral party to any ballot question notwithstanding the fact that the District continues to seek a partnership with the City on parking issues.

Community Voice and Input on the Bagley Parking Structure Concept

The Board of Education understands that the City's ballot question will provide voters with the opportunity to directly express their opinion about a jointly constructed and operated parking structure at Bagley. As such, this election's outcome will provide the Board of Education important insights to community sentiment on the parking structure concept. Passage or defeat of this question will help inform whether the District continues or pauses efforts to pursue a parking structure or identifies new efforts yet to be determined. This election's outcome will be reviewed carefully by the District in partnership with the City in the months following the election. When more is known following the election, I will provide the community additional updates about parking plans going forward.

Should you have any questions about the Joint Parking Subcommittee process, please reach out to Anthony Morey, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, by phone at 616-235-3535 ext. 5 or by email at amorey@egrps.org. If you have questions about the City's ballot question, please reach out to your City Commissioner or City leadership directly.

Sincerely,

Heidi S. Kattula, Ed.D.
Superintendent