

The Vision

Avoca School District 37 • Community Newsletter

Avoca BOE Considering Options for Avoca Center

Originally opened at the height of the baby boom in the late 1950's with an addition built in 1961, Avoca East Elementary School served this district well during a period of rapid growth when student enrollment peaked at over 1,500 children, more than double the current enrollment. Within just a few decades, those numbers rapidly declined leading to the closing of the elementary school in 1977.



Renamed Avoca Center, the building has served in a variety of capacities since the school closed. Most recently, Arlyn Day School has rented the south wing, while One Hope United Day Care has occupied the north side of the building. Though the district does draw rental income from both of its tenants, the monies collected are not enough to pay for the

capital improvements currently needed.

After deliberating on this topic for quite some time and investigating other options, the Board of Education finds itself in the position of deciding to either sell the property to a developer for the purpose of building single-family homes or selling bonds to pay for the capital improvement projects in order to continue operating it as a rental facility.

The Avoca BOE knows that this is an important decision with a significant impact on not only the school district, but on the entire Avoca community. A community meeting is being planned for the end of October to give the school district the opportunity to present information, answer questions and receive community input. Further information about this event will be coming soon.