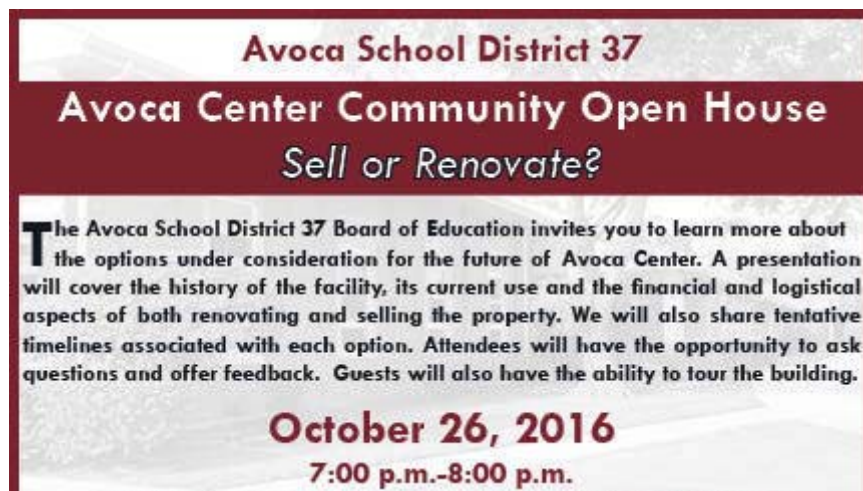


From the community: Avoca Board of Education Considering Options for Avoca Center



Avoca School District 37
Avoca Center Community Open House
Sell or Renovate?

The Avoca School District 37 Board of Education invites you to learn more about the options under consideration for the future of Avoca Center. A presentation will cover the history of the facility, its current use and the financial and logistical aspects of both renovating and selling the property. We will also share tentative timelines associated with each option. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer feedback. Guests will also have the ability to tour the building.

October 26, 2016
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Posted by harriss4, Community Contributor

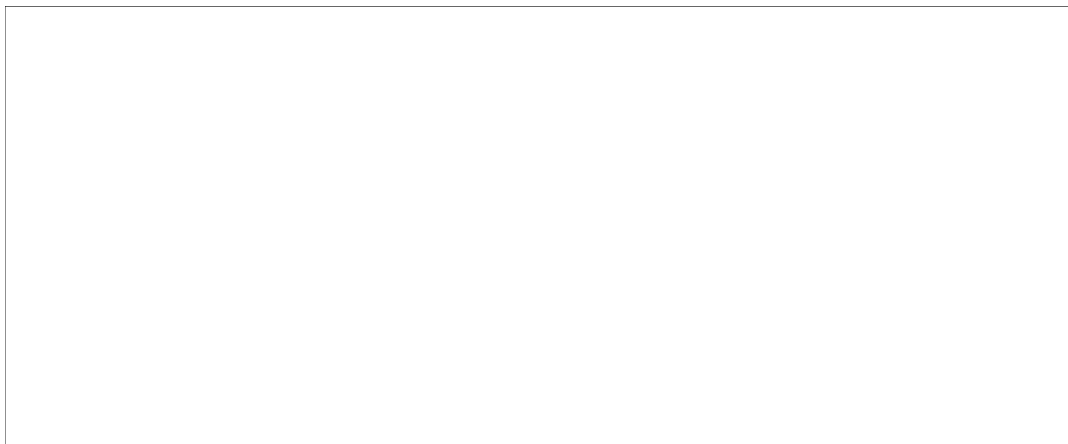
By **Community Contributor harriss4**

OCTOBER 14, 2016, 3:31 PM

O riginally opened at the height of the baby boom in the 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 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.

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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 held on October 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. to give the school district the opportunity to present information, answer questions and receive community input. For more information about this event and to stay up to date with the entire process visit www.avoca37.org/avocacenter. If you have specific questions you would like answered during the presentation, please email them to harriss@avoca37.org. Your input is very valuable to us. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

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