



## GROUND BROKEN FOR A NEW BETHEL PARK HIGH SCHOOL

The Bethel Park School District held a Groundbreaking Ceremony on Saturday, September 12 to officially begin the construction of a new Bethel Park High School.

The ceremony was held on the practice field on Black Hawk Drive, across the street from the current gymnasium. This site represents where the new school will be built, with the front door along Black Hawk Drive.

Speaking at the ceremony was Superintendent Thomas A. Knight, Ed.D., who announced that the projected opening date for the new high school will be August 2012.

Also speaking were Bethel Park School Board President Donna Cook and Bethel Park High School Principal Dr. Zeb Jansante.

“This is a day that has been a long time in coming,” said Mrs. Cook. “It is the culmination of almost four years of hard work. A new high school will provide our students with a safe and secure environment. It will enable the district to support its educational philosophy and deliver a world-class educational program that will prepare our students for their futures.

### **MISSION:**

*To lead an educational partnership with the Community, maintaining an environment that challenges all students to reach their potential as lifelong learners and responsible members of society.*

“Our classrooms will be fully outfitted with technologies that will allow for flexible use and interactive instruction. Our new school will provide an environment that fosters collaborative learning, to actively engage students in the learning process.”

The new Bethel Park High School will include 94 classrooms, a 1,300 seat auditorium, a 2,350 seat gymnasium, eight-lane swimming pool, large group instruction room/small theater, television studio, band room and cafeteria with a connecting outdoor courtyard.

Participating in the ground breaking were members of the Bethel Park Board of School Directors: Donna Cook, Vice President Richard Rose, David Amaditz, Daniel Duff, Susan Gout, Connie Ruhl, Chuck Scheuble, Russ Spicuzza and Ronald Sustich; district administrators Dr. Knight; Assistant Superintendent Nancy Aloï Rose, Assistant to the Superintendent for Finance and Operations Matt Howard, Dr. Jansante; Bethel Park High School freshman Jake McCall, representing the class of 2013, which is currently projected to be the first graduating class from the new school; Project Manager Charlie Yazembiak, representing architects Weber Murphy Fox; Kevin Hayes, President of Hayes Design Group, and Joseph Massaro, III, President of Massaro Construction Management Services, LLC.

The Bethel Park High School Marching Band, under the direction of David Buetzow, performed as part of the ceremonies.

On August 20, the Bethel Park Board of School Directors awarded bids in the amount of \$73,312,745 for the construction of the new school and the eventual demolition of the current eight building campus, once the new school is completed. The bids were 18 percent under projection and the total cost of the new school is currently estimated at \$88 million. The total cost for the school includes technology, furniture and equipment, as well

as other “soft costs,” such as architect fees, construction management fees, engineering fees and site work.

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