CCSD 168 Celebrates Completion of New Playgrounds and Water Filtration System

New Construction and Renovations Underway Will Improve Learning Environment, Reduce Costs, and Promote Efficiency

Sauk Village, Ill. (August 16, 2016) – Dr. Donna Leak, Superintendent of Community Consolidated Schools District 168 (CCSD 168) was joined by members of the School Board, staff, and Energy Systems Group (ESG), a leading energy services provider, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate completion of new playgrounds as part of a comprehensive renovation project at Wagoner Elementary, Strassburg Elementary, and Rickover Junior High.

The project commenced this summer and will be completed in phases over the next 18 months. In addition to new playgrounds at Wagoner and Strassburg, the project scope includes new flooring at all three buildings; new piping and water filtration systems at all three buildings; an upgraded track at Rickover; a new Learning Resource Center at Rickover; and a remodel of the sixth grade wing at Rickover.

“The work we are doing will impact generations of students in Sauk Village,” said Dr. Leak. “In addition to the opportunities for our students, this work will also provide the district with significant operational savings in the years to come showing a great deal of fiscal prudence on the part of our Board,” she added. “Our mission to inspire, challenge, and support every child every day is at the heart of all that we do, and it is the district's goal to use this project in attracting families to Sauk Village to take advantage of the updated buildings and new curricular initiatives supporting our children.”

CCSD 168 was one of 29 school districts qualified to receive $9 million in Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) for capital improvements and repairs. The QSCB is part of a Federal Program to assist school districts with capital projects needed to update and maintain buildings and grounds. Close to 200 School districts across the state applied for the QSCB. The intent of the Federal program is to allow districts to issue bonds for which the federal government will cover the interest cost thereby allowing school districts to be responsible for the principal and not the full interest costs. This opportunity allows the district to make needed repairs now while still being able to maintain a fund balance for other needed future expenditures.

“We’ve been fortunate to partner with Dr. Leak and the District 168 School Board to help fulfill their vision and commitment to improving the learning environment and transforming schools into state-of-the-art facilities for the Sauk Village community,” said Steve Kowalski, ESG Sales Manager.

As part of a communications platform for the project, ESG has customized a project website that includes project implementation updates, photos, and informational materials. To learn more about the CCSD 168 Renovation Project, visit [http://www.energysystemsgroup.com/ccsd168](http://www.energysystemsgroup.com/ccsd168).

Energy Systems Group (ESG), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vectren Corporation (NYSE: VVC), is a leading energy services provider that specializes in energy efficiency, sustainability, and infrastructure improvement solutions in the government, education, healthcare, commercial, and industrial sectors. ESG also offers a full range of sustainable infrastructure solutions including waste-to-energy, distributed generation, and renewable energy. To learn more about ESG, visit [www.energysystemsgroup.com](http://www.energysystemsgroup.com).

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