

Albany Early Learning Center design development phase almost complete



**Albany Area Schools
superintendent**
By Travis Okerlund

Albany Area Schools is committed to sharing continuous updates about the new Early Learning Center with our community. Since our last update in January, the design phase process continues to move forward. Here is a quick look at what has occurred.

The schematic design phase is now complete, and the project is close to completing the design development phase. To ensure the project continues on budget, a project estimate was completed at the end of the schematic design phase. In addition, design development drawings and estimates were presented to the Project Oversight Committee April 18.

User group meetings with various departments are now complete. This feedback is critical as we move toward finalizing the building's overall layout. More information about the various areas and programs involved and those that were involved can be found at OurHuskiesOurFuture.org/next-steps.

Our architectural and engineering team is continuing its review of the existing building and completing site verifications.

Abatement work has been completed and the bid for interior demolition will be awarded next month.

An informational community meeting about

the new Early Learning Center was held March 8. Thank you to those who attended.

We will be inviting residents to attend a groundbreaking event sometime this summer to celebrate the new Early Learning Center officially moving into the construction phase of the project. As a reminder, please visit OurHuskiesOurFuture.org/next-steps for everything you need to know about this project.

As always, if you have questions or feedback, I would be happy to hear from you. I can be reached by email at tokerlund@district745.org or by phone at 320-845-5050.