



*Excellence in All We Do!*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 21, 2021

RE: NEW HIGH SCHOOL FUNDING

On Tuesday, May 11, 2021, the voters of Guntersville voted not to fund the new High School through the addition of ad valorem property taxes. Collectively the City and Board of Education believed this would have provided both short and long range funding mechanisms and a solution to construct the new Guntersville High School, but would also support additional capital projects and maintenance needs within the School District. Following the referendum, entities from outside of Guntersville began claiming credit for the failure of the resolution. While outside organizations are claiming victory in the failure of our local referendum; local Guntersville organizations, community members and our community leaders are working together to realize the future of our local community and schools.

In support of that effort, Wednesday, May 19th, 2021, Mayor Leigh Dollar and incoming Superintendent Jason Barnett met to discuss and share ideas on how best to proceed and meet the needs of a new high school. While a "silver bullet" funding mechanism does not currently exist; a will and a commitment from both the City and the Board of Education to work collectively to see this project come to fruition for the students of Guntersville does exist.

In the coming weeks and months, Mayor Dollar and Superintendent Barnett will continue working together to identify and explore potential streamlining and funding opportunities that support the financing and construction of a new Guntersville High School for our students and for the future of the City of Guntersville. We believe that this collective commitment and effort will serve our schools and community for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Leigh Dollar  
Mayor of Guntersville

Jason Barnett  
Superintendent, Guntersville City Schools