

Renville County West



Project

23,700 ft.² addition

AREAS

six elementary classrooms, gymnasium, locker rooms, fitness areas, restrooms, bus drop area

BUDGET	FINAL COST
\$5,246,540	\$4,921,540

Referendum: January 2015
Design: January – July 2015
Bid phase: August 2015
Project started: September 2015
Completed: September 2016

Twice as nice

Renville County West wanted to keep its K – 12 building, originally constructed in 1921, yet needed an addition with diverse areas from classrooms to locker rooms to a bus drop area.

"We attempted a referendum in August of 2014, which included pre-referendum guidance from R.A. Morton," explains Superintendent Michelle Mortensen. An architect who had worked with R.A. Morton on the Lakeview Public School project recommended R.A. Morton.

"Since many residents just assumed it would be approved, our "Yes" committee wasn't really vocal, and the referendum failed by 84 votes.

"We turned around, actually increased the project budget to incorporate a few more needs, and in January, the second referendum passed by about 100 votes," Michelle says.

Renville's district includes about 500 students, which can shift depending on the migrant workers and their families in the area (Renville is in west central Minnesota's rich agricultural region).

"right from the start"



“Our project involved two areas under construction at the same time, yet we wanted to be open by the first day of school in September 2016. R.A. Morton helped us stay on track: At some points we were actually far ahead of schedule. I appreciated how R.A. Morton kept me informed throughout the process, so I could then keep our staff updated. R.A. Morton even helped facilitate some walk-throughs for our teachers and staff members.”

— MICHELLE MORTENSEN
Superintendent, Renville County West

R.A. Morton contributions

- Facility Analysis
- Pre-Referendum Planning – Two Referendums
- Estimating
- Competitive Bid
- Value Engineering
- On-Site Construction Management
- Project Management
- Project Cost Accounting
- Budget Management
- Schedule Management
- Project Closeout

School started on time that fall in Renville. “Our entire community was excited to see the school addition and all its features,” Michelle says. “We now have more space to educate, enlighten and grow. And that’s good for all of us.”

