

Wisconsin Public Service Begins Gas Line Work Ahead of Rhinelander School District's \$26 Million Technical Education Project

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Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) has commenced preparatory gas line work at Rhinelander High School and James Williams Middle School, signaling the imminent commencement of the School District of Rhinelander's \$26 million technical education renovation and expansion project. Construction is scheduled to begin in April, following voter approval in a spring referendum.

The project, approved by a two-thirds majority, will modernize technical education facilities at both schools, addressing the growing demand for skilled tradespeople in the Northwoods region. District Superintendent Eric Burke confirmed that WPS is undertaking the necessary infrastructure adjustments to support the planned renovations and additions.

The referendum, the result of a comprehensive needs assessment initiated in 2021, aims to upgrade facilities that date back to the 1950s and 1970s, respectively. School officials recognized the need to align educational resources with the evolving demands of a technologically advanced workforce.

"WPS's work is crucial for ensuring the project's timely and efficient progression," stated Superintendent Burke. "During the school year, all construction activities will be limited to exterior work to minimize disruption to students and staff."

The project underscores the School District of Rhinelander's commitment to providing students with state-of-the-art technical education facilities, preparing them for successful careers in high-demand industries.