

# MASTER PLANNING SUCCESS STORY

## CAMANCHE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DURING  
MASTER  
PLANNING  
HELPED THE  
DISTRICT SECURE

70%

APPROVAL

VOTE

What started as a conversation around maintaining an aging swimming pool expanded into a broader evaluation of the district's needs, including wellness space, gymnasium capacity and fine arts areas. When the Camanche Community School District engaged Estes to assist with developing a district-wide facility master plan, Estes started by defining and understanding the district's goals for its facilities and how they support student learning.

Initial discussions with the board, administration and community helped establish interest in developing a long-term vision. Estes collaborated with the architect to guide the process and provide structure, bringing experience in facility planning and outlining clear steps to move the district forward.

The team worked with the district to gather input from stakeholders through community meetings and engagement opportunities with parents, students and staff. This input helped shape an initial plan and identify priorities. A community survey provided additional insight, confirming key needs and helping the district align its plan with community expectations.

Based on this feedback, the district developed a master plan and moved forward with a bond referendum. The community showed strong support for the plan, with more than 70% approval, exceeding the required threshold.

Following referendum approval, the project moved into the bidding phase. Initial bids came in over budget, requiring the team to reassess and refine the scope. Working with project partners, the district evaluated priorities, distinguishing between essential elements and items that could be adjusted. The project was rebid and ultimately aligned with the district's budget, allowing construction to proceed.

The completed project delivered expanded and enhanced facilities, including improved wellness areas, additional gymnasium space and an upgraded auditorium and fine arts environment. These spaces are now actively used by students and the broader community, supporting both educational and community activities.

Through a structured planning process, strong community engagement and careful management of challenges, the district successfully transformed its initial questions into a clear plan and a completed project that meets the needs of its students and community.