The strategic decision was made to accelerate construction of the weight training room, wrestling room, film and team meetings room, and coaches’ offices (collectively referred to as the “athletics rooms”) from Phase 2 into Phase 1 of the capital campaign. This decision was made for the following economic and logistical reasons:

1. Construction of the softball/baseball training facility (funded by a donor separate from the capital campaign) created a new opportunity to locate the athletics rooms under the softball/baseball facility.

2. The athletics rooms were originally going to be built as part of a two-story new Education Wing, but locating the athletics rooms under the softball/baseball facility allows the future new Education Wing to be a one-story structure, thus reducing construction costs for the new Education Wing. In addition, this change in location allowed the athletics rooms to be built under more flexible and substantially less costly building regulations than if the athletics rooms had been incorporated into the new Education Wing, including:
   a. Did not have to install an elevator to connect the top and bottom floors (the softball/baseball level and the athletics rooms level are both handicap accessible from different entrances)
   b. Framing the athletics rooms in wood instead of steel studs or masonry walls
   c. Constructing walls with drywall instead of masonry
   d. Installing a sprinkler system without the need for fire ratings on flooring systems and floor trusses
   e. Constructing the flooring system out of wood instead of metal and concrete
   f. Stairs constructed of wood instead of poured concrete and metal
   g. All exterior walls are metal instead of masonry
   h. Simplified engineering design (and thus lower cost) for a one-story new Education Wing

3. The originally planned two-story new Education Wing could not be built until the old athletics rooms were torn down. A two-story new Education Wing would likely take upwards of one year to complete start to finish, which meant that temporary facilities would need to be built to house the athletics rooms. Building and then tearing down temporary athletics rooms one year later would have been both costly and operationally difficult for the school. Thus, placing the athletics rooms in the bottom level of the softball/baseball facility and the inherent operational difficulties avoided any additional costs.

4. Placing the athletics rooms in the bottom level of the softball/baseball facility allowed the athletics rooms to be built with more square footage than would have been possible if built as part of a two-story new Education Wing. This increased footprint helps to “future proof” the athletics rooms so that they serve Regina for the next 80+ years (the design lifespan of the new athletics building), instead of potentially needing to increase the size of the athletics rooms 20 or 30 years from now to remain competitive with other area schools.

5. By moving forward with utilizing lower level space in the softball/baseball facility for the athletics rooms, it will allow for compression of the timeline for completion of the new Education Wing should we achieve the campaign goal necessary to fund the entire project - thus allowing us to recognize our vision sooner rather than later.

The priorities of the Pride In Our Past, Building Our Future capital campaign remain unchanged to 1) build a new Education Wing (to replace the classrooms re-purposed for the Early Childhood Center expansion, provide a new state of the art science lab, etc.), and 2) expand and modernize the Early Childhood Center to increase overall school enrollment (to support teacher pay for the long-term).

In summary, Regina’s engineers project that accelerating construction of the athletics rooms from Phase 2 into Phase 1 of the campaign will save Regina over $1 million long-term, plus the additional benefits detailed above. Thank you for your continued support of the ongoing Pride In Our Past, Building Our Future capital campaign!