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# Ringgold will save \$1.4M on new school

By [Chris Buckley](#)

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With the awarding of bids for a new Ringgold Middle School just six months away, the school board this week determined the final design for the building.

The new design will eliminate two wings, reduce excavation work and save the district \$1.4 million.

It represents the last significant change to the design, board Vice President Bill Stein said.

“Any changes from now on will be cosmetic,” Stein said. “We’re set on floor plans and the auditorium.”

The board Wednesday approved PlanCON E, the design development stage, which chooses the architectural aspects of a project when the design is fully developed.

Concerned about the potential slope of the land on which the new school would sit, planners made the changes.

The school will be rectangular in shape, with a courtyard in the middle of the first floor that incorporates glass to provide sunlight on interior-facing classrooms, board President Mariann Bulko said.

The building, constructed on the same Carroll campus as the high school, is expected to cost \$42,617,139, Bulko said.

“We’re very pleased with the design,” Bulko said. “It will let more light in and be more esthetically pleasing.”

The middle school project is on schedule. In September, the Carroll Township Planning Commission will be asked to approve a land development plan. The township supervisors will get the plan in October.

The bid document should be approved by mid-December. Bids are slated to be received by Jan. 19 and awarded Jan. 27.

Construction should begin by the end of February. Construction is scheduled for completion Aug. 4, 2017.

Classes will begin in the new middle school at the start of the 2017-18 school year.

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