I am writing to provide an important update regarding our school district's Tecumseh Community Memorial Pool facility. Following our previous communication about the temporary closure for HVAC and mechanical equipment work, we have discovered additional structural concerns that require immediate attention.

# **Current Status and New Findings**

As we began work on replacing the pool's HVAC and mechanical equipment, our architectural and engineering firms recommended additional structural testing in preparation for the eventual roof replacement project. This investigation involved examining the strength and integrity of the steel columns within the pool building walls. The initial test results are showing degradation of the steel columns, and our engineers have informed us that reopening the pool is not recommended until further comprehensive structural testing can be completed.

# Safety First Approach

While this is certainly disappointing news, we must exercise due diligence and follow professional recommendations to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and community members. The structural integrity of the facility is paramount, and we cannot compromise on safety standards.

# **Timeline and Next Steps**

We are ordering the comprehensive structural testing immediately, with results expected by October 1, 2025. Once we receive these results, they will be analyzed by the engineering teams, and discussions regarding the future of the pool facility will be had based on the findings. It is too early to determine specific next steps without the detailed testing results.

# **Impact on Swimming Programs**

We are working diligently to secure alternative swim practice sites for our boys and girls swim teams. We understand this creates additional challenges for our athletic programs and will communicate arrangements as soon as they are confirmed.

#### **Community Programs**

All community programs, including swim lessons, open swim hours, Tigersharks, and aquatic exercise classes, remain suspended. Previously issued refunds and annual pass extensions continue to apply, and additional adjustments will be made as necessary based on the extended timeline.

# **Ongoing Communication**

Progress reports, timeline updates, and any decisions regarding the pool's future will be shared through the district website, email communications, and social media channels. We recognize that this extended closure is unfortunate and untimely for our students, staff, and community members who rely on this facility. However, taking the necessary precautions now is essential to ensure the long-term safety and viability of our pool operations.

Thank you for your continued understanding and patience as we navigate these unexpected challenges while prioritizing the safety of our community.

Sincerely,

Matt Hilton
Superintendent