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LAPEER

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Home of the Lightning

**SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT**

BOND 2022

Good News: Pass or Fail, Your Taxes are Going Down

Here's a question we've heard frequently since the start of the 2022 School Improvement Bond campaign: What will happen to the millage rate if the bond fails? This is a great question and, fortunately, it's a simple answer: For taxpayers within the boundaries of Lapeer Community Schools, taxes will go

down regardless of the outcome of the vote on November 8.

If the "Nuts and Bolts" School Improvement Bond Proposal passes, taxes will slightly decrease from 2.75 mills to 2.65 mills. If the proposal fails, the rate would decrease to an estimated 2.0 to 2.25 mills.

In either case, Lapeer Community

Schools would continue to levy the lowest millage rate in Lapeer County.

So how much would you save? Probably not as much as you think.

Property taxes in Michigan are calculated by multiplying the taxable value of your property by the number of mills levied. So, in this case, failure to pass the bond

would save taxpayers approximately .50 mills. In plain English, that's 50 cents for every \$1,000 of your home's taxable value. So, for instance, school millage taxes on a home with a taxable value of \$61,000 (the state average in 2020) would decrease by less than \$3 per month.

On November 8, district voters will decide on a zero-tax-increase school bond proposal that would fund facility improvements across Lapeer Community Schools

YOUR VOTE
Counts



— Paid for by Lapeer Community Schools —

IF THE ZERO-TAX-INCREASE SCHOOL BOND PROPOSAL PASSES, EVERY FACILITY IN THE DISTRICT (OTHER THAN THE ADMINISTRATION & SERVICES CENTER) WOULD BE IMPACTED.

The list of projects below and their associated costs have been vetted and ultimately approved through the bond application process by the Michigan Department of Treasury in the spring of 2022.

BUS GARAGE

Total Cost \$3,354,323

- New Buses (10)
- Replace Section of Roof
- Rekey All Doors
- Bathroom Renovation
- Break Room Renovation
- Office Renovation
- New Bus Wash System
- New Bus Heater Blocks
- New Site Lighting
- Paving of Staff and Bus Parking Area

Lapeer High School

Total Cost \$22,022,240

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Auditorium Remodel
- North Parking Lot and Drive Paving
- Lighting Upgrades
- Fire Alarm System Upgrade
- Phone and Clock System Upgrade
- Science Rooms (3) Construction
- Classroom (2) Construction
- Classroom Updates
- Weight Room Addition
- Multi-Purpose Athletic Space Addition
- Replace Roofing
- Door Replacements
- Student Locker Additions
- Support Space – Light Remodel
- New Generator for Technology
- Sidewalk Replacement
- Bathroom Renovation
- Plumbing Upgrades
- HVAC Upgrades Including Temperature Control Panel
- Public Address System Update
- Video Production Equipment
- South Parking Lot Hill Removal

CENTER FOR INNOVATION

Total Cost \$2,323,567

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Hazardous Material Abatement
- New Front Facade
- New Site Lighting
- Expand and Pave North Parking Lot
- Demolition of Northern Section of Building
- Site Restoration

Lapeer Virtual – Cramton Campus

Total Cost \$38,519

- Rekey All Doors
- Upgrade Classroom Doors/Barricades

Lynch Elementary

Total Cost \$1,386,773

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Sidewalk Replacement
- Playground Upgrades
- HVAC Upgrades
- Public Address System Update

Maple Grove Campus

Total Cost \$96,661

- Replace Roof over Small Addition
- Rekey All Doors
- Upgrade Classroom Doors/Barricades

Murphy Elementary

Total Cost \$3,234,341

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Multi-Purpose Addition and Renovations
- Sidewalk Replacement
- Bathroom Remodeling
- Playground Upgrades
- HVAC Upgrades
- Public Address System Update

Rolland-Warner Campus

Total Cost \$620,606

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Install Security Doors/Frames
- Reconstruct Entrance Area Soffit
- Replace Frost Slabs
- Sidewalk Replacement and New Bus Loop Sidewalk
- Add Playground Equipment
- Geothermal (HVAC) Upgrades
- Public Address System Update

Schickler Elementary

Total Cost \$6,012,551

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Multi-Purpose Addition and Renovations
- Repave Parking Lots and Bus Loop
- Repave Schickler Drive
- Remodel to Close Open Classrooms
- Sidewalk Replacement
- Bathroom Remodeling
- Playground Upgrades
- HVAC Upgrades
- Public Address System Update

Turrill Elementary

Total Cost \$4,408,092

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Multi-Purpose Addition and Renovations
- New Lighting
- New Parking
- Improve Parent Pick-Up Loop
- Storm Water Management
- Drainage Improvement
- Bathroom Remodeling
- Playground Upgrades
- HVAC Upgrades
- Public Address System Update

Zemmer Campus

Total Cost \$684,257

- Safety & Security Upgrades (including door locks/barricades)
- Replace Main Entry Doors/Frames
- New Generator for Technology
- Sidewalk Replacement
- Geothermal (HVAC) Upgrades
- Public Address System Update

FUTURE GRADE CONFIGURATION WITH BOND PASSAGE

School	Grades
Lapeer HS	9-12
Zemmer	7-8
Rolland-Warner	5-6
Elementary	E5K-4

YOUR VOTE Counts

★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★

WHAT DOES THE BOND COST?

For the majority of school bond proposals, one of the major parts of the informational campaign is centered on cost to individual homeowners. Generally, school districts give voters access to a bond calculator that will show them how much additional they will pay on their property taxes if the school bond proposal were to pass.

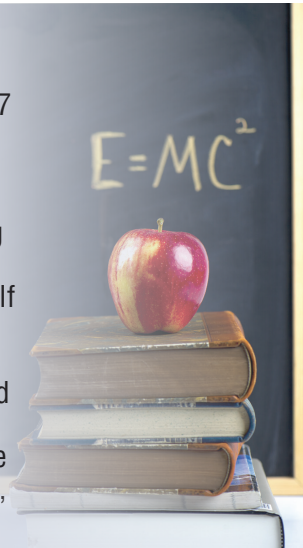
Here's the best news: You won't see a bond calculator, because our proposal does not increase the current tax rate for property owners in the District. This is a zero-tax-increase school bond that, in essence, is more like a renewal. It is a continuation of the current rate for nine additional years. Passage would allow the District to address needs that have accumulated over the

years since the last successful bond proposal passage in 2007 (also a no-tax-increase bond).

This bond would provide approximately \$44 million in funding for improvement projects across the District (increased security, new paving, roofs, heating and cooling improvements, etc.).

The current debt of the district is set to expire in 2037. If the proposed bond passes on November 8, the debt would be retired in 2045.

The most recent passage of a school improvement bond in the District was in 2007, which was also a zero-tax-increase proposal. That bond funded the renovations of the Rolland-Warner 6-7 Campus and the Zemmer 8-9 Campus, our two nicest buildings to this day.



HOW CAN DISTRICTS RAISE FUNDS WITHOUT RAISING TAXES?

School improvement bonds are the vehicle that school districts most often use to pay for major construction and improvement projects.

Often, in order to raise the necessary funds to complete projects, districts ask voters to approve an increase to the existing millage rate (i.e. a higher rate of taxation on properties).

There are times, however, that school districts require less mills to retire the current bonded debt that is on the books. A major reason for this is an increase in the taxable value of properties that occurs

over time. As taxable values increase, the rate at which properties must be taxed decreases.

A recent example is the \$36.8 million school improvement bond that passed in Imlay City Schools in 2019. The bond passed and the millage rate for Imlay City Schools residents stayed at the same rate (6.5 mills).

Our current rate in Lapeer Community Schools is the lowest in Lapeer County. If the bond passes, the rate would actually decrease to 2.65 mills.



WHAT CAN BOND FUNDS BE USED FOR?

Bond proposals can often be confusing for voters, so let's take a moment to discuss what bond funds can (and cannot) be used for.

Generally speaking, a bond is the mechanism by which school districts pay for large-scale projects, including new facilities and major renovations. All bond proposals are approved by the state only for a set scope of projects and nothing more. Once a bond proposal is passed, the school district sells one or more bonds in the authorized amount and uses those funds to pay for only the projects listed

in the proposal.

In this way, bonds are not unlike a mortgage on a home as they are typically paid off over the course of many years. Just as most homebuyers cannot afford to buy a home outright, the vast majority of school districts fund new and renovated facilities using bonds.

Bond funds can only be used for new construction, additions, renovations, energy conservation improvements, land purchases, bus purchases, site development, debt refunding and direct bond program costs (professional fees, audit fees, etc.)



SURVEY DATA: Security Top Bond Priority for Parents, Staff and Community

In a survey completed by more than 700 members of our school community, including staff and parents, nearly 90 percent identified safety and security as one of the top priorities related to the Zero-Tax-Increase School Improvement Bond — by far the highest percentage.

Fortunately, we have earmarked nearly \$2 million so that every district building would see significant safety and security upgrades should the bond be approved in November. Many buildings, like Lynch, Turrill, and Murphy Elementary schools, will see improvements focused on door locks, barricades, and a new public address (PA) system, while Schickler Elementary School would see even more investment in remodeling open classroom areas.



IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW: Bond Would Address Infamous Turrill Elementary Parent Pick-Up Line

It has haunted us for years: the infamous Turrill Elementary parent pick-up line. The line, on school-day afternoons, snakes through the lot toward the west and then south down Oak Street and east on Demille. On the highest-traffic days, the line can stretch to the intersection at McCormick Drive.

It's no secret to Turrill parents that the pick-up process has been a problem for years. Before we transitioned Turrill to a year-round school, it was a proper neighborhood school with a modestly-sized attendance area. Now that we offer this year-round program to students anywhere in the District, there is more car traffic than before.

Thankfully, there's a solution. The District's Zero-Tax-Increase School Improvement Bond has earmarked funds to improve the traffic flow on the west side of the school. Were the bond to pass on November 8, more than \$200,000 would be allocated to improve traffic flow.



STUDENT VOTING: YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

If you are a student who is at least 18 years old at the time of the election, and a U.S. citizen, you are eligible to register and to vote in the area of your residency (you need to be a resident for at least 30 days).

If you are a college student you can register to vote with your

home address and vote in the November 8 General Election. If you are away at college out of state, you can still register to vote with your home address.

If you have a Michigan driver's license or state ID card, and you are registered to vote in Michigan, your voter registration address

and the address on your ID will be the same.

If you change the address on one, it will automatically change the other.

The Secretary of State will mail you a sticker with your new address to place on your license or ID card.



CONTACT US:

For more information about the LCS 2022 School Improvement Bond, or to schedule a facility tour, contact Jared Field, LCS Director of Communications, at Jared.Field@Lapeerschools.org or by phone at 810-538-1638.