

HAMILTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

BOND PROPOSAL IMPROVEMENTS / NOVEMBER 2, 2021

NO TAX RATE INCREASE OVER THE 2021 LEVY



FRAME OUR FUTURE

#EACHWILLTHRIVE

FEEDBACK AND PLANNING

Hamilton Community Schools values community feedback as we look to provide the best opportunities for our students.

As we frame our future, the district is continually evaluating district-wide facility infrastructure, enrollment numbers, expenses, and existing debt pay off. A lot has changed since Spring 2020 and this November 2, 2021 school bond proposal was developed based on those changes and community feedback.

In early 2020 the Board of Education considered putting a \$65,625,000 school bond proposal on the May 2020 election ballot. That proposal was postponed by the Board until August 2020 due to the uncertainties of COVID-19 and its impact on our schools and community.

The August 2020 bond was not approved by voters. Based on community feedback, and out of financial responsibility to district taxpayers, the Board of Education is asking the community to consider a smaller proposal that focuses on immediate facility needs on November 2, 2021.

WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE THE 2020 SCHOOL BOND PROPOSAL?

WHAT CHANGED:

- Removed new 7/8 building
- Removed new Community Center
- Bond proposal amount reduced from \$65,625,000 to \$21,675,000
- No projected tax rate increase to property owners over 2021 debt tax levy

WHAT STAYED THE SAME:

- District wide replacements where needed for roofing, electrical systems, lighting, plumbing, classroom casework, and finishes
- Deconstruct 1950's wing at Hamilton Elementary. Construct 8-classroom addition including Special Education and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).
- Replace dehumidification system at community pool
- Replace aging school buses
- Purchase educational technology as needed

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the district website for more information regarding the bond proposal, including a Frequently Asked Questions & Answers document. Contact Dave Tebo, Superintendent, at (269) 751-5148 or dtebo@hamiltonschools.us

NO TAX RATE INCREASE OVER THE 2021 LEVY

If approved by voters, this bond proposal would generate \$21,675,000 while keeping the debt millage rate the same, with no projected increase in the debt levy paid by property owners as compared to the 2021 levy.

IF APPROVED, THE BOND PROPOSAL WOULD UPDATE DISTRICT INFRASTRUCTURE:

- District wide replacements where needed for roofing, electrical systems, lighting, flooring, plumbing, boilers, doors, and lockers
- Deconstruct 1950's classroom wing at Hamilton Elementary
- Replace aging school buses

IF APPROVED, THE BOND PROPOSAL WOULD IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS:

- 8-classroom addition at Hamilton Elementary, including Special Education and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)
 - Flexible space addition at Hamilton High School for group learning, band, and athletics
 - Update classroom casework and finishes as needed throughout the district
 - Purchase educational technology as needed throughout the district
- For building specific information, please visit hamiltonschools.us**

WHAT IS A BOND PROPOSAL AND HOW CAN FUNDS FROM A BOND BE SPENT?

- A bond proposal is how a community authorizes a school district to borrow money for capital expenditures
- Voter-approved bond funds can be spent on new construction, additions, remodeling, site improvements, athletic facilities, playgrounds, buses, furnishings, equipment and technology.
- Funds raised through the sale of bonds cannot be used on operational expenses such as employee salaries and benefits, school supplies or textbooks
- Bond funds must be kept separate from operating funds and must be audited by an independent auditing firm

VOTING INFORMATION

Election Day: Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Voter Registration Deadlines:

Mail: October 18, 2021 or **In Person:** November 2, 2021

Absentee Voting: Contact your city or township

Poll Locations: Registered voters may cast a ballot at the polling location established by their city/township

www.hamiltonschools.us

 [facebook.com/hamiltonschoolsmi](https://www.facebook.com/hamiltonschoolsmi)

 twitter.com/HamiltonSchools

 [hamiltonhawkeyes](https://www.instagram.com/hamiltonhawkeyes)

Use the QR code, or access the district web site, for more information:

