

NEWS FROM NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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New Haven Community Schools Planning May Bond Election

The New Haven Community Schools District Board of Education has unanimously approved going forward with a \$25 million bond proposal. At last night's regular meeting, the Board of Education voted to place the bond proposal on the May 7th ballot.

If the bond proposal is approved by voters, the current tax rate is projected to increase by 0.9 mills and cost the average New Haven taxpayer an additional \$32.40 per year.

The primary purpose of the bond proposal is to provide funds for remodeling and upgrading New Haven schools and school facilities. The bond proposal projects fall into one of five basic categories:

1. update instructional technology and technology infrastructure
2. enhance school security and student safety measures
3. remodel and upgrade schools and school facilities with emphasis on accommodating 21st Century instruction and improving energy efficiency
4. replace school buses as they reach the end of their useful life
5. improve school sites, playgrounds, and athletic facilities

"If approved by voters, the bond proposal will help assure that our schools and school facilities support 21st Century instruction and learning," said School Superintendent Barbara VanSweden. "In addition to financing updates of New Haven's schools, the bond proposal funds will be used to

enhance student safety by constructing secure school entrances, to update technology and related infrastructure, and to replace school buses as they wear out.”

Board of Education President Sue Simon said that voter approval of the bond proposal will provide a vibrant school district for this generation and the next. “Approval of the bond proposal will provide an opportunity to make substantial improvements in New Haven’s learning environment.”

According to VanSweden, voter approval of the bond proposal will affect every New Haven student and every New Haven school facility. She said that the list of projects is quite extensive. “The project list includes such things as upgrading and replacing band instruments and science equipment, improving paving and parking lots, upgrading HVAC systems, and replacing school buses at the end of their useful life.”

Simon believes the bond is necessary to assure that New Haven students are receiving a quality education and that New Haven’s graduates are prepared for the future. “This is a win-win proposal for our students and the New Haven community,” she said. “I also believe a successful bond will attract new families to New Haven and have a positive effect on homeowner property values,” she said.

Superintendent VanSweden said that the school district will be producing informational materials to explain the various components of the bond proposal. “We want to make sure members of the community understand the proposal and that all of their questions are answered before the vote which the Board of Education has scheduled for May 7th.

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ADDENDUM TO NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NEWS RELEASE

In preparing the bond proposal, the New Haven Community Schools has had architects, engineers, and other specialists conduct a facilities and technology assessment. Staff and citizens used the assessment information to develop the following list of priority projects. Note that the plan is to sell the bonds in two series or phases (in 2019 and 2024) to reduce interest costs.

New Haven Elementary Phase 1

- Enhance security infrastructure
- Parking lot & paving improvements
- Exterior lighting upgrades
- HVAC upgrades
- Re-key locks/door replacements
- Furnishings for instruction
- Secure entry/office remodeling
- Playground improvements
- Install back-up generator

New Haven Elementary Phase 2

- Flooring replacement

Endeavour Elementary and Middle School Phase 1

- Parking lot & paving improvements
- HVAC upgrades
- New science instruments
- Re-key locks/door replacements
- Enhance security infrastructure
- Furnishings for instruction
- Upgrade track and bleachers
- Upgrade outdoor teaching environments
- New band instruments

Endeavour Elementary and Middle School Phase 2

- Lighting upgrades
- Flooring replacement

New Haven High School Phase 1

Enhance security infrastructure
Parking lot & paving improvements
Exterior lighting upgrades
Remodel band room
Upgrade HVAC and piping
Re-key locks/door replacements
Furnishings for instruction
Resurface track
Electrical upgrades
Remodel scissor roofing and main entrance
New science instruments
New band instruments

New Haven High School Phase 2

Flooring replacements

Administration Building Phase 1

Upgrade parking lot lighting
Split A/C for computer server room
Re-key locks/door replacements
Gym (auditorium) upgrades
Install back-up generator for technology and pumps

Transportation Phase 1

Purchase buses
Enhance security infrastructure
Facility upgrades

Transportation Phase 2

Purchase buses
Upgrade site lighting
Replace roof

Technology Phase 1

Upgrade technology equipment and infrastructure

Technology Phase 2

Upgrade technology equipment and infrastructure