



# HUSTISFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Referendum

April 4, 2023

# Referendum Question

- Capital Building Project
- Create a PK-12 Facility, Utilizing the Current Jr./Sr. High Building
- Renovation of Existing Building and Addition of Educational Spaces and a Gymnasium
- \$19.5 million—The District cannot spend more than this amount

# How did this question come to be on the ballot?

A facility study was conducted on both of the schools. The District then hosted a series of 7 Community Engagement Sessions. Through these meetings, community members reviewed the study and heard the needs within the buildings. The community group brought a proposal to the board in December of 2022 to create a PK-12 facility by adding onto the existing Jr./Sr. high and remodeling that facility.

## **Community Identified Priorities:**

- Building Security
- Building mechanical systems
- Building thermal performance

# Why does the District have to go to a referendum?

- Systems are failing
  - Systems have met or exceeded their life expectancy
    - Obsolete parts
  - Increasingly more annual maintenance due to failing systems
    - Currently maintaining, not getting ahead
- Current annual budget will not support significant expenditures that have been identified
- Current upkeep costs are significant, not allowing for other projects to be completed
- The State of Wisconsin has provided the referendum as a tool for school districts and a protection for citizens. A referendum is asking permission for extra spending. The district cannot levy for more than is allowed by law unless approved through a referendum.

# What are the building needs?

- JHE currently is operating with two 50+ year old boilers. The boilers have been maintained and are both in working order, but they have far exceeded their expected performance and life. JHE also needs updates for building security and ADA compliance. New plumbing and electrical systems are also needed at JHE.
- The Jr./Sr. High needs a new roof and new HVAC. The building also needs updated plumbing and electrical systems. There are ADA compliance issues throughout the building as well as the need for new windows and doors. There are also drainage issues that need to be addressed.

# What is this going to cost me?

- The mill rate increase is expected to be \$3.57 per \$1,000 of valuation.
- The mill rate for the District in 2022 was \$6.53.
- It is estimated that our mill rate will be below what it was in 2017 (\$10.32) even if the referendum passes
- The District cannot spend more than the \$19.5 million being asked for with this referendum question
- More information on the tax impact can be found on the District website



# What happens if this does not pass?

- The District will continue to operate as they have been
- The District will not dissolve
- The District is financially stable and will continue to be
- The District can borrow up to \$1 million without a referendum , while this is not something that the District wants to do, they may be forced to
- The District will prioritize the greatest needs and take care of those needs first and as funding allows



# Why one building?

- Annual maintenance cost savings due to maintaining one building and system
- Staffing efficiencies and savings
- Utility cost savings due to energy efficiencies and one system
- Other cost savings such as insurance and technology
- Opportunities for shared educational experiences and mentoring
- State of the art facilities to provide more educational opportunities for students
- Increased athletic spaces
- Efficiencies in learning spaces



# What will happen to JHE?

- Currently, there is language in the question that allows for the removal of JHE
- The District would entertain a potential buyer of the building
- The District will not maintain the building beyond its use for students as the cost to do so is significant and renovations would still need to be made

*One School - One Community  
Our Future*



**HUSTISFORD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Referendum

**VOTE APRIL 4**

**Need More Information?**

Visit the district website

[www.hustisford.k12.wi.us](http://www.hustisford.k12.wi.us)

