

## TAXPAYER IMPACT

The referendum will require an estimated levy of 16.03 mills. Comparatively, the 2018 bond referendum requested 16.14 mill authority. This equates to the following net annual tax impact:

HOME VALUE	ESTIMATED NET TAX IMPACT PER YEAR
\$100,000	+\$72.69
\$200,000	+\$145.38
\$300,000	+\$218.07

\*The taxable value of property is set by the city or county on an annual basis.\*

## Voting

The special election will take place on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 from 7:00AM - 7:00PM. A resident may vote at any of the following locations:

- Harwood Community Center
- Westside Elementary School
- Lutheran Church of the Cross
- Rustad Recreation Center
- Triumph West Church
- Horace Lutheran Church

All residents of the West Fargo school district are eligible to vote; this includes all residents of West Fargo, Horace, Harwood, Reile's Acres, and parts of Fargo. Voters must bring proof of birth date and residency with them to the polls; this may include a North Dakota driver's license or non-driver ID card, an ID issued by a tribal government or the BIA, ID issued by a long-term facility, or other identification as approved by the North Dakota Secretary of State.

## RESULTS OF A "YES" VOTE

If the community votes to pass the bond referendum, each of the high-priority needs identified by the School Board and the Long Range Facility Planning Taskforce will be addressed and completed.

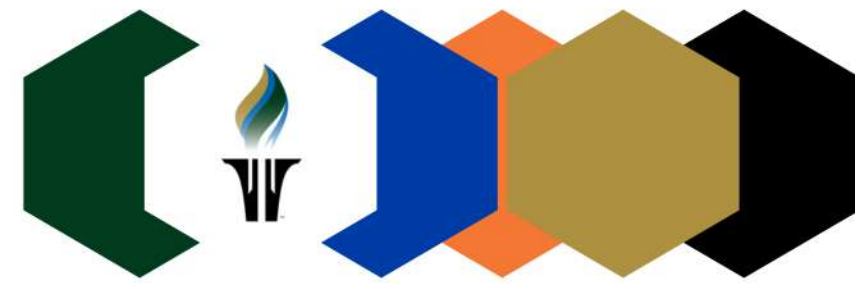
## RESULTS OF A "NO" VOTE

If the community votes to not pass the bond referendum, the district will experience the following:

- Increased force transfers of learners away from their home school
- Reduced stability of neighborhood schools and boundaries district-wide
- Reduced opportunities for learners participation in activities
- Additional expenses for off-site alternative learning spaces
- Inequity in specialty classroom spaces
- Exceed capacity at all secondary spaces district-wide
- Increased class sizes district-wide
- The task force will be re-engaged to discuss alternative ways to address increasing enrollment

## More Info

For more information related to the bond package, please visit our website. <https://www.west-fargo.k12.nd.us/2023bond>  
Questions can be submitted to [info@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:info@west-fargo.k12.nd.us)



## West Fargo Public Schools Bond Referendum



WEST FARGO  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SPECIAL ELECTION  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023  
7:00AM - 7:00PM

# WHAT WILL THE BOND BRING TO THE DISTRICT?

The Taskforce's final recommendation to the Board included \$133.4 million in projects with the addition of a 10% inflationary contingency, due to the ongoing rising costs of construction and materials. This equates to a maximum of \$147 million bond referendum package that includes a new elementary school, expansion of Heritage Middle School and Horace High School, expansion of early childhood special education services, acquisition of land, renovations and expansions of many district buildings, renovation and expansion of South Elementary, safety & security upgrades, and access to a third sheet of ice at the Veteran's Memorial Arena. The culmination of these nine projects will address the challenges that the district and community continue to face related to student and staff safety, increasing enrollment, and equal opportunity measures.



## NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A new elementary school somewhere in the Mustang or Hawk feeder system will provide space for up to 576 learners. The district is projected to need this space for the 2027-28 school year.

While a location has NOT been finalized, the district owns land off 64th Avenue South, north of Heritage Middle School.

Projected Cost: \$34.8 million



## EXPANSION OF HERITAGE MIDDLE AND HORACE HIGH SCHOOL

West Fargo Public Schools has a history of only asking voters for the space that is truly necessary at the time of the vote. Therefore, in the 2018 referendum, the district only requested funds for a middle school that would house 900 learners, and a high school that would house 1,200 learners, knowing that we would eventually need to expand to the district's standard middle school capacity of 1,200 learners and high school capacity of 1,550 learners. Heritage is expected to exceed its current capacity by the fall of 2027. Horace is expected to exceed its current capacity by the fall of 2026.

Projected Cost: \$52 million



## EXPANSION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

A southside district elementary school will be expanded by approximately 40% to provide space for Early Childhood Special Education services in the southern portion of the district.

Right now, the only location for these services is on the Clayton Lodoen campus, which means the district transports their littlest and most vulnerable learners a significant distance each day.

While a location has NOT been finalized, this will be constructed in the southern half of the district, with strong consideration being given to an addition at Meadowlark Elementary.

Projected Cost: \$8 million



## ACQUISITION OF LAND

Upon completion of the FM Diversion, the district is anticipating growth on the north end of the district. Purchasing land now will position the district to have a better selection of land parcels, as well as not pay a premium for newly flood-protected land once the diversion is complete.

The district will be looking for land north of 12th Avenue North and south of Harwood.

Projected Cost: \$5 million



## RENOVATIONS & EXPANSIONS

It is a priority of the School Board and administration that existing district facilities are maintained and renovated to the same standard as our newest facilities. This project includes the following:

- Multipurpose room at West Fargo HS
- Inclusive playground at the Early Childhood Center
- Special education improvements districtwide to support learner and educator safety
- Restroom renovations districtwide
- Renovations to elementary schools to ensure they all have dedicated space for programming consistent with newer elementary schools
- Flexible seating for all secondary schools

Projected Cost: \$11.2 million



## RENOVATION & EXPANSION OF SOUTH ELEMENTARY

The renovation and expansion of South Elementary will align it with the standards in place at other district elementary sites, ensuring the building remains viable in its existing location for the next 40 years.

Projected Cost: \$15.2 million



## SAFETY & SECURITY UPGRADES

These projects will include the installation of fire sprinkler systems at the three remaining schools that do not currently possess them (Westside, South, and Eastwood), interior lockdown door installation districtwide to provide additional protection in the event of a perimeter breach, and improvements/expansion of the district's video camera surveillance system districtwide.

Projected Cost: \$2.2 million



## THIRD SHEET OF ICE

The district would contribute to the expansion of the Veteran's Memorial Arena in collaboration with the West Fargo Youth Hockey Association and the West Fargo Park District. The district's financial contribution would ensure the district has priority access to one sheet of ice per high school feeder system. The district would have exclusive use of the new locker rooms and pay an hourly usage rate indexed to what's charged to outside parties at the West Fargo Sports Arena.

The Veteran's Memorial Arena is located at 1201 7th Avenue East, West Fargo.

Projected Cost: \$5 million