

VOTE

MAY 5 • 2015

Q1 BUILDING Q2 TECHNOLOGY

OPPORTUNITY

The Shakopee Public Schools Board voted unanimously to place two school funding requests before district residents on May 5, 2015. The ballot questions are:

- **QUESTION 1** Addition to existing Shakopee High School and upgraded security district wide
- **QUESTION 2** Technology levy for increased access to classroom technology

QUESTION 1

\$102.5M BUILDING BOND

- Add on to existing Shakopee High School to address enrollment crunch.
 - Move 9th graders to the expanded 3,200 student high school (grades 9-12).
 - Move 6th graders to middle schools (grades 6-8).
 - Convert Pearson 6th Grade Center into an elementary school (grades K-5).
- Improve and expand outdoor facilities for student and community use.
 - Vaughan Field located at West Junior High School
 - Existing Shakopee High School site
 - Development of fields and outdoor spaces on district-owned land, intersection of County Roads 78 and 79
- Improve and expand indoor high school facilities for student and community use.
 - Activities center for academics, arts, expanded intramurals, clubs and athletics
- Upgrade safety and security throughout district.

IF VOTERS APPROVE Q1:

The district would establish a process to engage staff and community in helping to finalize designs for the high school addition and improvements to district facilities and sites. The expanded high school would officially open for grades 9-12 in fall 2018, alleviating crowding districtwide. Some improvements to district facilities and sites would be completed before the fall of 2018. Security upgrades would be completed within a year of voter approval.

IF VOTERS DO NOT APPROVE Q1:

Crowding would continue to increase in schools each year, and class sizes would increase. Important school security upgrades would have to be phased in slowly. The school district would need to understand the meaning of the community's lack of support before establishing any next steps.

QUESTION 2

\$2.5M PER YEAR TECHNOLOGY LEVY

- Provide increased access to classroom technology, including staff training and support.
- Support curriculum and academic design.
 - Student access to learning resources that provide engaging and challenging instruction anytime, anywhere
 - Teacher access to resources that support rich, rigorous instruction and support personalized approach
- 10-year levy as a stable source of funding

IF VOTERS APPROVE Q2:

Students would have access to new digital devices and tools that provide engaging and challenging instruction anytime, anywhere. Teachers would have access to digital resources that support rich, rigorous instruction aligned to district curriculum while also addressing individual learning styles. Families would have the ability to more effectively follow and participate in their students' learning.

IF VOTERS DO NOT APPROVE Q2:

Students and teachers would have less access to technology to enhance learning. Technology would have to compete with other basic district capital needs such as security equipment, roofs, teaching staff and regular furniture replacement. Current technology-rich schools in Shakopee may have to have some technology removed and spread evenly across the district. Less technology support would be available to teachers as they use technology to enhance learning. Technology maintenance and upgrade projects would be delayed if done at all.

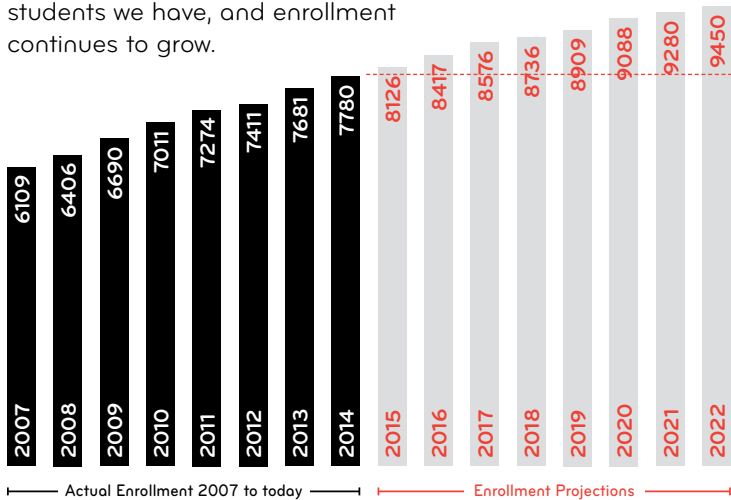
FAST FACTS

WE LISTENED

School leaders spent the past year listening to community members – through surveys, community-based design teams and informal conversations. The goal: an education model that works for students and is supported by the community.

WE KEEP GROWING

There is not enough space for the students we have, and enrollment continues to grow.



K-12 Shakopee Public Schools Enrollment

2007-2022: ACTUAL VS. PROJECTIONS

Actual enrollment | Future projections | Capacity (7,821 students)

UNITY AND OPPORTUNITY

Input received over the past year reinforced the community's desire to maintain unity through one larger high school, while ensuring students still have opportunities to participate in arts, academics, expanded intramurals and athletics. District leadership believes that small learning communities would make a large high school feel smaller and personalize education for each student. Staff and support services would ensure a sense of belonging and address individual students' needs. Expanded indoor and outdoor facilities would increase opportunities for both students and community members.

TECHNOLOGY FOR TODAY... AND TOMORROW

Today's classrooms rely on a technology-rich environment, which requires funding. District leadership believes that technology is no longer a "nice to have" extra, but is critical for increasing students' learning opportunities. Students leverage technology to promote collaboration, creativity and real-time curriculum when and where they need to. A technology levy would provide a stable source of funding to keep classroom technology up-to-date.

FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

Over the last three years, the district has saved taxpayers over \$10 million by refinancing existing school bonds. The school district has a Aa2 credit rating, one of the highest given by Moody's Investor Service, which indicates "very strong creditworthiness."

TAX IMPACT

BALLOT QUESTION	MONTHLY TAX IMPACT*
Q1 BUILDING FOR LEARNING	\$15
Q2 TECHNOLOGY FOR CLASSROOMS	\$9

* Based on a \$200,000 home value. An online tax calculator is available at www.shakopee.k12.mn.us/referendum to determine the exact impact on any value property.

VOTING

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on May 5, 2015. There are 18 polling locations for the referendum. Almost all district residents will vote at their general election precinct. However, district residents in Jackson, Sand Creek and Louisville Townships will vote at one location, Jackson Town Hall. Also, Prior Lake Precinct 5 and 7 are combined. Find your polling location and learn about absentee voting at www.mnvotes.org or call (952) 496-5006.

LEARN MORE

- EMAIL referendum@shakopee.k12.mn.us
- CALL 952-496-5001
- VISIT shakopee.k12.mn.us/referendum
- ATTEND Information Sessions at the District Offices, 1200 Town Square:
6 PM March 24 and 7:30 AM April 7

Shakopee
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