



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is North Kansas City Schools placing a \$155 million ZERO TAX INCREASE bond issue on the April 7 ballot?

The bond is needed to help manage exceptional growth in student enrollment and reduce overcrowding while maintaining existing facilities and ensuring facility equity regardless of where you live in the district.

What will happen if capacity issues are not addressed?

District demographers indicate that unless action is taken, significant redistricting or the addition of modular units would be required.

How will passage of the \$155 million ZERO TAX INCREASE bond help?

Strong schools are essential to thriving communities. Approval of the bond will allow construction to begin on projects in the first phase of the district's long-range facility plan. This includes:

District Early Childhood Education Center

- New Early Childhood Program facility nearly doubling the number of three and four-year-olds currently served

Elementary

- Total replacement of Davidson
- Total replacement of Maplewood
- Major renovations and additions at Briarcliff

High School

- Complete stadium complexes at Oak Park and Winnetonka including permanent seating, concession stands, restrooms, press box and locker rooms
- Bathroom remodeling at Winnetonka and Oak Park
- State-of-the-art Library Media Center at Winnetonka with the addition of collaborative spaces
- New modern south entrance at Oak Park
- New classroom wing at Staley
- Added parking at Staley
- Third gym and expanded activity space at Staley

Remaining funds will be used on additional facility and maintenance projects throughout the district, ensuring all buildings are up-to-date and serving students, teachers and staff well. Projects will include roofing, asphalt and safety and security enhancements at our buildings. New playgrounds will also be added to all elementary schools over the next ten years. Students will be able to remain at the existing Davidson and Maplewood elementary schools while new buildings are constructed on the same property. Once new buildings are complete, old structures will be torn down to create parking and playground areas.

How has the District sought input regarding the bond?

NKC Schools just completed a comprehensive long-term facilities plan. The plan was developed by incite Design Studio who examined every building in our school system and used that data to create criteria to priority rank needs at each building. After comparing the physical condition of our buildings, demographic information was overlaid to show where student growth is occurring and where building capacity exists. As the plan was developed, the district hosted meetings in every quadrant of our district to make sure students, staff, parents, and community were able to voice their opinions. The bond package was built as a result of the plan.

When would construction begin if the bond is passed on April 7?

Approval of the \$155 million ZERO TAX INCREASE bond issue on April 7 would launch the first of a three-phase construction schedule over the next 10 years. Most of the projects in Phase I of the plan (listed above) would begin construction immediately. Others would be phased in over three years.

What happens if the bond doesn't pass?

District demographers have indicated North Kansas City Schools would need to examine significant boundary changes district-wide and/or the addition of modular units at several of our schools. Oak Park and Winnetonka high schools would continue to play home sporting events at stadium complexes located at North Kansas City High School and Staley. Aging facilities and ADA issues would persist.

Would a "no vote" lower taxes?

No. The existing levy of \$1.29 would still remain in place.

What does "zero tax increase" really mean? How can you raise \$155 million without raising taxes?

Thanks to the fiscal responsibility of North Kansas City Schools Board of Education, the District has paid off a large portion of debt incurred from past construction projects. Effective management of funds has allowed us to seek approval of an additional \$155 million to meet current needs. The levy of \$1.29 would simply remain in place to ensure funding for the students of North Kansas City Schools. Patrons would not see an increase in taxes.

Where can I find more information about the bond issue?

Please visit the district website – www.nkcschools.org/bond2020 – to learn all the details of the bond issue. Join us on Facebook or Twitter by searching for "NKCSchools", as well! Be an educated voter when you cast your ballot on April 7.