



WEST BLOOMFIELD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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West Bloomfield School District Prepares for May 2 Bond Election

West Bloomfield, MI - In January, the West Bloomfield School District Board of Education voted unanimously to move forward with a comprehensive bond election on May 2, 2023. The West Bloomfield School District (WBSD) will have a \$148 million bond proposal on the ballot to pay for its high-priority facility improvements for the next 10 years. If passed by the voters, the current tax rate is expected to remain the same. The bond proposal will affect each and every WBSD student, staff member, and the community at large.

WBSD Superintendent Dania Bazzi said that the school district is in a unique position to secure funding for up to \$148 million of facility improvements through the sale of bonds without having to increase the total debt millage over the 2022 debt millage rate. Under Michigan law, this bond funding is **restricted to capital improvements**, such as technology, buses, and facility improvements, and **cannot be used** to pay salaries, benefits, or other operational costs. These facility improvements will provide students with safer, more modern, and more comfortable learning environments, with the goal of improving their educational experiences and learning outcomes.

The facility improvements include the construction of two new elementary schools at the Doherty and Sheiko sites, full renovation which includes doubling the size of the CTE - career and technical education space at West Bloomfield High School, technology upgrades, and many other projects.

Major project features include:

- Enhancing elementary learning environments and safety through the construction of two new schools to replace Doherty and Sheiko Elementaries, and providing additions and renovations to Gretchko and Scotch Elementaries.
- Creating dedicated Early Childhood space offered in both a north and south elementary building location, to respond to the unique needs of our young learners.

- Upgrading infrastructure at the 50-year-old West Bloomfield High School, including STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) and CTE (Career Technical Education) spaces and outdoor multi-activity/athletic upgrades.
- Upgrading technology - infrastructure, student and staff devices, classroom audio-visual equipment, and phone system.

Board of Education President, Stacy Brickman said that “This bond proposal will enhance the West Bloomfield School District’s learning environments for our students. Additionally, bond proposals generally have a positive effect on property values, which would be a win-win for the greater West Bloomfield community.”

“Members of the school district have been presenting the bond information and distributing bond informational materials to different groups across the community,” stated Bazzi. “If you know of a group or are part of a group that could benefit from learning more, please reach out to Kendra Montante, the WBSD’s Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator at kendra.montante@wbsd.org or (248) 865-6454. If you would like to learn more about the bond, please visit our website at www.wbsd.org, which includes a robust FAQ section.”

Community members and residents that have questions are invited to contact Dr. Dania Bazzi our superintendent at dania.bazzi@wbsd.org or (248) 865-6485 or Kendra Montante.

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