

**Miller Place Union Free School District
2021-22 Frequently Asked Bond Issue Questions (FAQs)**

July 19, 2021

Q: Can the District utilize bond money to pay for instructional programs?

A: No. The District does not borrow the funds until after the bond issue is passed by the voters. Additionally, bond issue funds can only be used for capital improvements and cannot pay for instructional programs.

Q: Why do we seem like we are always paying off a bond?

A: Bond issues, like home mortgages, are for a specific loan period such as 15, 20, or 25 years.

Q: What is the District's current Moody's Investors Service rating?

A: The Moody's Investors Service rating for the District is Aa2 and was last reviewed and assigned on May 13, 2019. This rating impacts the interest rate that a District will receive for a bond issue. The District will be required to undertake a rating review for a bond issue.

Q: How does a District borrow bond issue funds?

A: Districts bid the sale of the bonds and they are awarded to the financial institution who has the lowest bid/interest rate.

Q: What bond issues has the community passed and are still being paid off?

A: 2009	EXCEL	Safety and security projects funded by NYS; last payment 2023-24
2010	Space	Classroom additions; refinanced in 2019; last payment 2029-30
2011	Administration Building	Construction of building; last payment 2041-42
2014	Roofs, Turf, Lights	Replace roofs, add turf and lights; last payment 2029-30

Q: What bond issues has the community passed and are now paid off?

A: 1996	NCRMS and SBS Additions	Last payment 2014-15
1998	Technology	Last payment 2008-09
2002	Renovations – Maintenance	Last payments 2015-16, 2016-17, 2018-19

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Q: Will passing a bond issue increase taxes?

A: Possibly; depending on the timing of the borrowing, interest and principal payments and retiring debt already incurred.

Q: Has the Board of Education approved Energy Performance Contracts (EPC)?

A: Yes. EPCs are state approved and verified that the projects generate cost savings. Principal and interest payments are paid from the cost savings and state aid.

2012 Energy savings projects; last payment 2027-28

2017 Solar panels; last payment 2032-33

Q: Does the District receive state building aid for projects?

A: Yes. At this time, the District receives 72.4% building aid on all approved projects, thereby reducing the cost to taxpayers to 27.6%.

Q: Why does the District want to add access roads?

A: The District wants to add secondary access roads for additional safety and emergency situations. Currently, Miller Place High School and Andrew Muller Primary School only have one way to exit the campus. In an emergency situation, another road would be accessible to exit students and staff from each campus.

Q: Why is the District replacing unit ventilators?

A: To improve air quality and replace aging equipment.

MPHS units 90% are 25 years old and 10% are over 50 years old

NCRMS units 25% are over 50 years old

AMPS units 90% are over 50 years old

LADSBS Does not have this type of heating system

Q: Why is the District considering air conditioning school classrooms?

A: Based on community request.

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Q: Why is the District not considering window air conditioners?

A: The District would not receive any state building aid on the expense. Therefore, the cost is 100% paid by the taxpayer.

Q: Why is the District considering an addition to Andrew Muller Primary School?

A: Currently AMPS has a café-gym-atorium. It is the only school without a dedicated physical education space. The District is out of compliance regarding offering our primary school students weekly physical education due to space limitations.

This addition allows for dedicated instructional space; dedicated cafeteria space; ability to schedule assemblies and additional space for community use of facilities opportunities.

Q: Will the District have meetings for public community input regarding these construction projects?

A: Yes.

June 16, 2021

Potential bond projects overview

July 21, 2021

Architectural summary and financial information

August 11, 2021

Determine projects and structure bond issue

August 25, 2021

Anticipate Board of Education bond issue resolution adoption

Q: Where can a resident find additional information regarding these proposed projects?

A: Information and community presentations are posted on the district website.

<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/site/default.aspx?PageID=95>

Q: How can a resident ask a question regarding these proposed projects?

A: Please feel free to email questions to: bondissue@millerplace.k12.ny.us
