

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Facts About the Bismarck High Project

Welcome	Tamara Uselman, <i>Supt. of Schools</i>
Remarks	David Wisthoff, <i>BHS Principal</i>
Remarks	Darin Scherr, <i>Business & Operations Mngr.</i>

BHS Choir	Brian Saylor, <i>Director</i>
BHS Orchestra	Dana Van Heukelom, <i>Director</i>
BHS Band	Bob Peske, <i>Director</i>

Groundbreaking: Today's speakers, School Board members & assistant superintendents.

Groundbreaking: Other attendees.

Bond:

- \$57.5 million for additions and improvements to 3 middle schools, Century High & Bismarck High.
- The bond for these projects was approved March 7, 2017, by 85% of the people who voted. BHS's cost is \$17 million.
- As other bonds for school projects come off the tax rolls, BPS will replace them with mills for the 5 projects, resulting in a flat debt service mill levy so local taxpayers would not experience an increase in this levy.

Project:

- Add 25,600 sq. ft. auditorium/theatre. BHS is the only Class A high school without this type of space.
- On the north side of the gym, an additional 10,000 sq. ft. for fitness, weight room, and wrestling room.
- Reconfigure the Karlgaard Gym; the 3rd court gym addition is 8,700 sq. ft.
- Improve security at east and west entrances.

History:

- BHS opened as the first true high school in Bismarck in Oct. 1912 with the first graduating class in 1913.
- Hallways had no lockers but students were impressed by the large classroom windows and indoor plumbing.
- By 1934-35, the 649 students enrolled more than doubled the original number planned for BHS.
- The School Board decided to build a new high school to replace the old one. It was the longest Public Works Administration (PWA) project in the state at that time using ND laborers, creating jobs during the Depression.
- In Sept. 1935, a new 3-story BHS was ready for occupancy. The first junior high school moved into the former 1912 high school building.
- BHS has been remodeled and added on to many times since then (1962-68, 1976-78, 1981-82, 1997-98).
- Today, Bismarck High has 1,112 students; it's projected to have 1,465 students by the fall of 2021.



Wednesday, April 25, 2018
11:30 am
800 N. 8th St.

Bismarck Public Schools
www.bismarckschools.org