

REFERENDUM INFORMATION



SOUTH SHORE SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking voter approval to authorize borrowing \$14.75M to update our school facility. This essential investment aims to address **critical capital maintenance** needs, enhance **safety and accessibility**, and provide **updated learning environments** for our students.

The comprehensive plan was created to ensure that our school continues to offer high-quality education in a safe and efficient setting, supporting both current students and future generations. As a community and a school district, together we are unstoppable. **TOGETHER WE CAN SOAR TO EXCELLENCE.**

57%

Survey Results

57% of non-parent, non-staff respondents to the community-wide survey indicated support for a capital referendum to address facility needs. Respondents prioritized building systems, ADA accessibility, and safety and security updates.

300+

How We Got Here

More than 300 South Shore School District residents gave feedback throughout the process of identifying building needs, developing solutions, and prioritizing taxpayer feedback to form this referendum solution.

For More Information

CALL District Office 715.774.3167 | **EMAIL** referendum2024@sshore.k12.wi.us | **VISIT** sshore.org | **FOLLOW** 

Information Sessions



Thursday, **SEPTEMBER 19**
2:00-3:00 PM
Bell Community Center

Tuesday, **OCTOBER 1**
5:00-6:00 PM
South Shore School

Wednesday, **OCTOBER 2**
11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Oulu Heritage Center

Thursday, **OCTOBER 17**
2:00-3:00 PM & 5:00-6:00 PM
South Shore School

JOIN US for referendum presentations and tours of the building, followed by Q&A.

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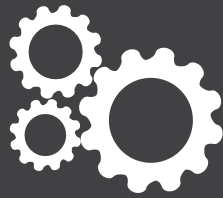
Key Project Components



COMMUNITY

| CHALLENGE: The cost to address the District's needs exceeds what the District can cover within the annual operational budget, requiring the District to ask residents to vote on a facilities referendum.

| SOLUTION: The District was committed to finding a solution that addressed the most immediate needs and was rooted in community feedback. Over the past year, more than 300 community members have provided feedback through the Focus Group and community-wide survey.



BUILDING SYSTEMS

| CHALLENGE: Many of our critical building systems used to operate our school, such as heating, ventilation, electrical, and plumbing systems, are original to the 1977 building. These systems have significantly outlived their useful life, do not run properly, are not energy efficient, do not meet current air-exchange requirements, and are at a risk of failure.

| SOLUTION: Updating and replacing the building systems will better the learning environment by bringing in fresh, clean air; maintaining consistent temperatures; and increasing energy efficiencies.



SAFETY & ACCESSIBILITY

| CHALLENGE: Accessibility requirements have changed since our building's construction, meaning it doesn't meet today's standards. The office lacks a secure entrance with double doors and clear sight lines, while there are significant traffic congestion and drainage issues on the site.

| SOLUTION: A new central office will establish a single, secure entrance, enhancing control over visitor access and ensuring a safer environment. Additionally, traffic modifications, ADA improvements, and upgraded notification systems will further enhance safety and accessibility throughout the building.



EDUCATIONAL SPACES

| CHALLENGE: The way education is facilitated today is immensely different than it was when the building was constructed. The current space lacks flexibility for individualized learning or small group instruction. Additionally, as the District continues to maximize the use of existing space, it has forced us to separate grade levels, disrupting continuity and collaboration among students and staff.

| SOLUTION: Reorganizing the building will enable the District to create modern learning spaces that align with today's teaching methods. Organizing grade levels into "neighborhoods" will promote collaboration and strengthen the sense of community throughout the school.



Scan Me! Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code to visit the District's website. More information can be found there about the process, needs, plan, and referendum.



The Proposed Referendum Plan

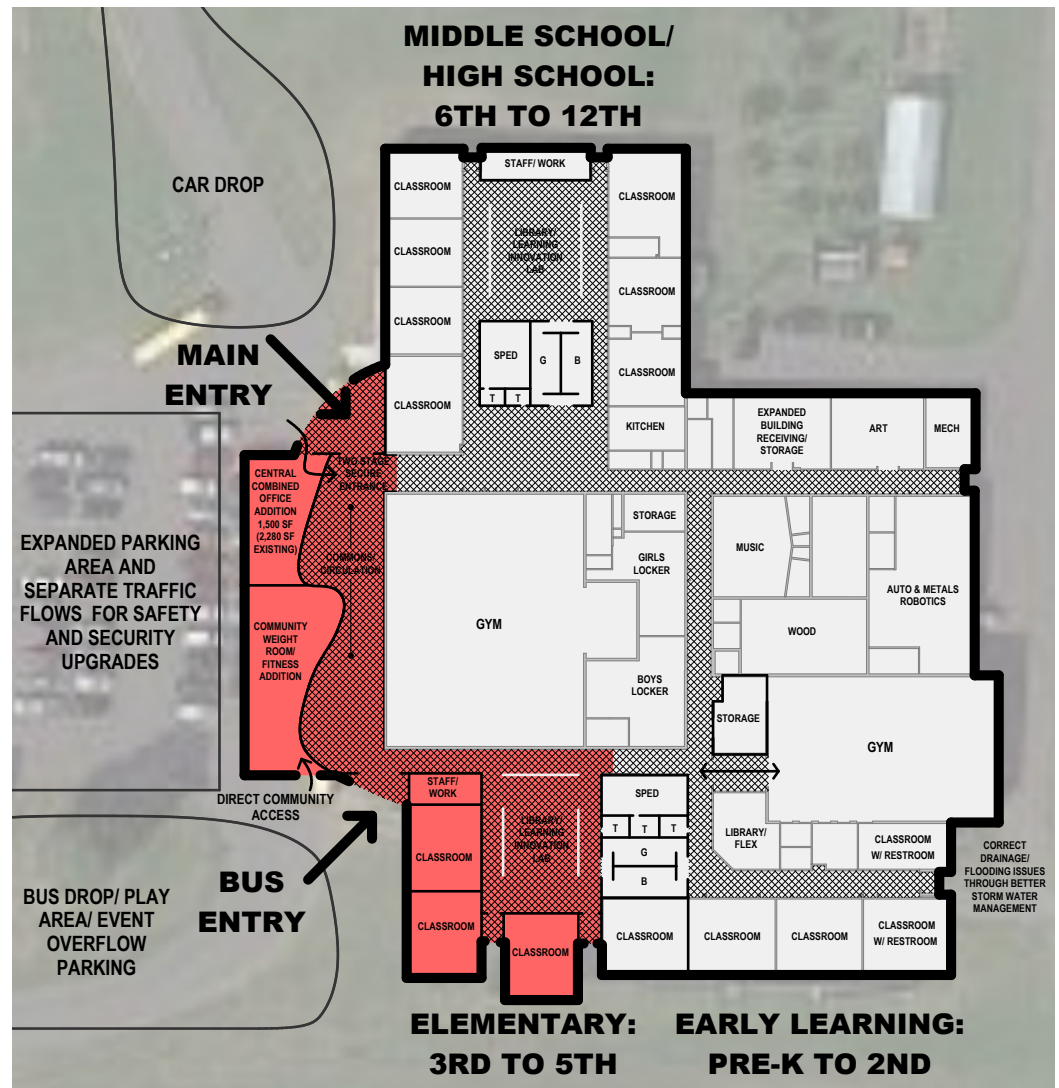
This plan includes renovations to the existing school to improve building organization by creating grade-level neighborhoods, ensuring that all grade levels are grouped in the same area. The proposed floor plan also incorporates flexible spaces designed for small group instruction and individualized learning, enhancing the educational environment. Additionally, the design creates a central core area for student common spaces, fostering a sense of community and collaboration among students.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

- Update the original heating and ventilation system throughout the building to address a system that is at double its life expectancy. In the winter, temperatures in classrooms can vary from 60 to 85 degrees.
- Update electrical and lighting systems throughout to be more energy efficient and meet current building and educational needs.

Preliminary Plan

The plan is conceptual at this time. The final design will evolve through further engagement as the building design progresses, pending a successful referendum.



For More Information

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Tax Impact

The District's mill rate has **decreased more than 27%** in the last seven years, while the District has still been able to save significant money in fund balance to offset the referendum impact to taxpayers.

ESTIMATED SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

FAIR MARKET PROPERTY VALUE	ANNUAL	MONTHLY
\$100,000	\$196/year	\$16.33/month
\$200,000	\$392/year	\$32.67/month
\$300,000	\$588/year	\$49.00/month

Visit the District's website to learn about financial assumptions associated with the estimated impact of the fair market property value on your home. *Prepared by Robert W. Baird & Co Incorporated.*

What's on the Ballot?

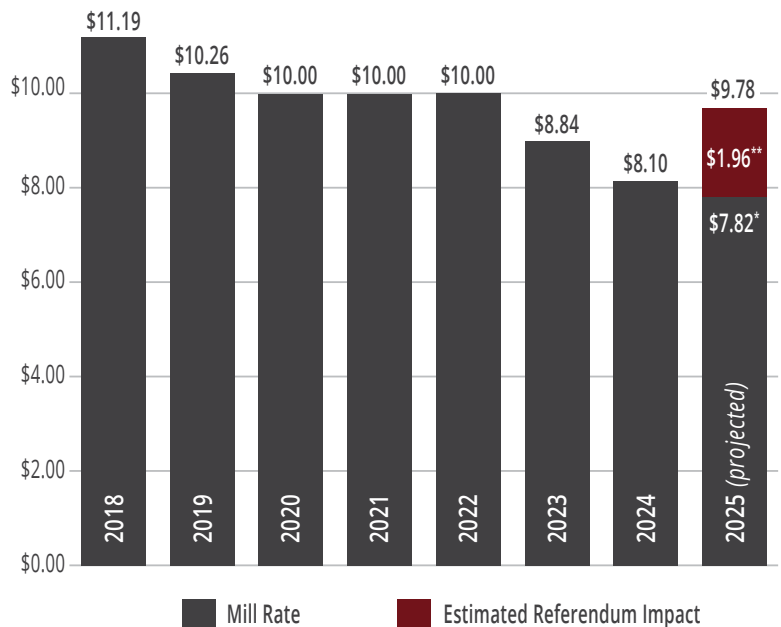
The official ballot language will appear as below.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the South Shore School District, Bayfield County, Wisconsin that there shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$14,750,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: construction of additions and renovations at the school building and site, including a secure entrance and office, classrooms, library and fitness center; capital maintenance of building infrastructure, heating, ventilation and electrical system upgrades, accessibility, safety and site improvements; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment.

Yes No

Our Mill Rate History

South Shore's tax mill rate is at the lowest level it's been in the past seven years, dropping more than 27%.



*Estimated 2024-25 mill rate based on current 2024-25 budget estimates without successful referendum.
 **Estimated referendum tax impact assumes multi-phased borrowing approach amortized over a total of 21 years at planning interest rates of 4.75% - 5.25% and estimated 2024 Equalized Valuation (TID-OUT) of \$513,521,942 with annual growth of 1.00%. Note: Planning estimates only. Significant changes in market conditions, equalized property value or other factors can result in property tax changes.

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