



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
LODI

2026 Referendum

June 8, 2026



District Mission:

In partnership with our community, nurturing every student's potential for growth and opportunities; socially, mentally & academically in a safe, respectful, and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers.

Preparing for the Future	Nurturing the Whole Student	Innovative Communication Connection	District Workforce	Operational Excellence
Exploring academic and career excellence for diverse futures through opportunity, relevance, & readiness	Creating a sense of belonging by growing empathy and compassion, inspiring the emotional and physical wellbeing of each student	Committing to stakeholders to provide clear and transparent communication and opportunities for engagement	Attracting and retaining exceptional team members and engaging them in continuous improvement	Planning for the district, incorporating innovation, budget forecasting, building maintenance & future needs for the district ensuring operational viability

Innovation

2022 Referendum

- \$5.98 million over 5 years - through 2026-27 school year
 - \$3.85 million for operations
 - \$2.13 million for projects



2025 Wisconsin School/District Accountability Report Cards

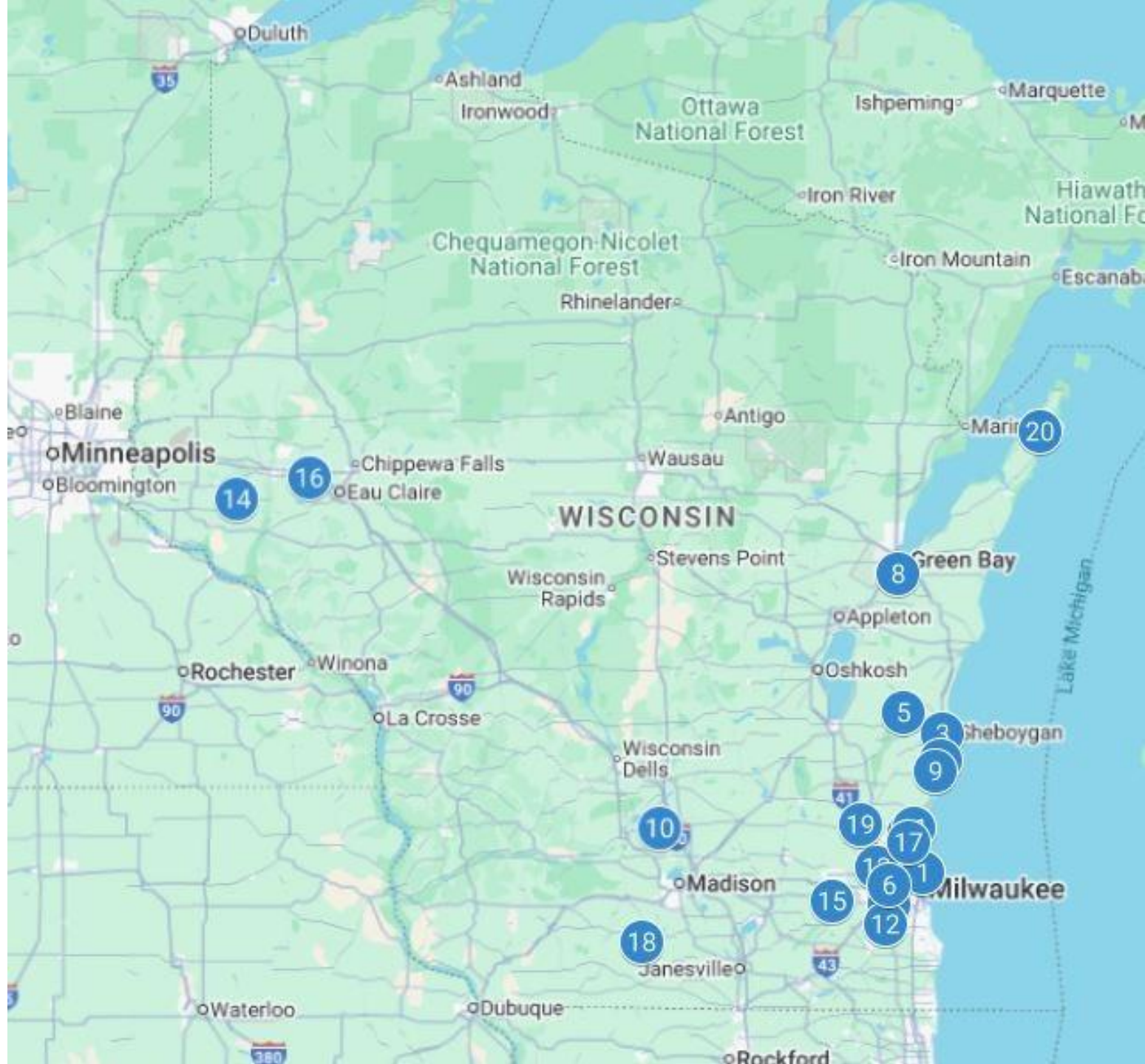
- Lodi boasts the 10th highest score among 4K-12 public school districts in the state! *19th out of all 400+ public districts, which includes 4K-8 & 4K-5 districts.*
- The School District of Lodi was the top-rated district in Dane County, Columbia County, and CESA5.
- All schools in Lodi received a rating of Exceeds Expectations or Significantly Exceeds Expectations.
- Lodi High School ranked 13th out of 400+ public high schools in the state.
- Lodi Middle School ranked 28th out of 350+ public middle schools/junior high schools in the state.
- The district's growth score ranked 3rd in Wisconsin, and its achievement score placed in the top 19% statewide.



The School District of Lodi is rated **Significantly Exceeds Expectations**



Lodi's participation rate exceeded 97% on state assessments used in this report





Steps Taken Based on Strategic Plan

- Pillar 3 -Innovative Communication Connection
 - Increased communication - Annual Board/Community Engagement sessions (referendum focused)
- Pillar 4 - District Workforce
 - Review of staff compensation models
- Pillar 5 - Operational Excellence
 - Budget forecasting and studying future needs to ensure operational viability

Resource Documents

- Strategic Plan
- Guiding Principles
- Community Viability Team work
- Baird Budget Forecasting
- Applied Populations Study
- School Perceptions Community Survey Results



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LODI

Master Planning Timeline

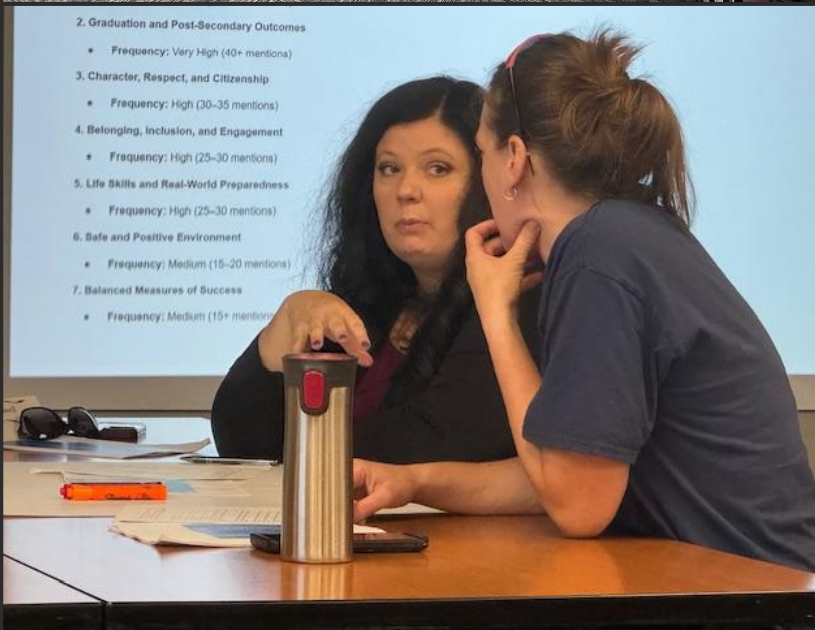
2024						
JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
CGS Completed Facilities Assessment						
POB + PRA Educational & Athletic Space Analysis						

2025											
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
	Board Approves CM Engagement		Strategic Planning Refresh								
					Applied Population Laboratory (APL) School Enrollment			Community Viability Team - Review Options - Concept Development - Site Utilization - Cost Estimating of Options			
					Engage Baird			Community Engagement			

2026										
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
01.12 Community Viability Team Present Options to Board	02.09 Board Revise & Finalize Options	Community Survey		Compile Survey Data	06.08 School Perceptions Report to Board & Review Initial Resolution	07.13 Board Adopt Resolution	08.25 Deadline for Adopting Resolution			 Vote! Referendum
Community Survey Planning							08.11 - 11.02 Public Information Phase			
Community Engagement										

*Board of Education meetings are held every 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. (Closed Session at 5:30 p.m.)

Strategic Planning in Action





Share Your Voice

Help Shape the Future of Lodi Schools as
we refresh our Strategic Plan



Please take a few minutes to complete a short survey.

Scan QR code or visit
www.lodi.k12.wi.us



OR

Attend an Idea Fair on either
July 22 or July 31 from 6 – 8 pm at Lodi High School

Surveys, Interviews, & Idea Fair



Ideas Fairs July 21 & July 31



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Academic Excellence:

Ensure every student achieves strong foundational skills and the core competencies needed for readiness in their future career pathway.

Success Beyond the Classroom:

Equip students with the essential life skills, expanded career/technical education, work experiences, and extra-curricular opportunities to thrive outside the classroom.



Supportive and Engaging Culture:

Actively strengthening trust, communication, and relationships that foster a safe and respectful sense of belonging for all.

Strong and Inspired Staff:

Attract, support, and retain passionate team members who inspire learning and innovation.

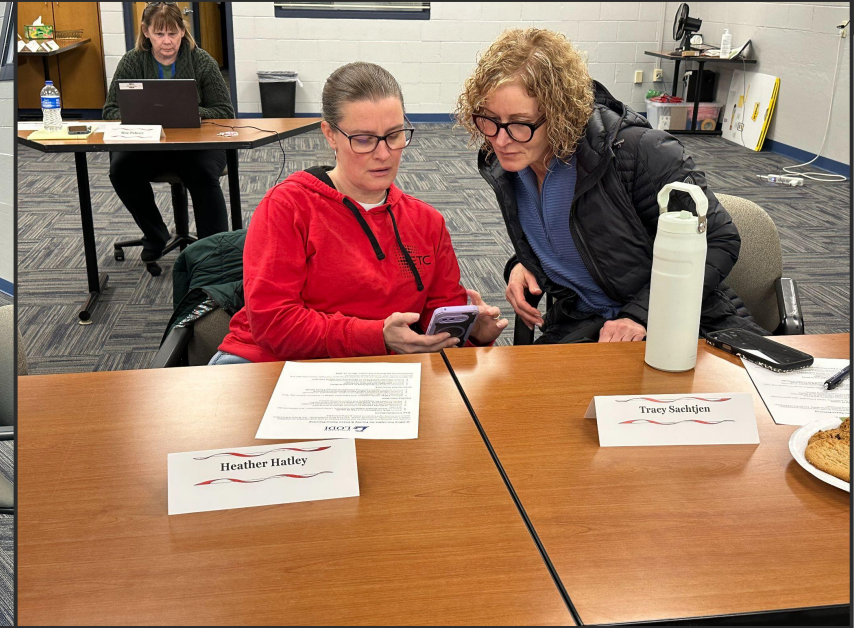
Operational and Financial Sustainability:

Ensure long-term operational success through strategic financial stewardship, budgeting, and innovative planning.

DISTRICT MISSION:

In partnership with our community, nurturing every student's potential for growth and opportunities - socially, mentally, academically - in a safe, respectful and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers.

CVT in Action



Guiding Principles

- The Board developed guiding principles to help them make decisions regarding the upcoming referendum
- Guiding Principles
 - For determining recurring vs non-recurring referendum
 - For facility and greenspace decision making

Current Budget Process

- Continued to look at ways to reduce budget
 - Took health insurance, liability, property insurance out to bid
 - Reviewed staffing and enrollment numbers
 - Reviewed staff retirees
 - Reduced \$310,000 in staffing cost through attrition for the 2026-27 school year

Community Survey Results

- There is majority support for renewing the operating referendum at the current level.
- Respondents prefer a non-recurring referendum setup.
- There is majority support for additional compensation for staff.

Survey Results

- Support for a \$15 million building referendum is above 50% but within the margin of error. Support grows to outside the margin of error for a “smaller” building referendum.
- The highest-priority building project among all three key subgroups is career and technical education.
- Lodi is outperforming their peers on all satisfaction metrics and increased from 2021.

Board Process

- developed processes for gathering community input
- reviewed strategic plan, community viability team recommendation and community survey results
- held special meetings on May 27 and on June 1

Discussion

- Focused on
 - community priorities (strategic plan)
 - needs vs wants
 - providing resources/facilities to meet the needs of students/staff/families/community
 - tax impact

Assumptions Built into Operating Referendum

Assumptions Built into Operating Referendum

Equalized Valuation Growth	5%
Compensation Increase	3 %
Health Insurance Increases	8.6%
Transportation	3%
Other budget increases	3 %
Fund 41	\$400,000
Staffing reduction	-\$310,000

IT Projects

Item	Year	Cost
Genetec Servers	ASAP	\$80,000
Wireless (Wifi) System	2028	\$150,000
Security Cameras	2028-2030	\$136,800
Firewall Security Appliance	2028	\$100,000
Phone System	2029	\$210,000
Active Directory Servers	2030	\$18,000
Storage Area Network (SAN)	2030	\$30,000
HS Clock and Bell Systems	TBD	\$30,000
		\$754,800 (approx. \$151,000 a yr for 5 yrs)

Operating Referendum

90% market adjustment for staff

- \$675,000

Operating Referendum

- Maintaining class sizes, staff, and academic supports, updating technology & market adjustment in salary for staff
- \$5.98 million

Discussion Operational Referendum

Capital or Building Projects Referendum

Community Survey Results

Support for a \$15 million building referendum is above 50% but within the margin of error. Support grows to outside the margin of error for a “smaller” building referendum.

The highest-priority building project among all three key subgroups is career and technical education.



Guiding Principles for Facility & Green Space Planning

Facility and greenspace planning for the School District of Lodi must prioritize accessibility, student opportunities, community needs, and long-term sustainability. The Board of Education seeks community input based on these guiding principles:

Key Considerations

- Ensure **ADA compliance** and **Title IX equity**.
- Focus on **future student needs** for academics, career preparation, and extracurricular activities.
- Consider **multi-use spaces** to maximize efficiency and access.
- Poll **community and students** to assess facility and program priorities.
- Weigh **short-term vs. long-term costs** and maintenance impact.
- Maximize **value for taxpayers** and explore funding options.

Facility Priorities

- Address **safety, modernization, and expansion needs** in academic spaces (Ag, Tech, Business, CTE, PAC, Athletics).
- Evaluate **high school pool needs** (renovation, replacement, or removal).
- Consider **capital projects that enhance learning environments**.
- Ensure updates **support evolving educational and workforce trends**.

Greenspace Priorities

- Consider bringing **all sports back to school facilities**.
- Address **spectator and parking challenges**.
- Improve **Hwy 60 fields** and other key areas.
- Ensure **year-round access** for students and community.
- Provide equitable opportunities for **sports and non-sports activities**.

By following these principles, we aim to develop a long-term, financially responsible plan that benefits students, staff, and the broader community.

Capital or Building Projects Referendum

CVT Order

CTE

Indoor Athletics

PAC

Outdoor Athletics

Highest rated project by CVT

Entire Project in CTE

Pool

In house items

Did not prioritize

Capital or Building Projects Referendum

CVT Order

CTE

Indoor Athletics

PAC

Outdoor Athletics

Board's Order from 5/27

CTE (34)

Pool (23)

Locker rooms (22)

Practice Fields (13)

Baseball Field (11)

PAC (3)

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LODI

SUMMARY OF HYPOTHETICAL REFERENDUM TAX IMPACTS

	PRELIMINARY				
REFERENDUM AMOUNT(s)	\$6,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$14,000,000
MAXIMUM MILL RATE IMPACT (OVER 2025-26)* (Per \$1,000 valuation)	\$0.21	\$0.27	\$0.33	\$0.39	\$0.45
TAX IMPACT ON PROPERTY WITH FAIR MARKET VALUE OF:					
\$100,000 Property					
Maximum Annual Impact	\$21.00	\$27.00	\$33.00	\$39.00	\$45.00
Maximum Monthly Impact	\$1.75	\$2.25	\$2.75	\$3.25	\$3.75
\$250,000 Property					
Maximum Annual Impact	\$52.50	\$67.50	\$82.50	\$97.50	\$112.50
Maximum Monthly Impact	\$4.38	\$5.63	\$6.88	\$8.13	\$9.38
\$500,000 Property					
Maximum Annual Impact	\$105.00	\$135.00	\$165.00	\$195.00	\$225.00
Maximum Monthly Impact	\$8.75	\$11.25	\$13.75	\$16.25	\$18.75
\$750,000 Property					
Maximum Annual Impact	\$157.50	\$202.50	\$247.50	\$292.50	\$337.50
Maximum Monthly Impact	\$13.13	\$16.88	\$20.63	\$24.38	\$28.13

Assumptions:

Debt amortized for up to a total of 20 years, using a planning interest rate of 5.25%.

Tertiary Aid Percentage (2025-26 October 15 Aid Cert.): -30.41%

Mill rate based on 2025 Equalized Valuation (TID-OUT) of \$2,266,973,910 with annual growth of 1.00% thereafter.

* Impact represents hypothetical change in mill rate for Fund 39 debt service over the 2025-26 mill rate of \$0.51.

Notes: Planning estimates only. Significant changes in market conditions will require adjustments to current financing plan. Rates subject to change.

Capital Referendum Options

- Board reviewed 6 different options
- Board looked at many different variations of those options

Wait/Do Nothing At This Time Option

- Don't Do Anything
 - Wait until Primary School debt falls off in 2033 (at end of current operating referendum)
 - If operational referendum passes use fund balance to fix (not replace tennis courts) and try to slowly make renovations to pool
 - Use Wopat money to upgrade portions of PAC

CTE & Pool Option

- CTE \$3,710,500
- Pool \$2,829,500

\$6.6 million

CTE, Pool, Locker room Option

- CTE \$3,710,500
- Pool \$2,829,500
- Locker room \$1,548,500

\$8.1 million

CTE, Pool, Locker room, Practice Fields

- Career/Technical Education (CTE) \$3,710,500
- Pool Remodel \$2,829,500
- High School Locker room Remodel \$1,548,500
- Practice Fields at Primary School \$997,500

\$9.1 million

Note: Board determined that since their was donated money for PAC updates, they would not ask for any referendum funds for the PAC

CTE, Pool, Locker room, Fields, Baseball

- CTE \$3,710,500
- Pool \$2,829,500
- Locker room \$1,548,500
- Practice Fields at Primary School \$997,500
- Baseball \$4,066,000

\$13.2 million

CTE, Pool, Locker room, Fields, Baseball, PAC

- CTE \$3,710,500
- Pool \$2,829,500
- Locker room \$1,548,500
- Practice Fields at Primary School \$997,500
- Baseball \$4,066,000
- PAC \$926,000

\$14.1 million

CTE, Pool, Locker room, Practice Fields

- Career/Technical Education (CTE) \$3,710,500
- Pool Remodel \$2,829,500
- High School Locker room Remodel \$1,548,500
- Practice Fields at Primary School \$997,500

\$9.1 million

Note: Board determined that since their was donated money for PAC updates, they would not ask for any referendum funds for the PAC

Discussion