

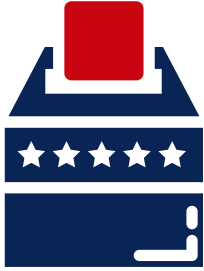


Eastwood Local Schools Frequently Asked Questions

Master Facilities Plan & November 3, 2026 Ballot Issue



What will appear on the November 3, 2026 ballot?



The Nov. 3, 2026, ballot will include a single issue that combines a property tax bond issue and a 0.5% school district earned income tax. If approved by voters, the issue would provide approximately \$77.65 million in local funding toward Eastwood Local Schools' proposed \$95.3 million Master Facilities Plan. The remaining approximately \$17.65 million would come from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC), contingent upon voter approval of the ballot issue.



What is the Master Facilities Plan?



The Master Facilities Plan is the long-term facilities plan approved by the Eastwood Local Schools Board of Education on June 25, 2026. It serves as the framework for addressing the district's long-term facility needs and outlines proposed construction, renovation, and site improvements.



What would be included in the proposed Master Facilities Plan?



If approved by voters, the proposed Master Facilities Plan would include:

- ✓ Construction of a new school serving students in grades 5-12
- ✓ Preservation and repurposing of portions of the current high school
- ✓ Dedicated learning spaces for:
 - STEM education
 - Career-technical education
 - Agricultural education
 - Fine arts
 - Athletics
 - Collaborative learning
- ✓ Improvements to campus traffic flow and site circulation



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What changes are planned for the current high school

Under the proposed Master Facilities Plan, the current high school's three academic classroom wings would be removed. The remaining portions of the building would be renovated and repurposed to better serve students and the community.

Planned renovations include:



- ✓ Relocating the Board of Education offices to the area north of the cafeteria.
- ✓ Transforming the current cafeteria into a community gathering space.
- ✓ Converting the existing band room into theater storage.
- ✓ Repurposing the current woodshop into additional district storage.
- ✓ Converting the existing high school competition gymnasium into the middle school's competition gym.
- ✓ Reconfiguring the auxiliary gym into flexible practice space, with the potential addition of indoor turf to support a variety of student programs.

Athletics and student activities would also be supported through the proposed new school, which would include a 1,600-seat competition gymnasium and four locker rooms designed to serve both middle school and high school student-athletes.



Why is the district proposing a school for grades 5-12?



The proposed Master Facilities Plan includes a single school serving students in grades 5–12. During the planning process, Eastwood Local Schools worked with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to evaluate enrollment projections and long-term facility needs.

For districts with fewer than 1,500 students, OFCC typically recommends a single-building solution. Eastwood's 10-year enrollment projection estimates approximately 1,423 students in grades PK–12 by the 2030–2031 school year, placing the district within that range. Under the proposed plan, the elementary school, renovated and reopened in 2017, would continue serving students in grades PK–4.



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Why isn't the district proposing to renovate the existing middle and high schools?



As part of the Master Facilities Planning process, Eastwood Local Schools evaluated multiple options to address the district's long-term facility needs, including renovating the existing middle and high schools. Facility assessments identified significant needs in both buildings, including aging HVAC, roofing, electrical, plumbing, technology, and interior systems.

According to estimates prepared through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC), renovating the existing middle and high schools would cost more than \$55 million and would extend the buildings' usable life by approximately 25 years. New school construction is typically designed with a 50 plus year life expectancy. These assessments, along with cost estimates, educational priorities, and community input, helped inform development of the proposed Master Facilities Plan.



How was this plan developed?



The Master Facilities Plan was developed through a multi-year planning process that began in 2023. Eastwood Local Schools worked with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC), conducted facility assessments, reviewed enrollment projections, gathered community and staff input, and evaluated multiple facility options before the Board of Education approved the plan in June 2026.

The planning process included:

- ✓ Partnership with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC)
- ✓ Facility assessments and building evaluations
- ✓ A 48-member Facilities Task Force
- ✓ Community meetings and visioning sessions
- ✓ Staff surveys and planning meetings
- ✓ Review of enrollment projections
- ✓ Development of conceptual designs and cost estimates with Garmann Miller
- ✓ Approval of the Master Facilities Plan by the Board of Education on June 25, 2026



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What is the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC)?



The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) is the state agency that administers Ohio's school facilities program. The agency partners with eligible school districts to help fund classroom facilities projects and provides oversight throughout the planning, design, and construction process.



How does Eastwood qualify for OFCC funding?



The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) provides financial assistance to eligible school districts for facility construction and renovation projects. Eastwood Local Schools became eligible to participate in the OFCC Classroom Facilities Assistance Program through the state's funding process.

If the proposed project is approved, the State of Ohio would contribute approximately \$17.65 million toward construction costs. Eastwood Local Schools would provide the remaining \$77.65 million, which includes both the district's required local share of the OFCC project and additional locally funded improvements identified through the planning process.



Why is voter approval required to receive OFCC funding?



Under the OFCC program, the state provides its share of funding only if the local district secures voter approval for its required local share. If local funding is not approved, the district would not receive the state's funding allocation for the proposed project.



How would the project be funded?

If approved by voters:

- ✓ Local funding would come from the combined property tax bond issue and earned income tax.
- ✓ Additional funding of approximately \$17.65 million would be provided through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC). This state funding is contingent upon voter approval of the ballot issue.



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What are the proposed property tax and earned income tax?

The Nov. 3, 2026, ballot issue includes two local funding sources:

- ✓ **Property tax:** A 6.49-mill property tax bond issue. If approved by voters, the estimated cost would be approximately \$227 per year for every \$100,000 of a home's appraised market value.
- ✓ **Earned income tax:** A 0.5% school district earned income tax for a period of 28 years, beginning Jan. 1, 2027, if approved by voters.



Who would pay the proposed property tax and earned income tax?

The ballot issue includes two local funding sources that would apply differently.



Property Tax: The proposed 6.49-mill property tax bond issue would apply to taxable real property located within the Eastwood Local School District. The amount paid would depend on a property's appraised value.



Earned Income Tax: The proposed 0.5% school district earned income tax would apply to residents of the Eastwood Local School District who have earned income. Earned income includes wages, salaries, tips, commissions and self-employment income. Earned income does not include Social Security benefits, pension income, retirement distributions or unemployment compensation.



What is the proposed construction timeline?



If voters approve the Nov. 3, 2026, ballot issue, construction is expected to begin in late fall 2027. The new school is anticipated to open for students in fall 2029.



Where can I learn more?

Residents can find additional information, project updates, and resources by visiting: eastwoodschoools.org/facilities-updates