

Referendum Update

October 18, 2022



How are school districts able to fund capital projects?

- Annual School Budget
- Bond Referendum



There are limits to what and how many capital projects an annual school budget can support.

For example, in this year's, 2022-2023, School Budget, 2 million dollars, funded from capital reserves, were allocated for capital improvements.



Are there any disadvantages to funding most capital projects in the annual school budget?

YES! There is a BIG disadvantage...

NO STATE AID!!!



Capital projects funded through a bond referendum are eligible for up to 34% state aid

For example:

This summer, air conditioning was installed in the South Gym at Wall High School. The project was funded by the annual budget and it cost \$621,000



If this HVAC project had been funded through a bond referendum...

The state aid estimate would have been \$211,140; therefore, the project would have cost Wall Township taxpayers \$409,860!



I repeat...

On a project costing \$621,000,

State pays \$211,140

District pays \$409,860



What is a bond referendum?

A referendum is a vote, and a bond referendum asks voters to approve funding through the sale of bonds. These bonds can provide the school district with up-front funding to make long-lasting improvements similar to the way a homeowner might use a loan to renovate a kitchen. Property taxes are used to buy back those bonds, with interest.



Important to know...

School districts -- via a referendum -- require voter approval to sell bonds to raise funds for capital improvements.



With that in mind...

**The Board of Education approved
holding a referendum on
December 13, 2022**



The referendum philosophy:

Question #1: Needed projects that will result in **no increase** in debt service taxes

Question #2: Needed projects that will result in some increase to debt service taxes



How can Question #1 be accomplished without an increase in taxes?

Wall Twp. Schools has debt from the last referendum coming off the books.

NO tax
increase
(Tax Neutral)

Question #1
asks the voters
for **\$53,078,733**

State
contribution:
\$18,046,792



How much will Question #2 cost?

Question #2 asks for **\$13,520,475**.

State contribution for Question #2 is **\$2,009,806**



How would both questions impact our taxpayers?

Question #1:

No impact (replaces the debt coming off of the books)

Question #2:

Impact on average assessed home (Est. \$483,357) will be approximately \$60.00 per year/\$5.00 per month



What types of projects?



Allenwood Elementary School

- Replace Roofing
- Replace/Improve HVAC System
- Modernize Restrooms
- Upgrade Fire Alarm
- Improve ADA Accessibility
- Add New Parking Area
- Install LED Parking Lot Lighting

Building Use:
K-5

Building Age:
est. 1897
+ later additions

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



Central Elementary School

- Replace Roofing
- Replace/Improve HVAC System
- Modernize Restrooms
- Upgrade Electrical System
- Upgrade Fire Alarm

Building Use:
K-5

Building Age:
1949
+ later additions

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



West Belmar Elementary School

- Replace Roofing
- Replace/Improve HVAC System
- Modernize Restrooms
- Upgrade Fire Alarm
- Upgrade Mechanicals
- Upgrade Electrical System
- Replace Asphalt

Building Use:
K-5

Building Age:
1890

+ later additions inc. 1999

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



Old Mill Elementary School

- Replace Roofing
- Replace Lower-Level Classroom HVAC
- Replace/Improve HVAC System
- Modernize Restrooms

Building Use:
K-5

Building Age:
1971

+ sm. addition 1999

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



Primary School

- Modernize Restrooms
- Replace Low-Efficiency Windows

Building Use:
Pre-K

Building Age:
est. 1970

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



Intermediate School

- Replace Roofing
- Upgrade Electrical System
- Replace/Improve HVAC Systems
- Replace Low-Efficiency Windows
- Renovate Classrooms
- Renovate Art Room & Technology Lab
- Renovate Boys' & Girls' Locker Rooms

Building Use:
6 - 8

Building Age:
1967

+ later additions
inc. 1999

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



High School

- Replace Roofing
- Replace/Improve HVAC System
- Modernize Restrooms
- Upgrade Electrical System
- Renovate Auditorium
- Renovate Graphics & Digital Arts Area
- Renovate Art Room
- Enhance Athletic Facilities

Building Use:
9 - 12

Building Age:
1959

PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND REFERENDUM



**It is imperative that voters are informed.
For accurate information, please visit the
“Referendum” tab on the District’s website.**

wallpublicschools.org

Thank you for your time!

#walltogether

