

Ida Public Schools Bond Special Edition

Where Learning Strikes



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Ida Public Schools Community!

It is a privilege to work alongside so many community members who are dedicated to our children. One of the many reasons to love Ida: Our children are our priority.

The bond proposal that is being brought to you on November 2, 2021 was determined by our Building Committee that is comprised of community members at large, community business owners, elected officials, parents, and staff.

Please read the pages in this Bond Special Edition carefully so you do not miss important answers to your questions.

To give perspective of the demands on general budgets and facility maintenance and improvements, most districts in Monroe County have current bonds, except Jefferson which does not have a current bond but rather a sinking fund and rec millage, Mason had a sinking fund that expired in 2000 and Ida does not have a current bond or sinking fund. The last Ida millage for additional funds was in the 1980's that Dale Zorn co-chaired. Our nearest district, Dundee, has passed two bonds since 2000 and has 5.73 mills of debt.

The next nearest district is Monroe who passed a bond during COVID and has a sinking fund. Bedford, Airport, Whiteford and Summerfield all have current bonds.

The Ida Community has zero debt. We have also been fortunate to not need a bond to keep our buildings and grounds in great shape due to the responsible use of general funds. To move forward with essential and updated improvements, and safety and curriculum needs, additional funding is needed beyond our general fund.

When the Building Committee prioritized the items for the bond proposal, they worked in teams, prioritizing, discussing, and debating. The final proposal is based on the survey and the wisdom and experience of the committee members.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions, ideas, or concerns.

The Family Meeting option on the Community Schedule is designed for me to sit down at a local restaurant or the community center, with your family, immediate and extended, to answer questions. I might bring along my husband Greg, a residential builder in our community for over 40 years, to answer questions and to enjoy time

together. He is in no way connected to this building project. Clark Construction is the Construction Manager. Greg loves Ida and can add to the conversation and fellowship.

Thank you for reading the Bond Special Edition thus far. We want to be sensitive and not be a nuisance so communications will be few. We will trust you to initiate further conversations as you see fit.

Take care,

Sandy Kreps

IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Ida Public Schools is to bring students, staff and community together to maintain our rich traditions. We will provide students with a safe learning environment, an exceptional curriculum, skills to meet the challenges of the future, and the means to become lifelong learners.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR IDA HIGH SCHOOL



- Create a secure entry at west entrance
- Remodel existing Biology / Chemistry rooms
- Additional Girls' Locker Room
- Reconstruct southeast classroom wing exterior walls to provide insulated/water-tight exterior
- Replace exterior windows with new insulated windows
- Update classrooms: ceilings, paint, millwork, added storage
- Upgrade Physics rooms
- Replace classroom floor tile
- Replace classroom unit ventilators
- Replace heating and ventilation control systems
- Upgrade to LED light fixtures and controls
- Replace classroom doors

IMPROVEMENTS FOR IDA MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Create a secure entry
- Reconstruct 5th & 6th grade wings, and 7th & 8th grade wing exterior walls to provide insulated/water-tight exterior
- Reconstruct shifting interior classroom walls at 7th & 8th grade wing
- Update classrooms: ceilings, paint, millwork, added storage
- Upgrade Science Lab classrooms (6th, 7th and 8th)
- Replace existing boiler
- Replace classroom floor tile
- Replace classroom unit ventilators
- Replace heating and ventilation control systems
- Upgrade to LED light fixtures and controls
- Replace classroom doors



IMPROVEMENTS FOR IDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



- 7 Classroom additions
- Gym, corridor, restroom addition
- Remodel two classrooms into a new office, addition for secure entry
- New Pre-School Playground
- New Elementary Playground
- Update classrooms: ceilings, paint, millwork, add storage
- Replace boiler
- Replace sections of cracked concrete floors
- Replace heating pipe where required
- Replace ceilings where required
- Remodel individual restrooms in the hearing-impaired area
- Replace classroom floor tile
- Replace classroom unit ventilators
- Replace heating and ventilation control systems
- Upgrade to LED light fixtures and controls
- Replace classroom doors



Tax Relief Options for Voters

Michigan Homestead Property Tax Credit – Households that pay homestead property taxes greater than 3.2% of their annual income may be eligible for Michigan’s Homestead Property Tax Credit. Eligible households may deduct up to 60% (up to 100% for senior citizens, please see the senior credit table below) of the millage increase cost up to a \$1,500 Homestead Tax Credit limit. The eligibility for the credit begins to decrease after household income exceeds \$51,001 and ends completely after the household income exceeds \$60,001.

**Please contact Sandy Kreps
with questions
kreps@idaschools.org
734-269-9003 Ext. 4000**

**Please see below the general reduction table
and senior credit table:**

General Credit Reduction

Resources	% of credit
\$51,000	100.00%
\$51,001	90.00%
\$52,001	80.00%
\$53,001	70.00%
\$54,001	60.00%
\$55,001	50.00%
\$56,001	40.00%
\$57,001	30.00%
\$58,001	20.00%
\$59,001	10.00%
\$60,001	0.00%

Senior Credit

Resources	% Credit
\$21,000	100%
\$21,001	96%
\$22,001	92%
\$23,001	88%
\$24,001	84%
\$25,001	80%
\$26,001	76%
\$27,001	72%
\$28,001	68%
\$29,001	64%
\$30,001	60%

To apply for credit, complete the needed form when filing your state tax return.

Tax Calculator: This is a link <https://pfmtaxcalc.com/IdaPublicSchoolDistrict/default.aspx> to an online tax calculator we created that estimates the impact of November’s ballot proposal on a your annual tax bill. This will help you see the actual amount of increase for each household. Below is a table with a general overview of tax increases.

HOME (SEV) TAXABLE VALUE	HOME MARKET VALUE	ESTIMATED DAILY COST	ESTIMATED MONTHLY COST	ESTIMATED YEARLY COST
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$0.64	\$19.58	\$235
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$1.29	\$39.17	\$470
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$1.93	\$58.75	\$705

Timeline from the Superintendent's Desk



July 2019

When I was hired as superintendent in 2019, I was aware of the challenges with the existing building proposals. The straw vote at one of the last community meetings in 2018 was split between a new elementary or a new high school. I asked the board if I could have 6 months to get my feet planted with general responsibilities before I tackled next steps for our facilities.



January 2020

After reading the Long-Term Facility Study for 2018-19, and all reports and minutes from various meetings, I made separate appointments with Kohler Architects, Kingscott Architects, Clark Construction and Plante Moran; the team that was already in place by the past administration. My goal: To learn what work each had completed in preparation for the two building proposals made to our community in 2018. From these conversations, several additional options emerged that could be considered. The consensus from each conversation was we needed more information to determine which option would be the best for Ida Public Schools and the community.



I asked the Board for approval to do a more in-depth facilities study. Aware of the reputation and track records of Kingscott Architects, Clark Construction and Kohler Architects, I knew Mr. Carsten and the Board chose well. With this team, we collaborated and developed a plan for the facilities study and its objectives: A few of the objectives were to determine if the bones of the elementary were solid enough to keep the building and build a new high school or was it more prudent to tear down and build a new elementary or consolidate the districts' buildings into two and add space to each building. We also would determine if a bond was needed for the best option.

I also asked the Board to clear their expectations of a new elementary or new high school so they could prepare to review the results of the in-depth facilities study with a fresh eye. We might not need to build new, we might need to; we might need to go for a bond, we might not need to. Let the data from the facilities study guide our thoughts and decisions.



May 2020

An Ida Insights Special Edition was sent with the most current information regarding the status of the building project to keep taxpayers informed. (It was ready in March 2020, but we held the mailing until May due to mailing concerns with COVID.) Please review.

https://www.idaschools.org/downloads/ida_insights/ida_insights_special_edition.pdf



February 2020 - December 2020

In-depth study of facilities conducted by a members of the Facilities Task Team of Kohler, Clark, Kingscott and our local team of Bob Cherry and John Elkins. It was slowed a bit due to COVID, but they kept on.

Timeline from the Superintendent's Desk - continued

December 2020 - March 2021

The in-depth study with a starting point of over \$90 million was analyzed and broken down and prioritized by the Facilities Task Team of Bob Cherry, John Elkins, Keith Kohler, Steve Stotz, Matt Darr, Mike Mero and Sandy Kreps with Kingscott and Clark construction providing numbers and suggestions along the way. \$21 million was determined as the base amount of need for all three buildings. Then, the remainder of the \$90 million was prioritized for the next 5-10 years and beyond. The base amount of need is \$21 million. Thus, we would need an additional funding source beyond the capital money budgeted each year which is approximately \$450,000. A bond would give us the capital in the timely manner needed to complete these major improvements or new buildings. All options would be weighed.

January 2021

We reached out to the past building committee members from 2018 to ask who was interested in continuing. We also added a few new members based on recommendations from the existing group. (The resulting committee is listed in this edition and could also answer many of your questions.)

April 2021

A professional community survey was conducted to determine what the voters valued from the list of improvements, safety and curriculum needs of the facilities study and what dollar amount they thought they could support.

March - May 2021

Building Committee Workshops: The options were presented to the Building Committee at the workshops. The Facilities Task Team made a recommendation that the best use of our facilities and the most cost effective is to upgrade our three existing buildings. The addition to the elementary would be designed and placed for further expansion as the current building nears its best life. For comparison as to when this could be, let's look at a comparable building. Dundee is still using the elementary built in 1929 and the newest part added in 1951. Our elementary was built in 1950. The Building Committee concurred with the recommendation from the Facilities Task Team to upgrade all three buildings based on the facilities study, and the cost taxpayers might support, based on the survey.

The Building Committee then met 6 times. They prioritized the list of improvements for each building starting with the \$21 million of needed improvements, not to exceed \$40 million (what the survey suggested taxpayers might support). The improvements that did not make the list are in 5-10 years and beyond strategic plan. The committee drafted a proposal for the Board of Education to approve. https://www.idaschools.org/downloads/district_files_-_long_term_plan/210527_ida_option_a_scope_list_v9.pdf



Timeline from the Superintendent's Desk - continued

May 17, 2021

The Board reviewed the recommendation from the Building Committee prior to the May 17, 2021 board meeting. Also, three board members represented the Board on the Building Committee. Jeremy Nadeau, a parent on the building committee, presented the recommendation to the Board and gave an overview of the proposal and how it was determined at the board meeting on May 17. After discussion and questions, the Board passed the bond proposal 7-0.

May 17 - June 23, 2021

We prepared for a hearing with the Michigan Department of Treasury to present the Bond Application for \$38,800,000 not to exceed 30 years with a debt of 4.34 mills anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt. The Michigan Department of Treasury assessed the risk using local data. The application was approved at a rate of 4.70 mills.

August 9, 2021

Bond language for ballot approved by the Board.

August 25, 2021

Ida Insights with general bond information sent to our community. https://www.idaschools.org/downloads/district_files_-_long_term_plan/final_ida_insights_special_edition_spring_2021_1.pdf

September 2021

Ida Bond Special Edition with specific bond information sent to our community.

September and October 2021

Community meetings.

November 2, 2021

Election.



Community Information Meetings

What	Where	When	Who
Community Meeting	Ida High School Cafeteria	September 14, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Members, Architects, Builder
Ida Band Boosters	Ida High School Media Center	September 14, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Members
Community Meeting	Community Room in Township Hall	September 15, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m.	Building Committee Members, Architects, Builder
Community Meeting	Ida High School Cafeteria	September 15, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Members, Architects, Builder
Ida Athletic Boosters	Ida High School Media Center	September 20, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Members
Ida Public Schools PTA	Ida Elementary Gymnasium	September 21, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Members
Christmas in Ida Meeting	Dale Zorn's Home	TBA	Building Committee Members
Family Meetings with immediate/extended family members.	As determined by each family	Please schedule with Sandy 734-868-6119 or kreps@idaschools.org	



What is a Bond?

A school bond is a bond issued by a school district to fund school construction. "School bonds" means promissory notes and bonds authorized for school purposes. In our case, the school purposes are improving existing facilities, school security, classrooms, and curriculum opportunities. A Bond allows the district to complete construction in the space of a few years, but pay for that construction over a longer amount of time.

Original Construction Dates of our Existing Facilities
 Elementary 1950
 Middle 1954
 High 1964



Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. #40
Monroe, MI 48161

Postal Patron

THE IDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUILDING COMMITTEE 2021

Board of Education

- Michael Mero, Jr.**
Board President
- Jamie Hunter**
Board Vice-President
- Matt Darr**
Board Treasurer
- Heather Schafer**
Board Secretary
- Sarah Lambert**
Board Trustee
- Ryan Winkelman**
Board Trustee
- Sara King**
Board Trustee

Administration

- Sandra Kreps**
Superintendent of Schools
- Chuck Fuller**
High School Principal
- David Eack**
Middle School Principal
- Stacy Maynard**
Elementary School Principal
- Lucy Becker**
Assistant Principal
- Sarah Ash**
Curriculum Director
- Chad Baas**
Business Manager
- Bob Cherry**
Maintenance
- John Elkins**
Transportation
- Ryan Kisonas**
Technology Director
- Pam Oberski**
Food Service Director
- Tim Leonard**
Athletic Director

- Chad Baas
- Jim McMonagle
- Kari Blanchett
- Tim Mata
- Traci Brower
- Stacy Maynard
- Dale Brunt
- Mike Mero Jr
- Bob Cherry
- Paul Metz
- Carolyn Clark
- Jeremy Nadeau
- Matt Darr
- Holly Nartker
- John Davids
- Jeremy Potter
- Dave Eack
- Stefanie Rauch
- John Elkins
- Nelda Reynolds
- Chuck Fuller
- Kelly Riley
- Wendy Hiteshew
- Heather Schafer
- Keith Kohler
- Tera Shaffer
- Sandy Kreps
- Gary Stellar
- Sue Kreps
- Steve Stotz
- Tim Leonard
- Jessica Thompson
- Sherry Locke

