

Facilities Facts

To help inform the Elmbrook community on high school facilities topics.

Referendum Facts at a Glance – April 3, 2007 Election

Renovation/Addition Solutions Respond to Resident Feedback

- In response to facilities needs (see side two), community teams and the school board reviewed alternative facilities solutions for six years that ranged from \$30 million (M) for mechanical replacement to \$125M for two new high schools.
- Based on a 2005 community survey, there was *not* advisory support for borrowing for two new schools.
- Based on 2006 community focus groups, there was advisory support for long term, equivalent (at the end of construction) renovations and additions to sustain both educational reputation and resulting property values in the district.

Specific Renovation/Addition–Central

- Renovations (half of the existing school) are projected at \$21.4M
- A new addition (to replace half of the existing school) is projected at \$31.7M
- Total of \$53.1M at Central

Specific Renovation/Addition–East

- Renovations (most of the existing school) are projected at \$24.9M
- A new addition (to address classroom shortage) is projected at \$21.3M
- Total of \$46.2M at East

Referendum Questions

Referendum Question #1 on April 3, 2007 is for borrowing of \$99.3M for renovations and additions at both schools to address classroom and accessibility needs in the academics, the arts, and physical education.

INITIAL RESOLUTION NUMBER I
AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$99,300,000

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of Elmbrook, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, that there shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$99,300,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of renovating and adding to Brookfield Central and Brookfield East High Schools; making related site improvements; and acquiring related equipment.”

Referendum Question #2 on April 3, 2007 is for borrowing \$9.5M for upgraded physical education, athletics, and community recreation space at both schools.

INITIAL RESOLUTION NUMBER II
AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,500,000

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of Elmbrook, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, that there shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$9,500,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of adding a field house to both Brookfield Central and Brookfield East High Schools and acquiring related equipment.”

Projected Tax Impact to Address Facilities Needs in 2007

- The projected increase in the 2007 tax bill of an average (\$335,000) home is \$164 for the first question and/or \$27 for the second question.
- The above tax impact on a \$335,000 home, which funds an average of \$312/year for the first question and/or \$30/year for the second question, is projected to hold constant for the first ten years and decline for the last ten years of the repayment schedule.

Overview of Facilities Needs–Brookfield Central and Brookfield East High Schools

- The original facilities were built in 1955 (Central) and 1961 (East) as post-World War II public buildings when there was less emphasis on architectural and construction quality than pre-WWII buildings.
- Several additions in the 1960s and 1970s accommodated rapid enrollment growth in the district, which peaked in the early 1980s.
- While the original construction and additions have been well maintained within constraints of limited annual operational budgets, proposed renovations/additions for curriculum, accessibility, and mechanical replacement (heating, ventilating, air conditioning, electrical, plumbing, and windows) are overdue at Central and due at East. See fact sheets and photos at www.elmbrookschoools.org.
- Educational mandates and standards have changed for handicapped accessibility; comprehensive curriculum, such as Advanced Placement courses, honors and regular courses, special education programs, and skills interventions prompted by No Child Left Behind; several bands, choirs, and orchestras squeezed into two rehearsal rooms built prior to orchestra being added; and a full range of athletics and activities for both boys and girls.
- As compared to the proposed 825 square foot (SF) classrooms, existing 725-750SF classrooms are too small to provide for varied instructional methods and to integrate technology. An elementary school classroom is 900SF.

Specific Facilities Needs–Brookfield Central

- The original construction of narrow hallways and stairwells, low ceilings, and multiple elevations didn't contemplate multiple additions that created a large school that is not handicapped accessible.
- The older parts (about half of Central), such as regular classrooms, library, cafeteria, offices, and bathrooms are not cost effective to renovate.
- While there are both a large and small gymnasium, physical education/athletic space is very limited and students practice some nights until at least 9 pm.

Specific Facilities Needs–Brookfield East

- Most classrooms are small and there are not enough of them, e.g. East is 50,000SF smaller than Central yet has the same population of about 1,400 students. Every classroom is in use every period of the day.
- The science classrooms and storage areas have never been updated and there are not enough of them to deliver the growth in science enrollments.
- There is only one gymnasium for all indoor boys and girls physical education and athletic activities so students practice elsewhere and until at least 9 pm on some nights.

Projected Construction Timeline

- If Referendum Question #1 passes, the new additions would be constructed first to provide space for the students when the renovations are completed in later phases over a projected two-year period of time. Construction would begin in October 2007.
- If Referendum Question #2 passes along with Referendum Question #1, the projects would be combined.
- If only Referendum Question #2 passes, the school board would have up to five years prior to its implementation to consider how to address the facilities needs that Referendum Question #1 would have addressed.

School Tours

- Contact Brookfield Central and Brookfield East for tour information or view the tour schedule at www.elmbrookschoools.org.



Brookfield Central High School
16900 West Gebhardt Road
Brookfield, WI 53005
262-785-3910



Brookfield East High School
3305 North Lilly Road
Brookfield, WI 53005
262-781-3500