



Bond Election Follow Up – Top Rated Questions

What is the construction timeline?

The general timeline for the construction projects approved by the community as part of the May 23, 2017 referendum is three years starting in the spring of 2018. These projects will impact the school calendar and district staff has looked closely at school year calendars to find a solution least disruptive for students, staff and families. Revised calendars for 2017-18 and 2018-19 were approved by the school board on Nov. 9, and released to families on Nov. 10. The revised calendars can be [viewed here](#).

What is the district's priorities for the first year to complete?

There are many projects included in the referendum that will take multiple years to complete. School district staff is working with architects and construction managers to determine the “phasing schedule.” This schedule is largely determined by the scope of the projects, materials needed, bids awarded, length of time needed to complete the projects, and so on. A large number of projects are at the high school, middle school, and stadium area. A new rear entrance to the cafeteria at Sunrise River School is the major construction project at that site. Work on the middle school, high school and Sunrise River School is expected to begin in the spring of 2018.

When will the high school boiler be fixed?

NBAPS is replacing two original boilers at the high school. Boiler replacement is scheduled for year two of the construction project; there are important updates that need to occur in year one before the boilers can be replaced. The main boiler for the high school is newer than the two that are being replaced, and both of the older boilers are updated to current safety standards. The boilers at the high school are not a safety issue.



What will the new addition at the high school look like?



The high school gym addition is still in the design phase, but concept drawings are available. If you would like to see what the gym addition will look like, go to: isd138.org/referendum. At the bottom of the center section you will find concept drawings for a number of projects. NBAPS will continue to update this page with new information as it becomes available.

Open communication thru construction is a must. Are public meetings scheduled?

The superintendent provides an update on construction at all school board meetings. The architects have also [provided an update](#). All school board meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend! NBAPS provides concept drawings of various projects at isd138.org/referendum. Concept drawings were displayed for families during parent-teacher conferences, and the school district recently presented a construction update at a North Branch Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon. That presentation was widely disseminated by the Chamber, and it is available at the school district website at the isd138.org/referendum address. Construction updates will be regularly presented to the school board throughout the process and school board meetings are open to the public. As a courtesy to the communities served by the school district, podcasts and meeting materials are made available to the public following each meeting. Look for school board updates at the district homepage in the news scroll located in the upper right hand corner of the main page.

Why is money being spent on improving buildings while employees are being cut due to budget deficits?

School districts receive funding from local, state, and federal resources. Those resources are generally placed into two categories: operating funds and capital funds. Operating funds are used for the day to day business of operating a school district; heat, fuel, electricity, salaries, curriculum, transportation, etc. Capital funds are reserved for deferred maintenance and new construction, and cannot be used to supplant operating funds. An easy way to remember the difference is, the “B” in “bonds” means “buildings.” When the school district went to the voters in the spring of 2017, it asked for approval of bonds to improve buildings and a capital levy for technology. The capital levy will assist with funding for positions related to technology. Four recent attempts by the school district to pass operating levies have failed.

