



**OUR COMMUNITY
OUR SCHOOLS
OUR FUTURE**

VOTE NOVEMBER 3, 2020

On November 3, 2020, Oshkosh Area School District (OASD) residents will be able to vote on two school funding requests.

Question 1 (Q1): Renew—\$7.95 million in annual operating funds previously approved by the community with no tax increase. Funds would help maintain:

- Academic programs
- Technology for learning
- Student support services

Question 2 (Q2): Invest—\$107 million in capital (building) funds to advance the first phase of the community-developed long-range facilities plan, to provide:

- Safe and accessible schools
- Flexible and collaborative learning spaces
- Cost-effective schools that maximize taxpayer investment

Why now?

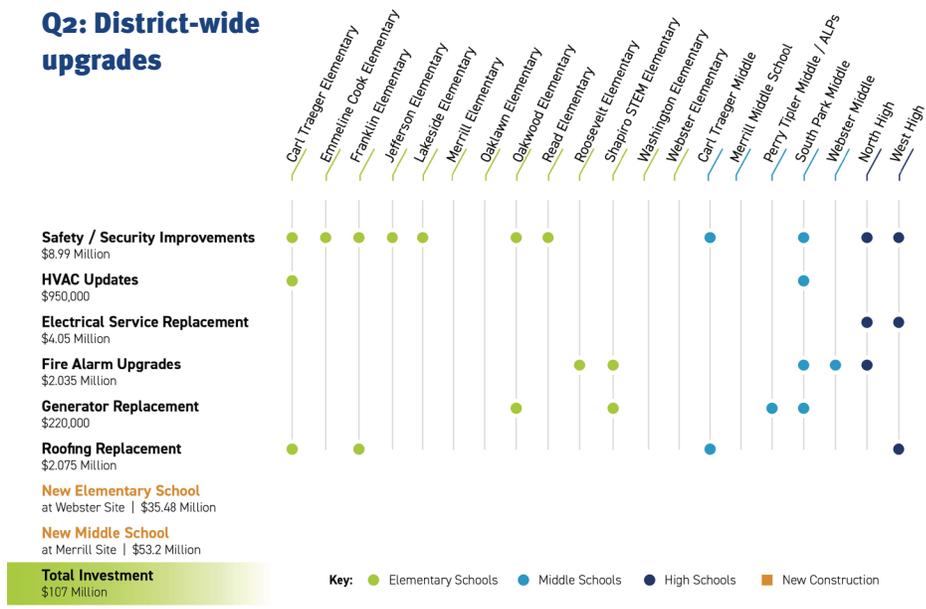
Q1: Renewing this funding will result in no tax increase while it:

- Continues current academic programs and support services
- Advances the district’s community-developed strategic plan
- Combines two previously approved referendums into one, eliminating the need for and cost of repeatedly returning to voters

Q2: School districts maintain their buildings, just as homeowners do—however, our limited capital budget cannot keep pace with the growing needs of buildings that average 66 years old. As surrounding school districts invest in and enhance their facilities, it puts the Oshkosh area community at a disadvantage.

A community-based Facilities Advisory Committee reviewed documents, data and community input before developing a long-range facilities plan to ensure proper maintenance of schools for the future. The School Board unanimously approved this plan from the

Q2: District-wide upgrades



Q2 addresses priority maintenance and infrastructure improvements in all schools except the five aging schools that will be repurposed, sold or torn down, and Oaklawn (which is less than 10 years old).

community in February 2020. Phase one projects would take place over the next four years, with the following results:

- Enhanced school safety and security across the district
- Priority building infrastructure and maintenance needs addressed

- Reduced number of schools to maximize use and efficiency
- A new middle school and a new elementary school to replace five aging/outdated facilities
- Focus on equity: east side schools, which would be improved, are among the oldest and serve our most diverse children

Oshkosh is one of the ten best cities for working parents because of its low housing costs, short commute times and high graduation rate for high schoolers.

(SMARTASSET)

Key facts about Oshkosh schools

- We currently receive and spend less per student than both the state average and the average of similar-sized districts
- Average age of our schools is 66 years old
- Nearly three-quarters of our schools were built before 1970, making them more than 50 years old
- Our oldest school was built in 1880

Estimated Monthly Tax Impact Per \$100,000 of Home Value

	2021	2022	2023-30	2031-40
Q1: Operating funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Q2: Capital funds	\$4	\$6	\$7	\$7

What if the requests are not approved by voters?

Q1: The district would lose funding that will expire in June 2021, requiring \$7.95 million in budget cuts over the next four years. Cuts would impact academic programs, staffing and class size levels, classroom materials and other school and district supports. OASD would fall even further behind in the funding it receives and what it spends to support student learning, as compared to the state average and similar sized districts.

Q2: Delaying the facilities plan would still result in a cost to taxpayers without the benefits of upgraded facilities. OASD facilities are among the oldest in the state, and continued maintenance of aging buildings simply puts a bandaid on buildings that are currently limiting the educational experience of students. Construction costs are projected to increase 4% per year—and every 0.5% increase in interest rates would increase total costs by \$6.5 million.

Voting information

Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2020. Find out where you vote, how to vote absentee, and how to register to vote at www.myvote.wi.gov.

STRONG SCHOOLS = STRONG COMMUNITIES

Schools directly affect a community's vitality and home resale values. The more attractive a community is, the more likely people are to live, work and shop there.

Learn more

Visit—oshkosh.k12.wi.us/referendum

Email—referendum@oshkosh.k12.wi.us

Call—920.966.0343



OSHKOSH
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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