



Dundee Community Schools

Vision Statement: "Students First" – Inspire, Educate, Innovate, Celebrate
Mission Statement: Dundee Community Schools is setting a course for student success. We will challenge and inspire every student, every day, in every class through innovation and dedication - promoting knowledgeable, responsible, and caring citizens.

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Dundee Community Schools Bond Proposal for November 7, 2017

Frequently Asked Questions

Election Day

1. **How do I register to vote?** Contact your County Clerk's Office, or your local municipality for information on how to register to vote. You can also go online at

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MIVoterRegistration_97046_7.pdf

2. **What is the deadline to register to vote?** October 10 is the deadline to vote in the Nov. 7, 2017, election.

3. **When and Where do I vote?** The vote for the bond proposal is on Nov. 7, 2017. You may vote at your polling location as noted on your voter registration card, or you may apply for an absentee ballot from your township. If you do not know your municipality, you may call your township office. Polls open at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM. Below are the polling locations for all municipalities:

Dundee Village & Township - Dundee Fire Hall, 820 Dundee - Azalia Road, Dundee, MI 48131

Raisinville Township - Old Bridge School, 96 Ida-Maybee Road, Monroe, MI 48161

Exeter Township - Township Hall, 6158 Scofield Road, Maybee, MI 48159

Milan - Township Hall, 16444 Cone Road, Milan, MI 48160

London Township - Municipal Building, 13613 Tuttlehill Road, Milan, MI 48160

4. **When are absentee ballots available?** They will be available on or before September 23, 2017. Please see your township clerk for details.

Debt Millage

1. **What does millage rate mean?** Millage rates are used to calculate your property taxes based on the "taxable value" of your property. Taxable Value is determined by the local assessor and reported by the County Equalization Department. The "Taxable Value" is approximately 50% of the state equalized value of the property. One mill equals \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of the taxable value. For example, if your home has a taxable value of \$50,000, 1 mill would be equal to \$50 in taxes for the year.

2. **Is there a tax calculator table that I can use to calculate the tax impact on my property?** You will find a link to the tax calculator through the "November Bond Proposal" link on our web page www.dundeecommunityschools.org or you may stop into the District Office or any one of our schools and ask for help in using the tax calculator.

3. If I rent a house, can I vote? How will my taxes increase if I rent a house? Yes, if you rent a house, you can still vote. You do need to be a registered voter in the township you are living in. If you have any questions about this, please visit your local municipality office or the Monroe County Clerk's office, and they will be happy to help you out. Debt millage is assessed on all property within the district unless exempt. Please consult your rental agreement for information regarding the impact of a tax increase.

4. What will bond proceeds be used for if the November proposal passes? One of the biggest items is replacement of the High School roof, which will be replaced with a steel roof. The High School currently has a shingled roof, which has aged significantly.

5. What can bond proceeds not be used for? Bond proceeds **cannot** be used for operating expenses, which includes expenses such as staff salaries and wages, maintenance expenses, classroom textbook/educational materials, administration expenses and other operating expenses.

6. Can the money from this be used to buy new books? No, bond funds cannot be used to purchase new books and neither can sinking funds. However, it is the District's objective to repair our facilities, which should result in reduced maintenance expenses. With the reduction of maintenance, expenses or other operating expenses it would free up operating funds that could be used to purchase textbooks and other educational materials.

7. How will I know the funds will be spent the way they are supposed to be spent? Pursuant to State and Federal Law, funds may only be used for those purposes stated in the ballot. In addition, the School District elected to have the bond issue "qualified" through the State of Michigan School Bond Qualification and Loan Program due to the many advantages associated with the bond qualification program. For more information on the qualification process through the State of Michigan, please see http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,4679,7-121-1753_56435---,00.html

In order to achieve State qualification, the District submitted a detailed application ("Treasury Application") to the Michigan Department of Treasury ("Treasury") which further limits how the bond proceeds may be expended in that bond proceeds must be used to complete the projects identified in the Treasury Application which was reviewed and approved by Treasury. Under state law, the expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited after final project completion and annually. Our district worked very closely with a construction management company, financial advisors, architects, and our retained legal counsel to develop the bond application reviewed and approved by Treasury. This application was comprised of details sharing with the Michigan Department of Treasury our existing debt, student enrollment projections and a complete scope of work for the expected project. An audit will be completed by an accounting firm and filed with the State of Michigan to ensure compliance.

8. What is Dundee Community School's current debt millage rate? Dundee Community Schools currently has a 4.75 debt millage. This debt was refinanced two years ago to reduce the interest rate, which resulted in savings of approximately \$2,202,157.00 for Dundee taxpayers. This debt is expected to expire during the 2029-2030 school year.

9. Where does Dundee Community Schools rank when it comes to spending money for facilities and operations with our general fund budget with schools that are considered to be in the same group when comparing socio-economic factors (e.g. household income, parental educational attainment, parent employment status, student enrollment, etc.)? As referenced in our Facilities Town Hall meetings on May 4 and June 8, 2017, which can be found posted on our district's website at www.dundeecommunityschools.org, we shared that Dundee is at or near the top of our peer group

already. However, our funding level is near the bottom when compared to our peers. This bond request will equalize this with our peers and allow the district to make upgrades to our facilities.

Now vs. Later

1. **What happens if the Bond Proposal is approved by the voters?** Below is a list of the scope of work that is being proposed. As noted above, bond funds may not be used for operating expenses such as hiring staff, increasing compensation, purchasing books, etc. **The figures below are estimates and are subject to change.**

Elementary School	Middle School	High School	Riverside Academy	District
Safe Classrooms \$134,400 ES Kitchen \$225,000 Handrail/Guard \$30,000 Masonry Work \$20,000 Fire Alarms \$80,000 School Sign \$20,000 LED Lighting \$30,000 Parking Lot Lights \$27,500 ES Parking Lot \$422,190 Replace Lockers \$96,525 Update Restrooms \$60,000 Café Doors \$8,400 Stairwell Lighting \$3,900 Classroom Furniture \$167,000	Safe Entry \$35,000 Gym Bleachers \$62,130 Gym Curtain \$17,000 Safe Classrooms \$138,000 MS Pool Improve \$125,000 Pool bleachers \$13,500 Natatorium Boiler \$125,000 MS Parking Lot \$305,025 Update Restrooms \$120,000 Pool Locker Room \$224,000 Classroom Furniture \$89,000	Metal Roof \$2,839,000 Replace EIFS \$25,000 Gym Floor \$51,000 Safe Entry \$18,000 MC Damage \$29,160 Gym Curtain \$40,000 Pool Area Ceiling \$61,500 MC Lighting replace \$6,800 HS Pool Scoreboard \$125,000 Timing System Cafe Stage Light. \$87,000 Gym Sound System \$25,000 LED Lighting \$55,000 Parking Lot \$180,000 Band Equipment \$100,000 Classroom Furniture \$120,500	Windows \$28,800 Update Restrooms \$40,000 Replace Exterior Doors \$15,600 Replace Boiler \$70,000 Classroom Furniture \$12,500	Football Field Bleacher \$250,000 Transportation Lot Paving \$121,878
Total \$1,324,915	Total \$1,253,655	Total \$3,762,960	Total \$166,900	Total \$371,878
Fees and Costs \$268,040.00	Fees and Costs \$267,505.00	Fees and Costs \$950,493	Fees and Costs \$37,830	Fees and Costs \$100,000
Grand Total \$1,592,955.00	Grand Total \$1,521,160.00	Grand Total \$4,713,453.00	Grand Total \$204,730	Grand Total \$471,878

For more detailed information by building, please view the videotaped presentations that were from the May 4 and June 8, 2017 Public Town Hall Facilities Meetings at www.dundeecommunityschools.org We anticipated a minimum of 47 projects being completed with this scope of work.

2. What is the purpose of going for a bond proposal now? Our school buildings and facilities are aging and in need of certain immediate upgrades and repairs. Our parking lots at the elementary school, middle school, high school and transportation lot all need immediate replacement and/or repairs. The cost to maintain such facilities and parking lots is expected to increase if not addressed. The scope of work for this bond was developed through a needs assessment by district personnel with the assistance of construction professionals and community feedback in an attempt to prioritize the most critical needs in the District.

During Construction

1. What is the timeline for renovation? The design phase will begin if the bond proposal is approved by the voters in November. Construction bids will be released as early as February 2018. Construction will begin the summer of 2018 and be completed in a three-year window ultimately ending by 2021.

2. Where will the students go to school during the renovation phase? It is our hope that our students will not be affected during the upgrades that would be implemented, as many of the projects would be completed during the summer months. Please see the District Strategic Plan located at www.dundeecommunityschools.org for exact details of when the anticipated scope of the work would be completed. All of the projects are listed in detail with their expected year of completion in the Facilities Goal Accountability pages and Facilities Details pages in these documents.

More Efficient Buildings

1. How will the buildings become more efficient with the planned renovations? Examples include the High School will have the added efficiency of a steel roof and upgrades in lighting, while the Middle School pool will have better air quality in the natatorium building while the Elementary School will have upgrades to the elementary kitchen and lighting.

The Ballot

1. What is included on the Nov. 7, 2017 Ballot? There is one item on the ballot.

BONDING PROPOSAL

Shall Dundee Community Schools, Monroe and Lenawee Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Eight Million Nine Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$8,910,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, in one or more series, for the purpose of:

remodeling, furnishing and refurnishing, equipping and re-equipping school buildings, including improving security measures in school buildings and roof replacement at the high school building; and preparing, developing, improving, equipping and re-equipping parking areas and sites?

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2017 is 2.52 mills (\$2.52 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a .98 mill net increase over the prior year's levy. The maximum number of years the bonds of any series may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is twelve (12) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 2.43 mills (\$2.43 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

The school district does not expect to borrow from the State to pay debt service on the bonds. The total amount of qualified bonds currently outstanding is \$15,290,000. The total amount of qualified loans

currently outstanding is \$0. The estimated computed millage rate may change based on changes in certain circumstances.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)

Yes

No

2. Why is Lenawee County listed on the ballot? Lenawee County appears on the ballot because there is a parcel of property located in Ridgeway Township that was added to the Dundee Community Schools taxable property in 1994 by the Michigan Department of Education that allowed a student from then Britton-Macon schools to attend Dundee Community Schools. Michigan Law requires that the ballot language therefore reference Lenawee County due to this parcel. Debt Millage would be assessed on this parcel and paid to the district.

3. If I have other questions or need more information, whom do I contact?

- Visit the Dundee Community Schools website for more information –

www.dundeecommunityschools.org

- Contact Superintendent Edward Manuszak at 734-529-2350 ext. 11000 or

edward.manuszak@dundee.k12.mi.us