



NOVEMBER 8  
**VOTE**

MAPLEWOOD REFERENDUM

# REFERENDUM

**Q & A**

## WHAT IS THE PROPOSED PLAN?

On November 8, 2022, Menasha Joint School District residents will have the opportunity to vote on a facilities referendum question. The proposed plan, which **will not increase the current mill rate**, calls for replacing the overcrowded and outdated Maplewood Middle School with a new, larger building designed to operate as two schools: an Intermediate School for grades 5-6 and a Middle School for grades 7-8 on the existing site.

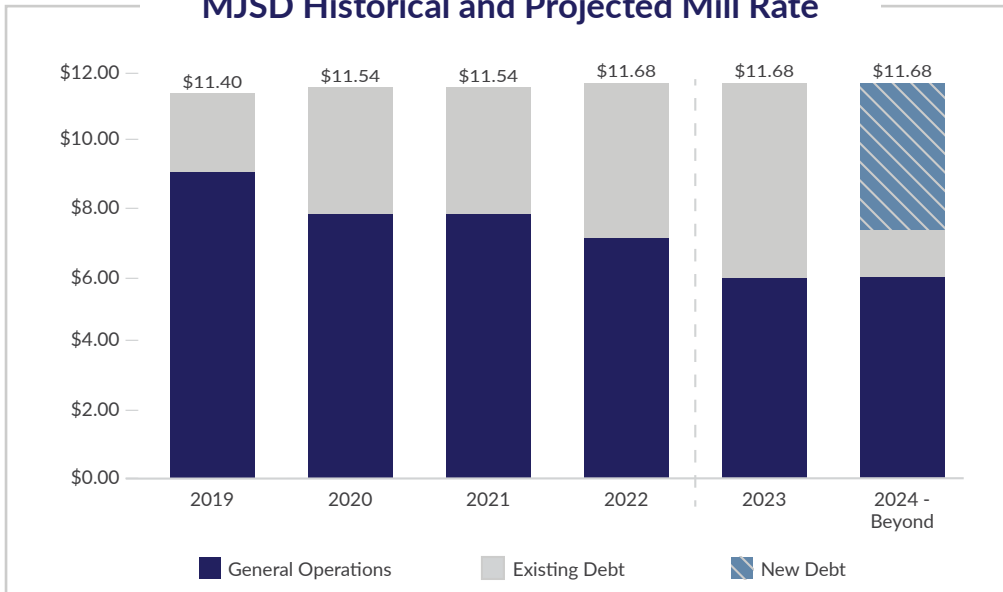
## HOW CAN THE MILL RATE STAY LEVEL?

The District can continue to address facility needs **without increasing the mill rate** above the current level due to the District's accelerated repayment of debt from the Phase One project (Menasha High School renovation).

This strategic approach allows the District's **mill rate to stay consistent** for taxpayers while addressing facility needs, one phase at a time.



**MJSD Historical and Projected Mill Rate**



*Notes: Preliminary referendum financing assumptions include one bond issue (borrowing) repaid over 20 years at an estimated 4.0% interest rate with no (0%) annual growth in equalized property value. Financing could be impacted by a variety of factors including market changes and state funding. Financial estimates provided by PMA Financial Network, Inc.*

## WHY NOW?

The proposed referendum project will:



Improve academic opportunities and student outcomes for all students in grades 5-8.



Create flexible, modern learning environments that support today's teaching & learning.



Implement Phase Two of our multi-phased, long-range facilities plan focused on the middle school level.\*

*\*We anticipate Phase Three to address facility needs at our elementary schools will be implemented within the next five to ten years.*



# REFERENDUM

Reaching Every Student Every Day

# Q & A

## WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT?

The question will be **on the BACK** of the ballot and will have the following language:

### School District

Question: Shall the Menasha Joint School District, Winnebago, Calumet and Outagamie Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$99,700,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: the construction of a new Maplewood School on the existing site and removal of the current building; site improvements; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment?

☐ Yes

☐ No



Visit [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) to:

Find your polling place • Register to vote • Request an absentee ballot • Learn about photo ID • Gather information about early, in-person voting • Find your local municipal clerk, and more!

## HOW WILL COST BE CONTROLLED?

High construction costs are headlines in the local news. The District has been working closely with our construction manager for cost estimating, which includes helping establish the total project cost based on current cost data and forecasting future costing trends. Funds are allotted within the total referendum cost to account for both inflation and project contingency. Once a referendum is approved by voters and the project moves into design, potential costs are evaluated consistently throughout the design process. Design features and elements are adjusted as needed based on current market conditions. Detailed records are kept during the design phase to track scope and budget alignment. During the design phase, the District is able to make decisions as needed to remain within the estimated budget prior to going out to bid. These cost control methods are used to ensure that the budget is managed efficiently ahead of construction.

## WHY TWO SCHOOLS WITHIN ONE BUILDING?

We believe housing 5th and 6th graders together in one school provides an opportunity for greater elective offerings, supports students' social and emotional needs, and eases the transition from the elementary to secondary level. Moving 5th grade to Maplewood also opens up future space at our elementary schools, which will be the focus of Phase Three of our long-range master plan within the next five to ten years. In the new school, 5th and 6th grades will be grouped together and operate as an intermediate school separate from grades 7 and 8, which will operate as a true middle school (in houses) to support their future transition to Menasha High School.

## WHERE CAN I SEE A PLAN OR SCHEDULE?

A *preliminary* site plan and schedule can be found on the District website by visiting [www.mjsd.k12.wi.us/referendum](https://www.mjsd.k12.wi.us/referendum), or by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera.



## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?



VISIT [www.mjsd.k12.wi.us/referendum](https://www.mjsd.k12.wi.us/referendum)



EMAIL [referendum@mjsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:referendum@mjsd.k12.wi.us)



CONTACT Superintendent Chris VanderHeyden at 920.967.1401 or [vanderheydenc@mjsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:vanderheydenc@mjsd.k12.wi.us) with questions or to schedule a small group presentation



ATTEND the Referendum Open House on Wednesday, October 26, from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm at the Maplewood Community Room