



## Dear Brodhead School District Residents,

On January 10, 2024 the Brodhead Board of Education (Board) voted unanimously to place a facility upgrade and maintenance referendum question on the upcoming April 2<sup>nd</sup> election ballot. The facility (bond) referendum is asking voters to consider up to \$17.485 million for safety, learning and maintenance upgrades at all Brodhead School District schools. **The Board is asking you to please learn more about this important referendum and vote on April 2, 2024.**

Polls Open  
7am - 8pm  
[myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

## The Question

# On the ballot April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Shall the School District of Brodhead, Green and Rock Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$17,485,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: construction of additions, renovations, including for secure entrances, window replacements, bathroom upgrades, capital maintenance, building infrastructure and site improvements at Albrecht Elementary School and Brodhead Middle School; construction of an addition and renovations at Brodhead High School, including for a secure entrance and office; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment?

## Be an Educated Voter

# Stay informed

From now through April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the District will provide as many opportunities as possible for you to learn more about facility needs, understand how the District worked with staff, parents and the community to prioritize needs and define solutions, and the estimated impact on property taxes.

Questions? Please email me at:

[dnovy@brodhead.k12.wi.us](mailto:dnovy@brodhead.k12.wi.us)

Sincerely,  
David Novy, District Administrator



[Brodhead.ReferendumFacts.org](https://Brodhead.ReferendumFacts.org)

Join Us!

## Referendum Info Nights!

Learn about our needs and tour the schools.

**Feb 21**  
6pm  
Elementary  
Multi-Purpose

**Mar 6**  
6pm  
Middle School  
Cafeteria

**Mar 19**  
6pm  
High School  
Auditorium

## The Plan

# Addressing our needs



## Safety & Security

### Albrecht Elementary:

- Secure entry with main office remodel
- Restructuring of grade levels to address building overcrowding

### Middle School:

- Secure entry with main office remodel
- Cafeteria expansion to address overcrowding

### High School:

- Secure entry with main office addition



## Student Spaces

### Albrecht Elementary:

- 4K addition allows the district to accommodate and retain 4K students
- 5K renovation for better space, needed bathrooms, and storage
- Main office remodel for student services

### Middle School:

- Self contained model for 5<sup>th</sup> grade:  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade is moving to middle school building to balance population of buildings, have appropriate classroom space and allow for better learning opportunities.
- Classroom addition (Science, Special Education, Small Group and Breakout Space)
- Renovation for two 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms (in current band area)
- Renovation for larger band classroom and practice rooms (in current receiving area)
- Cafeteria expansion & kitchen/receiving remodel

### High School:

- Student services renovations



## Overdue Maintenance

### Albrecht Elementary:

- Replace original 1963 single pane windows
- Update original 1963 bathrooms, including ADA compliance

### Middle School:

- Replace original 1958, '68 & '85 windows
- Update 1958 & '68 bathrooms, including ADA compliance



How did we get here?

## Community Solution

### June 2022 Facility Assessment Begins

Beginning in June of 2022, over 65 people, including members of our Board, administration, staff, teachers, and community members participated in the facility assessment process. Facilitated by Nexus Solutions, a firm specializing in assessing school facilities, our team produced a comprehensive facility assessment report, which identified over \$35 million in needs over the next 10 years. The Board approved a Long-Term Capital Improvement Plan, which helped our District determine what our facility needs are.

### February 2023 Facility Planning Committee

The Facility Planning Committee made up of 25 members met eight (8) times from February through September to review our Long-Term Capital Improvement Plan, tour each of our schools, prioritize District needs, and determine a comprehensive plan to fund upgrades for our District moving forward.

### October 2023 Recommended Plan

The Committee presented their recommendations at the October 11, 2023, Board Meeting. This recommendation included improved secure entries for all schools, upgrades to elementary and middle school bathrooms and windows, additional classroom space for an all-day 4 year-old kindergarten (4K) program, and renovations/additions to support a move of our 5th grade to the Middle School. The Committee recommended an April 2024 referendum for \$17,485,000.

### December 2023 Community Survey

In December 2023, the Board initiated a randomized community survey of 400 Brodhead School District residents to gather feedback and determine if there was support for a referendum. The School Board reviewed the survey results at the January 2, 2024, meeting, which showed support for a referendum for the scope and amount recommended by the Facility Planning Committee. The survey suggested that:

**63%** of our Brodhead School District residents felt these improvement ideas were a good idea.

**57%** felt that \$17,485,000 was a fair price for projects being considered.

**56%** would support a \$17,485,000 bond referendum.

Being Fiscally Responsible

## Brodhead's History

District  
Tax  
Rate  
**24%**  
down in  
last 10  
years

The last time the District asked the community for funding support via a facility (bond) referendum was close to 20 years ago. Because of ongoing management of the District's finances by our Board, the **District has reduced tax rates by over 24% over the last (10) ten years.** The referendum being presented will allow the District to address key facility priorities in a fiscally responsible manner.

Estimated


## Tax Impact

The referendum question is for \$17,485,000. Approval of the referendum would result in an estimated tax increase of **\$125 annually** (OR \$10.42 per month) **for every \$100,000** of property value over the current tax rate.




Planning for the future


## Why Now?


 **The Brodhead School District has not asked for a facility referendum in close to 20 years, and we have needs that can not be addressed within our annual budget.**

 **Safety and security at the main entrances of all schools needs to be addressed.**

 **Our students are in need of spaces that can support their needs at all levels (4K-12 grade).**

 **Our Elementary and Middle School windows and bathrooms have served past their useful life dating back to the 1950's and 60's.**

 **The District has reduced tax rates by over 24% over the last (10) ten years. The referendum being presented will allow the District to address key facility priorities in a fiscally responsible manner.**

 **Brodhead will receive the benefit of significant State aid on any new debt. This equates to the State funding approximately 27.5% of the cost of the proposed referendum.**