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# Community Task Force Recommendation to the School Board

May 20, 2025

# Co-Chairs & Presenters

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- Amy Anderson
- Sue VanHooser
- Stephanie Moses
- Marisa Daum
- Brandon Ramage
- Tara Wallace
- Janna Ruzek
- Jerry Cash
- Jack Edmonds

# Thank You!

We want to thank the School Board for involving the community in this very important task. The response of the community has shown a pride and commitment in continuing to bring Princeton Public Schools into a 21st century learning environment that educates EVERY learner, preparing our students for life beyond school.

We believe that the proposal we are presenting is factual and relevant based on the survey results, participant discussions, and the many hours of insight that over 100 community members contributed to this project.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to take this task on. We performed our role with understanding and vision in order to achieve the best recommendation to present to you.

# Recommendation to the School Board

Per the April 22nd Community Task Force Meeting

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# CTF: Guiding Principles – Is a referendum needed?

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Yes, a  
referendum is  
needed this  
November.

MUST  
ADDRESS

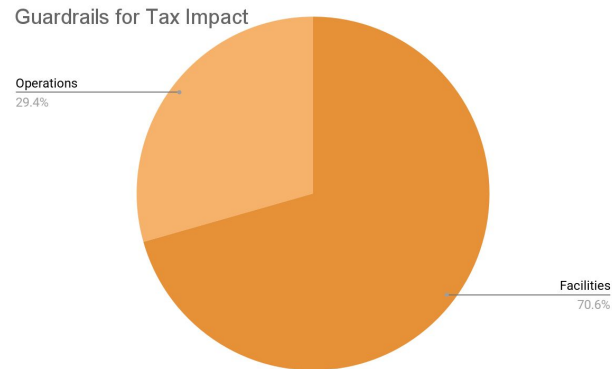
1. The facilities' needs
2. The reduction of the  
projected deficit in  
the operational funds

# CTF: Guiding Principles – Guardrails for tax impact

- MAXIMUM tax impact (for the owner of a median-valued home in the district) should be around \$17/month
- The proposed ASK was discussed in 2 ways:
  - \$11-\$12 allocated for the facilities' needs
  - \$5-6 to address the projected operations deficit

## IN OTHER WORDS

- Roughly two-thirds of the ASK should be used for facilities improvements
- Roughly one-third of the ASK should be used for the projected operations deficit
- A capital projects levy (CPL or Tech Levy) is preferable to an operating levy (OL), as the distribution is spread across all taxable properties.
  - For example: \$6/month CPL taxable impact raises \$160,000 MORE per year than an OL
  - The CPL allows for money currently being used in the general fund for technology to be freed up for other uses



# CTF: Guiding Principles – Facility Request Outline

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- **CRITICAL – MUST BE INCLUDED**
  - ALL scope 1 projects
    - **\$32.8 million**
- **NEEDED – HIGHLY HOPED FOR**
  - ALL scope 2 projects
    - Upper Classroom Right Sizing
    - Stair Connections in Center Core
      - **\$6.8 million**
  - Scope 3 Item
    - Locker Room Expansion (favorable when discussed as a safety issue)
      - **\$2.5 million**
  - Scope 4 Items
    - MS Roof (a more cost effective option is being researched or solutions for furthering repairs until a later date)
    - Boiler Replacement
    - Special Ed Suite at the Intermediate School
      - **\$6.1 million**

# CTF: Guiding Principles – Number of ballot questions

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- No FIRM stance on the number of questions presented; the Community Task Force feels that this is a matter for the School Board to weigh and discuss.
- Advantage to offering ONE question as a matter of **simplicity** – including BOTH the bond and CPL proposal.
- Discussions about the strategy of having a two-question referenda on the ballot, particularly in a rural area. This will potentially allow for **at least one** of the questions to be passed.



# CTF: Guiding Principles – One Final Idea

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- Add a final question to the ballot that makes a **SIGNIFICANT** OL request, one that in combination with a CPL could raise up to \$1.5 million per year for the district's operating fund.
  - It would give voters the option to VOTE NO on something – which may be a psychological help in passing the first question(s).
  - It would demonstrate to the voters/residents the size of the financial challenge that the district is facing, thus convincing residents to pass the core part of the plan.

# THE COMMUNITY IS READY!



The Task Force is hopeful that the School Board will make a swift decision regarding the proposed recommendation. The evident enthusiasm of the Community throughout the first phase of this process is ready to spill over into the next! We are excited for the district to take the steps to move Princeton into the future. Please let us know how we can help you to reach a consensus to move forward with a November referendum and Grow Our Stripes! **GO TIGERS!**