

**Greenbush Middle River School District No. 2683**  
**M.S. 123B.71**

**REVIEW AND COMMENT**  
**PROPOSAL**

**2017 Capital Projects**

**Submitted by**

**Thomas A. Jerome, Superintendent**

**August 30, 2017**

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Ms. Brenda Cassellius, Commissioner  
State of Minnesota  
Department of Education  
1500 Highway 36 West  
Roseville, MN 55113

Dear Ms. Cassellius:

Pursuant to M.S. 123B.71, on behalf of the Greenbush Middle River School District No. 2683 I am submitting the following proposal for review and comment by the Minnesota Department of Education. The Greenbush Middle River School Board reviewed and approved this report and the information contained herein at its regularly scheduled school board meeting of September 1, 2017.

The Greenbush Middle River district has aging equipment, outdated curriculum, technology equipment, building and grounds as well as staff needs. Significant capital improvements are necessary to ensure Greenbush Middle River students have the opportunity for equity with other schools districts and meet the needs of our students and staff. Thus, the district is proposing to ask district voters to consider a capital projects levy on November 7, 2017

In addition to the Capital Projects Levy district voters will be asked to revoke and replace current operating levy equivalent to \$806.05 per student with a new authority of \$1825.00 per student. This new amount will provide our district with required funds to operate and make improvements that are required. A Capital Projects Levy will assist with further equalizing this disparity.

The Capital Project Levy question our district is proposing on the November 7, 2017 ballot was approved by our school board on August 24, 2017 and is as follows:

**The board of Independent School District No. 2683 (Greenbush-Middle River), Minnesota has proposed a capital project levy for technology and other capital costs. The proposed capital project levy authorization will raise approximately \$400,000 for taxes payable in 2018, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten (10) years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$4,000,000, or 14.351% times the net tax capacity of the school district.**

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Jerome  
Superintendent of Schools

**MS 123B.71  
REVIEW AND COMMENT**

**CHECKLIST**

**1. The geographic area and population to be served:**

**Greenbush Middle River School District No. 2683 is a small/moderate sized rural school district in Northwest Minnesota. Communities included within the Greenbush Middle River School District are the towns of Greenbush, population 761, Middle River, population 356 and Strathcona, population 63. The District currently owns a total of 32.93 acres, 22.4 in the Greenbush community and 10.53 in Middle River. The district currently has a 2017-18 student enrollment of 332. District-wide enrollment data for the past five years and projections for the next five years are as follows:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Actual Enrollment</b>		<b>Year</b>	<b>Projected Enrollment</b>
2012-2013	447		2017-2018	332
2013-2014	414		2018-2019	322
2014-2015	420		2019-2020	325
2015-2016	408		2020-2021	325
2016-2017	364		2021-2022	325

**2. A list of existing school facilities:**

Greenbush Middle River School District No. 2683 consists of 2 buildings, 1 PK-12 (excluding 4<sup>th</sup> Grade) and 1 PK-4 school, Listed below are the 2 school buildings, their current enrollment, and the year they were constructed.

Greenbush: PreK-12 (excluding 4<sup>th</sup> grade)

1940 original building: brick, two-story structure, currently used for high school common space, office space, storage, mechanical and toilets. The second story is not ADA accessible.

1951 addition: gymnasium with stage, library and additional classroom spaces west of the original building.

1964 addition: single-story addition includes elementary classroom wing, kitchen with multipurpose cafeteria, vocational classrooms, locker rooms , and interior courtyard.

1974 addition: single-story addition to the south includes elementary classroom space, choir/band room, and athletic practice room.

1992 renovation: science and art room renovation on first floor of original 1940 building.

### Middle River: PreK – 4<sup>th</sup> grade

Original building: year of construction is unknown, but demolition by owner appears to have coincided with construction of the 1968 addition.

1951 original building: single-story building currently used for gymnasium, lockers, administration and classroom space.

1954 addition: single-story addition home economics and science classrooms

1968 addition: single-story elementary classrooms, library, music room, art room, vocational classroom, kitchen and cafeteria.

### **3. A list of specific capital deficiencies:**

#### **Textbooks and Materials:**

Due to budget restrictions we have not had a curricular adoption for the past two years. Accordingly, some of our utilized textbooks and materials for mathematics, science, social science and language arts are 10-15 years old. Funds generated from this plan would allow us to purchase new curriculum and materials aligned with state-standard aligned scope and sequence.

#### **Learning Equipment and Furniture:**

Due to budget restrictions we have not been able to address the multitude of classroom equipment and furniture needs within our district. A great deal of classroom furniture and much of the learning equipment is original to the construction of each building. Funds generated from this plan would allow us to replace and update furnishings and equipment for students to create flexible learning environments that accommodate students' learning styles and needs, increase collaboration as well as update current career/vocational where needed.

#### **Technology Tools (equipment, software and infrastructure):**

Due to budget restrictions we have not been able to provide up to date technology for our staff and students. Currently we do not have the funds to adequately provide up to date technology to be utilized by our educators and/or students. In addition budget restraints have limited our ability plan maintain and upgrade hardware as needed. Funds will specifically address increasing access for all students, innovative practices to personalize learning, provide professional learning opportunities for teachers, and will support a sustainable replacement cycle.

#### **Transportation:**

Due to budget restrictions we have not been able to invest as needed in transportation for our students and staff. Our district has a bus fleet that is aging and requires a great deal of ongoing maintenance. In addition, our district lacks adequate transportation for staff that attends valuable staff development training throughout the year.

**Existing School Facility Deficiencies:**

The Greenbush Middle River School District currently utilizes two facilities, which are outdated and have not undergone major renovation or additions since 1974 in Greenbush. Strained operating budgets in recent years have reduced the ability of the District to address multiple deferred maintenance issues. As a result, many larger and more costly repairs, updates and acquisitions have gone undone. Items such as: roof replacement, wood gym floor replacement, parking lot, windows, heating system, lighting, gym bleachers, student lockers, tuck-point brick work, as well as improve upon building security must be addressed.

**4. Estimated costs by year:**

	<b>Technology</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>Learning Equip/Furniture</b>	<b>School Buildings</b>	<b>Transportation</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	75,000	50,000	105,000	130,000	40,000
<b>2019-20</b>	75,000	50,000	75,000	105,000	95,000
<b>2020-21</b>	80,000	40,000	40,000	105,000	135,000
<b>2021-22</b>	75,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	95,000
<b>2022-23</b>	65,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	135,000
<b>2023-24</b>	30,000	30,000	40,000	205,000	95,000
<b>2024-25</b>	50,000	50,000	50,000	155,000	95,000
<b>2025-26</b>	50,000	50,000	50,000	155,000	95,000
<b>2026-27</b>	100,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	95,000
<b>2027-28</b>	50,000	50,000	50,000	155,000	95,000

**5. Specification of the source of project financing:**

Pending voter approval implementation is scheduled to begin in 2018. Financing of the project is subject to voter-approved levy under the guidelines for Capital Project Levies. The following table shared the tax impact for our Capital Project Levy:

The figures in the table below are based on taxes for the capital project levy only, and do not include taxes for other purposes:

<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Proposed Capital Project Levy Annual Taxes Payable 2018</u>
<b>Homestead Residential</b>	
\$50,000	\$43
75,000	65
100,000	103
150,000	181
200,000	259
250,000	338
300,000	416
350,000	494
500,000	718
<b>Commercial/Industrial</b>	
\$50,000	\$108
100,000	215
200,000	466
300,000	753
500,000	1,327
<b>Agricultural Homestead (Dollar per acre)</b>	
\$700	\$0.50
1,000	0.72
1,250	0.90
1,500	1.08
1,800	1.29
<b>Agricultural Non-Homestead (Dollar per acre)</b>	
\$700	\$1.00
1,000	1.44
1,250	1.79
1,500	2.15
1,800	2.58

**Seasonal/Recreational  
(Residential)**

\$50,000	\$72
75,000	108
100,000	144
150,000	215
250,000	359
500,000	718

The polling places and precincts for the special election will be:

Combined Polling Places:

Greenbush Campus  
K-5/9-12 HS  
401 Park Ave  
Greenbush, MN 56726

Middle River Campus  
K-5/6-8 JH  
335 4th St N  
Middle River, MN 56737

District Precincts:

All District precincts located in  
Roseau and Kittson Counties

All District precincts located in  
Marshall County

All qualified electors residing in said School District may cast their ballots at the polling places during the polling hours specified above.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in the special election. Unregistered individuals may register to vote at the polling places on election day.

Dated: August 24, 2017

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

**6. Document obligating the school district and contractor to comply:**

Not applicable.

**Narrative Description of the project:**

The Badger School District is pursuing a Capital Projects Levy in November. The levy is being pursued to provide our students with updated learning resources and equipment and the necessary funds to address multiple school facility needs that exist due to the age of our buildings. Over the years limited resources have made it challenging to address the multitude of needs within our district. The funds will provide our district with the ability to address many issues and provide our students and teachers with up-to-date resources and tools necessary to provide a 21<sup>st</sup> century education. In addition, repairs and improvements within our school facilities will begin. Educational programs require current materials and the ability to access resources and communication tools.

This levy will give the district the authority to establish and maintain a replacement cycle for textbooks, curriculum materials, software, equipment, classroom furniture, technology and transportation fleet. Approval provides the Greenbush Middle River ISD 2683 the authority to spread out the purchase of afore mentioned items over a specified number of years.

The Capital Projects Levy will strengthen the District's fiscal stability by providing limited, yet much-needed financial relief to the District General Fund, which is used for day-to-day operating expenses.