



**DATE:** 05/12/25

**TITLE:** Referendum Planning and Review and Comment Approval

**TYPE:** Action

**PRESENTER(S):** Dr. Joey Page, Superintendent; Sue Peterson, ISG; Michael Hart, PMA

**BACKGROUND:**

The Board will review proposed ballot questions and the potential scope of projects that could be included in a future referendum. Supporting materials provide a summary and detailed cost information organized by project category and building, along with draft ballot language and estimated tax impacts. This information will serve as the foundation for the required Review and Comment submission, due June 17.

The proposed scope results from a multi-year process involving facility assessments, enrollment and demographic analysis, community input, and ongoing planning discussions with the School Board and [Facilities Committee](#).

A timeline of this work is included to provide context and show how key decisions have developed over time.

- [January 23, 2023](#) – Facilities Assessment Update with School Board
- [March 27, 2023](#) – Facilities Committee Update w/School Board
- [April 17, 2023](#) – Facility Utilization Study Report with Facilities Committee
- [August 21, 2024](#) – Facilities Planning w/Facilities Committee
- [November 20, 2024](#) – Facilities Assessment w/Facilities Committee
- [February 27, 2024](#) – Facilities Planning w/Facilities Committee
- [June 3, 2024](#) – Ellis Pool Assessment Report w/Facilities Committee
- [September 11, 2024](#) – Facilities Planning Discussion w/Facilities Committee
- [December 9, 2024](#) – Combined Polling Place Resolution by School Board
- [December 11, 2024](#) – Facilities Planning Discussion w/Facilities Committee
- [February 24, 2025](#) – Demographic and Enrollment Analysis w/School Board

- [March 12, 2025](#) – Facilities Planning Discussion w/Facilities Committee
- April 2-16, 2025 – Benchmark Survey conducted
- [April 28, 2025](#) – Benchmark Survey shared w/School Board
- May 12, 2025 – Consider Approval of Review and Comment

Facility Committee Members:

Board Member, Bob Hartman  
Board Member, Don Leathers  
Board Member, Peggy Young  
Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Joey Page  
Executive Director of Finance and Operations, Todd Lechtenberg  
Director of Facilities Services, Joe Adamson  
Director of Technology, Amy Thuesen  
APA Representative, Jill Rollie  
APA Representative, Matt Schmit  
AEA Representative, Katie Keller  
AEA Representative, Kim Potter  
Community Member, Tim Ruzek  
Community Member, Jeff Holt  
Community Member, Zach Fadness

**RATIONALE:**

This discussion represents a significant step in the district's long-range facility planning. The proposed investments are intended to address aging infrastructure, support evolving educational needs, and maintain safe, efficient, and effective learning environments across all schools.

The Board extends its appreciation to the Facilities Committee for its steady work and leadership throughout this process. The committee's focus on aligning resources with the district's strategic priorities has been essential in bringing forward a well-considered proposal.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

A motion will be requested to authorize the district administration to complete and submit the Review and Comment to the Minnesota Department of Education, as required for proposed facility improvements under consideration for the November 4, 2025, referendum.