



Bond Referendum

Vote on or before Nov. 7, 2023

The Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose School Board has called for a bond referendum this fall to improve security, building integrity and efficiency.

Total Request:
\$41.5 million

Net tax impact:

\$ 0

How is this possible?

Maintaining district facilities is an ongoing process that requires regular bond issues. Because existing debt will soon be paid off, new projects can be undertaken without raising taxes beyond current rates.

Security

Highlights

- ▶ The middle school and high school lack secure entrances.

Solution: Secure entrances would allow the ability to engage visitors before they enter the schools, not only to contain threats, but also to greet and orient visitors.

- ▶ Exterior doors at five schools, including BCMS and BHS, are locked manually, creating potential security gaps.

Solution: Installation of automated systems at all schools would allow consistent, simultaneous locking.

Facilities

Highlights

- ▶ Mechanical systems at five of the eight schools are original to the facilities, and many are over 50 years old. Equipment is obsolete and the systems are inefficient, leading to increased maintenance and operating costs.

Solution: Replacing steam systems with hot water systems, upgrading equipment and adding dehumidification capabilities to various areas - including the BCMS and BHS activity spaces - will improve air quality, allow district facilities to operate more efficiently, and improve user comfort.

- ▶ Many classrooms in the elementary and middle schools were constructed with temporary, removable interior walls, which do not effectively block noise from outside the classroom and create less-than-ideal learning environments.

Solution: Where necessary, classrooms in all buildings will be updated with appropriate acoustic walls and re-configured to allow for contemporary teaching methods emphasizing collaboration rather than lectures.

- ▶ BHS Performing Arts Center equipment is in need of replacement, including lighting, sound, curtains, seating and more. In addition, portions of the BHS roof have reached the end of their 20-year lifespan and are due for replacement.

Solution: PAC equipment and various roof sections will be replaced to prevent future maintenance problems.

Turn over for more details, and see www.bhmschools.org/elections

Project details



Buffalo High School

Entrances

Final architectural drawings of the secure entrances are not yet available, but these preliminary designs show potential outcomes.



Buffalo Community Middle School

Cost

Secure entrances	\$5,842,303
Air quality/HVAC	\$6,454,445
Roof replacement	\$2,341,456
Auditorium upgrades	\$2,127,380
School renovations	\$6,472,745
Playground surfaces	\$1,019,200
Steam to hot water heating systems	\$12,242,471
Technology	\$5,000,000
Total Bond Amount	\$41,500,000

Timeline

Because the proposed upgrades would require major disruptions to each of the schools, a three-summer construction schedule is anticipated.

June 2024 August 2026

Q&A

▶ Why is this needed now?

Answer: Security and maintenance investments now can meet current needs and improve safety without changing costs for taxpayers. Delaying this request would result in higher costs for the same projects later.

▶ Will my taxes go down if the bond does not pass?

Answer: Yes. A home valued at \$220,000 (tax valuation, not sales value) would see a decrease of \$6.67 per month, but current needs would go unmet.

▶ Where can I find more complete information?

Answer: Scan the QR Code at right to see additional project details and information about voting options, or visit www.bhmschools.org/elections.

More info

Scan this code with your phone camera (www.bhmschools.org/elections)

