

To all members of the Kingston Community School District family,

We are asking for your support on Tuesday, February 27th in renewing of the Kingston Community Schools current bond program. Renewal of this school bond would be a continuance of the current bond rate, with a no tax rate increase. This would provide the funding required to complete (3) major projects that have been in need for completion for many years. They are as follows –

- 1) (9) Roof Top HVAC Units / High School & Elementary Project # 1: Replacement of all (7) HVAC RTU rooftop units at the high school and the (2) HVAC RTU units at the elementary school. The average life expectancy for these units (10-15 years per manufacturer) has been drastically extended and far exceeded their serviceability. Replacement parts have long been discontinued and rebuilding or refurbishing of these units is not financially reasonable. Replacement of all units at a single time will help to realize a major cost savings in a “bulk buying program” as well as greatly reduce labor installation costs. Additionally, the rooftop unit bases / roof curbs, associated tie in duct work and duct insulation as well as temperature controls will be replaced and upgraded along with the rooftop units. The new units are extremely more efficient in utilization of electricity and natural gas, have less cycle time and will help the school district realize energy savings immediately after install. In previous years, replacement of the buildings heating boilers as well as HVAC mini split systems have been completed, but the roof top RTUs have not been replaced or updated during those periods. The new rooftop unit installations would also include extended warranty periods on parts, labor, repairs and materials.
- 2) Elementary Playground Project # 2: Removal of existing broken, cracked and deteriorated asphalt and concrete areas that have been installed over the past few decades and not updated as the playground layout has been changed and altered, consolidating all areas into one centralized location. Procurement and installation of new playground equipment along with a safer, rubberized chip surface. All surrounding areas will receive new surface drains, fine grading, and grass. This will result in less playground maintenance overall and a much more safer, inviting and welcoming playground location. The majority of the original playground equipment has had to be removed over the past few years due to insurance requirements and current updated and mandated safety standards.
- 3) Window & Door Replacement Project # 3: Removal and replacement of (17) wood windows at the elementary school. These windows are the remaining existing windows that require replacement due to their age, energy loss, seal ability and current building requirements. All other windows have been replaced in the building.
- 4) If Available - Any Remaining Bond Funds: Removal replacement of only the original interior and exterior doors at the high school. This is not inclusive of any doors or windows that have been previously been replaced at any other time. A comprehensive study was conducted and the existing doors (since the building was originally constructed) have been identified and will be replaced beginning in order of most importance. There are (102) doors that are still original to the building since it was first constructed. The majority of these doors have been re-hinged, reworked, adjusted or retrofitted three and four times in order to make them operable.

These bond funds would not be not be utilized on any projects other than the ones listed above. There are no planned building additions, relocating of classes or grades to other buildings, nor are there any other projects that would be completed other than the ones listed above. The continuance of this bond program is critical for the everyday operations of the public school buildings and to support the safety and services that they provide to the students and staff. These items include the buildings fundamental basics of Heating, Cooling, Air Quality, Safety and Security. There are no “wish list projects” or “wants” included within this proposed program.

A large challenge that every public school in Michigan faces is that the state provided funding is to support educational instruction and does not include monetarily for buildings or facilities. Michigan is only 1 of 12 states within the United States that does not provide funding to maintain, repair or improve its school buildings. Districts are limited to very few options to fund and maintain their buildings by use of Bond Proposals, General Fund's or Sinking Funds.

If you should have any questions, comments or require any further information or clarifications regarding this bond proposal, we urge you to contact any member of the school board team at your earliest convenience. We would be happy to hear from you. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Kingston Community School / Board Of Education Team