



Fast Facts

2017 School Bond Referendum Informational Guide

Embracing Our Future

Our Vision and Mission

During the 2014 visioning process, the community identified improvements to facilities as a priority to plan for the long term success of the school district and for supporting our commitment to educate, empower and inspire all learners. The school district held six public meetings, November 2016 – April 2017, before deciding to proceed with this special election. At each meeting, community input was heard and carefully considered.

You Asked.
We Listened!

Carlton Voters Will Decide on Two Questions in the August 8 Referendum

1. Question 1 seeks approval to issue \$23.6 million in bonds to construct a grades 6-12 addition at the South Terrace site and make improvements to the existing PK-5 facilities.
2. Question 2 seeks approval to issue \$3.3 million in bonds to construct and improve an auditorium, athletic spaces, and make site improvements.

**The passage of Question 2 is contingent on the passage of Question 1.*

Why
Now



Carlton School Buildings Are Old, Worn, and Outdated

- South Terrace Elementary School was built in 1961. Sections of Carlton High School were built in 1915, 1953 and 1969. No major classroom upgrades have been completed since.
- It would cost nearly as much to renovate the existing high school as it does to add on to the elementary, and renovation would not address some space issues (repair costs exceed 60% of replacement).
- Locker rooms, science labs, infrastructure, and more are in poor condition.
- Neither of our buildings meets ADA requirements or has sprinklers, and the high school has no secure entrances.

Single Site Campus = Efficient, Modern, Greater Opportunities

Programmatic efficiencies:

- Middle and high school students would have access to the 70-acre South Terrace property, woods and trails.
- Students would benefit from more multi-grade programming and shared activities.
- Increased efficiency for district-wide staff collaboration and communication.

Financial efficiencies:

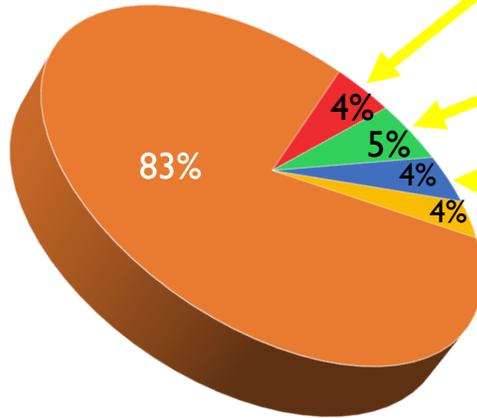
- Currently, the district spends an average of \$70,000 per year on repairs for our aging facilities. This is funding that could be spent instead to more directly benefit students and our educational programming.
- Music, kitchen and cafeteria facilities would be shared in a single site campus.
- Currently, several staff and school buses travel between the buildings each day. A single site would result in time efficiency, as well as reduced costs for mileage.



How Will the Money be Spent?

Classrooms

New middle school/
high school addition,
remodeled
elementary
classrooms, lockers,
bathrooms



Site Improvements

Separate parent/bus drop off zones and parking; football field bleachers and lighting; upgrade playground

Shared Facilities

Kitchen, office, commons, cafeteria, secure entry

Elementary Infrastructure

Fire sprinklers, additional outlets, new student lockers, replace windows, tuck pointing

FFE and Financing

Furniture, fixtures, and equipment; finance and bonding costs

How Much will
It Cost?

\$137 PER DAY

On a Home
Valued at \$150,000

You May Be Eligible for Tax Relief

- Owners of homesteaded property with incomes under \$101,000 may be eligible for the MN Property Tax Refund or "Circuit Breaker."
- A new property tax credit will provide owners of agricultural property with a 40% credit for the taxes attributable to school district debt service.
- The "Targeted Homeowners Property Tax Refund" can be applied to all homesteaded properties that experience a net property tax increase of 12 percent or \$100 over the prior year.
- Senior citizens may be able to defer a portion of your property taxes.
- Determine your eligibility at www.taxes.state.mn.us.

**To find the tax impact on your home, use the tax calculator at:
www.EmbracingOurFuture-Carlton.org*

Levies Are for Learning, Bonds Are for Building

Operating levies are general funds used for teachers salaries, books, utilities and the general operation of the district. Districts must seek voter approval to address major building needs and to update facilities beyond available maintenance funding.

Thank You for Your Support!

Last year, voters approved an operating levy renewal. This levy helps pay for operational expense such as utilities, transportation, teacher salaries, and successful academic programs.

Need More Information?

Visit: www.embracingourfuture-carlton.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Carlton-School-District

Referendum Informational Meetings

- June 20 (Tuesday): 4:00pm and 6:00pm
- July 11 (Tuesday): 4:00pm and 6:00pm
- July 24th (Monday): 7:00pm
- July 29th (Saturday): 1:00pm and 4:00pm

All meetings will be held at South Terrace Elementary School, 530 Stine Drive, Carlton except July 29, 4 pm at High School.

Who Can I Contact?

Gwen Carman, Superintendent Carlton School District
Call: 218/384-4225 x.113 or email: gcarman@carlton.k12.mn.us
405 School Ave., Carlton MN 55718

WHERE & WHEN DO I VOTE?

The special election will be held

Tuesday, August 8

Combined polling place:
**Carlton County
Transportation
Department Building**
1630 County Road 61
Carlton, MN 55718

Absentee Voting begins **June 23**
at the Carlton County Courthouse.
Ballots can also be requested by mail.