



## **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **West Bend School District Residents Provide Input on School Facility Needs via Recent Survey**

WEST BEND — At its June 17 regular meeting, the West Bend School Board reviewed the results of the recent community survey on facilities. The survey showed a majority of respondents said they were likely to support a capital facility referendum focused on the district's most urgent facility needs on the November 2024 ballot.

The survey also found that 86.02% of respondents believe that the district's urgent facility needs must be addressed now. The survey garnered a response rate that is 10% higher than the minimum amount needed for predictive results.

"Our thanks to everyone who took the time to provide valuable feedback that will help guide the West Bend School Board and the district as we continue planning for the future of our facilities," Superintendent Jennifer Wimmer said. "Our administration and school board members value the community's input as we determine next steps, and we look forward to continuing these essential conversations."

The survey aimed to provide residents with an opportunity to learn about the district's facilities needs and consider preliminary solutions. Other survey results include:

- **89.18%** of respondents indicated they were well-informed or had some familiarity with the district's facility needs
- **71.12%** of respondents are satisfied with the West Bend School District

**Potential Referendum Support**

The survey asked about the level of support for three different potential referendum options.

- **72.28%** of respondents indicated they would support a **\$100 million** capital referendum that addresses a large portion of Phase 1 of the WBSD's Long-Range Facility Plan. Highlights of the Phase 1 include adding secure entrances at Green Tree, McLane, and the high schools building, addressing the highest-priority capital maintenance needs, replacing Jackson, and rightsizing the district by closing Fair Park, Decorah, and Rolfs Education Center.
- **65.26%** of respondents indicated they would support a **\$125 million** capital referendum. This would preliminarily include all details from the \$100 million question and additional highest-priority capital maintenance needs, also close the Education Service Center, and renovate some areas of the high school.
- **55.13%** of respondents said they would support a **\$150 million** capital referendum. This preliminarily includes all details in the other two options and additional district-wide capital maintenance needs and/or more high school building renovations.

Questions on the survey also asked about the level of support for replacing Jackson Elementary:

- **59.11%** of respondents indicated they would vote yes to replacing Jackson as a *K-8 school* for approximately \$70 million
- **21.75%** would vote yes to replacing Jackson as a *K-5 school* for approximately \$50 million

The board will continue to review key data such as numbers around the level to likely support a capital facility referendum focused on the district's most urgent facility needs and respondents that believe that the district's urgent facility needs must be addressed now.

The West Bend School Board will have a work session on June 25. To view the community survey on facilities report, please visit the Long Range Facility Planning portion of the West Bend School District website at [west-bend.k12.wi.us](https://west-bend.k12.wi.us).

## **West Bend School District**

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The West Bend Joint School District #1 is proud to serve nearly 5,700 students and their families from the city of West Bend, villages of Jackson and Newburg, and townships of Barton, Polk, Trenton, Jackson, West Bend, and Addison. We strive to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts, and co-curricular activities. Within our community-based 4K program, Head Start program, five elementary schools (K-4), one intermediate school (5-6), one middle school (7-8), and two high schools (9-12), families can expect a high-performing learning environment. Visit [west-bend.k12.wi.us](http://west-bend.k12.wi.us) for more information.

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