



**Rib Lake School District**  
1236 Kennedy Street, PO Box 278  
Rib Lake, WI 54470

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PAID  
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# Referendum

## Informational Sessions:

Join us to learn what is included in the proposed referendum and the estimated tax impact.

**Rib Lake Middle School Library**  
1296 North St., Rib Lake, WI 54470

**LOCAL  
POSTAL CUSTOMER**

WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY  
**21**

10:00 AM  
6:00 PM

MONDAY  
MARCH  
**18**

6:00PM

## Investment:

Much like a home, when the cost to repair exceeds the budget, borrowing funds for a larger scale renovation is necessary and doing more at one time can save money. Portions of our buildings have exceeded life expectancy and the annual operating budget alone will not cover the needed upgrades.

Additionally, interest rates are still favorable and construction inflation continues to increase annually.

## Estimated Tax Impact:

<b>Capital Referendum</b>		<b>Per \$100,000 of Fair Market Property Value</b>
<b>\$19.5 Million</b>		
<b>Mill Rate</b>	<b>Yearly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
<b>\$1.46</b>	<b>\$146</b>	<b>\$12.17</b>

Estimates provided by Baird financial consultants.

Please visit the Referendum page on the District website for important assumptions regarding the financing plan.



## Learn More:

[www.riblake.k12.wi.us/district/referendum.cfm](http://www.riblake.k12.wi.us/district/referendum.cfm)

## Share Thoughts & Questions?

**Travis Grubbs, District Administrator**  
715-427-3222 or [referendum@riblake.k12.wi.us](mailto:referendum@riblake.k12.wi.us)

Scan below for referendum facts.



**Community-Driven Process.**

**Student-Focused Results.**

## Referendum 2024:

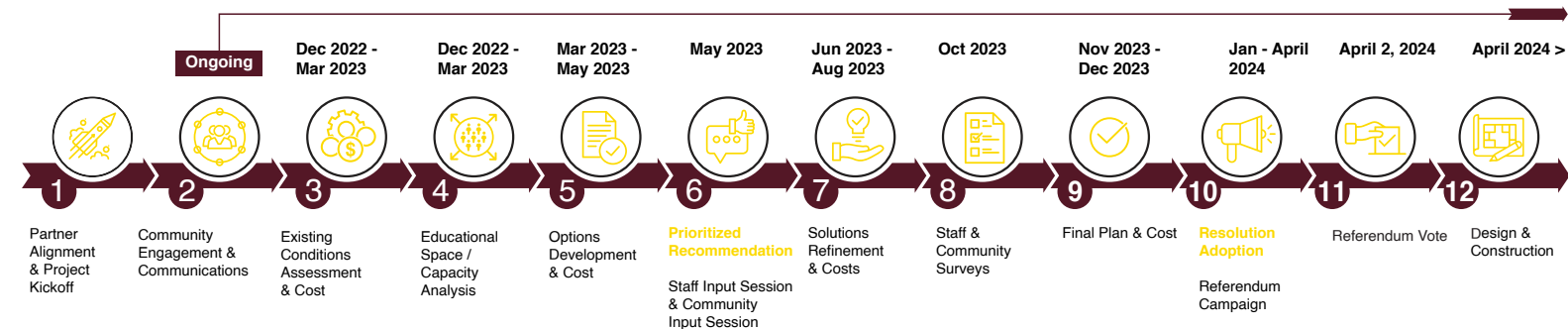
The School District of Rib Lake is committed to developing facility improvement plans that meet the long-term learning needs of our students, respond to our community's priorities, and address the maintenance needs of our buildings while being fiscally responsible.

## Planning Process:

After wrapping up projects to close out our previous Facilities Maintenance Plan, the District began working on the next 10-Year Facilities Maintenance Plan. The District conducted a Facility Study including an Existing Conditions Assessment and Educational Space/Capacity Analysis to determine the safety, accessibility, and conditions of our buildings and sites as well as the functional use of our spaces.

Portions of our buildings, including the building systems, equipment, furniture, and finishes, are original to the 1964, 1977, 1981, and 1999 construction and have exceeded life expectancy, requiring costly repairs that exceed our annual operating budget. Even our newest facilities are nearly 25 years old and are beginning to have maintenance issues due to age.

Though our staff does a phenomenal job maintaining our buildings, the costs associated with major building system improvements are extremely high. Much like a home, when the cost to repair exceeds the budget, borrowing funds for larger-scale improvements is necessary, and doing more at one time can save money.



## April Ballot Question:

Shall the School District of Rib Lake, Taylor and Price Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$19,500,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school facility improvement project consisting of: district-wide building maintenance, building infrastructure, systems and site improvements; construction of an addition to connect the Middle and High Schools, including a safe and secure entrance and replacement gymnasium; renovations at the Middle and High Schools, including for academics, band and choir spaces, a technical education area, kitchen and cafeteria, office and a fitness center; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment?

# Major Challenges:

In 2023, the District conducted a thorough facility condition and space adequacy assessment to determine the most critical issues that exist within and around our buildings.

To view the full Facility Assessment Report, [www.riblake.k12.wi.us/district/facilities-planning.cfm](http://www.riblake.k12.wi.us/district/facilities-planning.cfm)

## Inadequate District-Wide Safety, Security, & Accessibility

- The schools are not connected, creating security and supervision challenges with students traveling outdoors through a parking lot between buildings throughout the day.
- The school entrances need to be reconfigured to better monitor and control visitor access.
- Some areas of the buildings do not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

## Aging Buildings, Systems, & Equipment

- The 1964 section of the high school needs significant repairs.
- The heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems not addressed in the 2015 referendum are aging and inefficient.
- Building additions/reconfigurations have led to an inefficient layout.
- Classroom lighting is inefficient, resulting in high utility costs.
- The site has major drainage issues negatively impacting the buildings, parking lots, and sidewalks.
- HS kitchen is undersized and most of the equipment is 40-60 yrs old.

## Insufficient Academic & Support Areas

- The band and choir rooms are too small for the number of students currently participating.
- The technical education (shop) areas are located in separate buildings.
- The gym is too small to host some WIAA playoff events.
- Maintaining duplicated spaces is inefficient and costly.
- The fitness center and weight room are too small for physical education, athletics, and community use.
- Aging spaces hinder growth in meeting the needs of twenty-first century learning.



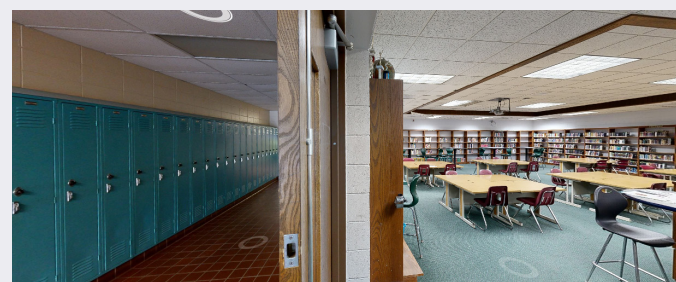
**Safety Challenge:** When buzzed in entrances, visitors have direct access to student occupied areas



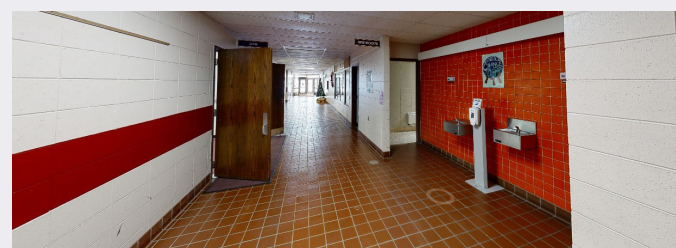
**Efficiency Challenge:** Many kitchen equipment items are 40-60 years old and District server in same room as freezers



**Efficiency Challenge:** Duplicated spaces include FCS rooms in both MS & HS



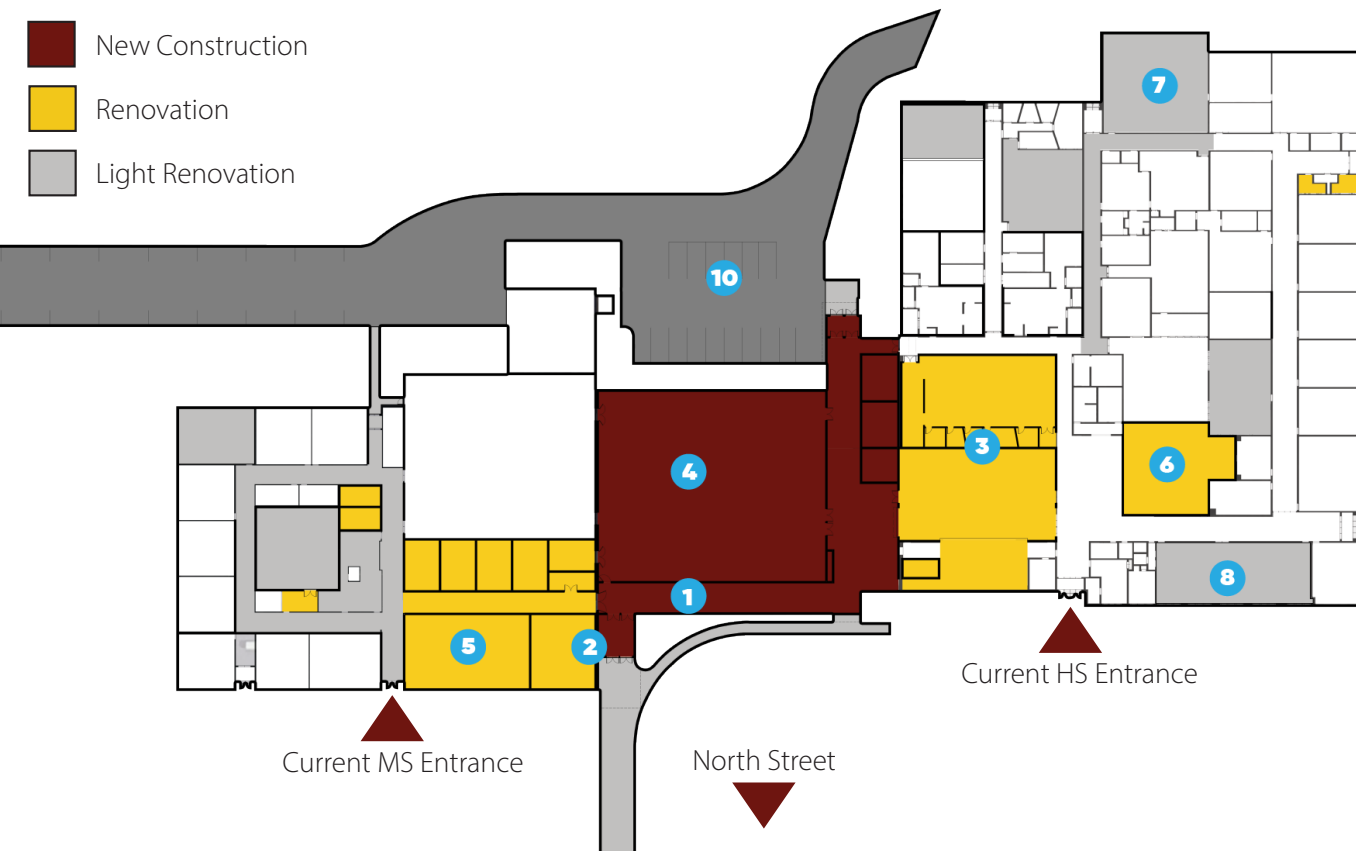
**Insufficiency Challenge:** Many academic spaces do not meet twenty-first century learning demands



**Maintenance Challenge:** Aging buildings and equipment require continuous and costly repairs

# Proposed Plan:

The District explored four long-range planning options to connect the Middle School and High School during community input sessions. Instead of creating a long hallway serving only as a connection, the majority of attendees (the community voice) supported a plan to repurpose the undersized existing gym for improved cafeteria, band and performance spaces and connect the buildings in a manner that provides more long-term value.



## Rib Lake Middle/High School Highlights:

- 1 Connect the middle school and high school to improve safety and more efficiently share resources.
- 2 Create a secure main entrance and consolidate office space.
- 3 Convert the existing gym into a band room and multipurpose performance/cafe/teria space.
- 4 Replace the gym with a regulation/competition-sized gym for school and community use.
- 5 Relocate/expand the fitness area and improve community access.
- 6 Update/expand the kitchen to serve all middle/high school students.
- 7 Connect/update the technical education areas (woods, metals, and small engines).
- 8 Consolidate to one library for all middle and high school students.
- 9 Address building-wide maintenance issues (finishes, doors, HVAC, lighting, plumbing, and electrical).
- 10 Improve traffic flow and parking.

## Rib Lake Elementary Highlights:

- Site improvements to address high ground water.
- Improve network cabling and internet functionality.
- Address building-wide maintenances issues (finishes, doors, HVAC, lighting, plumbing, and electrical).

