



Facilities Improvement Update NOVEMBER 2018 REFERENDUM

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Photos by Bill Fritsch | Harper Fritsch courtesy of Bray Architects

Nearly three years after our community supported the \$60 million referendum, we are proud to say that construction work is complete. We were able to accomplish every project we planned to do, and addressed needs in the following categories:

- Building, Classroom & Americans with Disabilities Act
- Capital Maintenance
- Safety & Security

We remain grateful for the opportunity to significantly improve many of our buildings, including needed capital maintenance

upgrades, advancements in our educational environments, increased access, and enhanced safety features.

This work has transformed several of our schools. We are excited about the School District of Waukesha's future, and we value the support from our taxpayers, local businesses, School Board, teachers, support staff, and maintenance and custodial teams.

SECONDARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

The additions and renovations completed at the secondary schools including Butler, Horning, and Les Paul Middle Schools, and South High School were the largest component of the referendum. We created spaces that will meet the current and future

needs of our students, staff, and community, while also updating critical capital maintenance items throughout the buildings.

REMAINING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SECURITY PROJECTS

Since our last Facility Improvement Update in January 2021, we completed the remaining safety and security projects at the final three elementary buildings. Work at each of the schools included:

HILLCREST

- New canopy and front door
- New main office with secure entry
- Two new accessible restrooms

HAWTHORNE

- New addition including:
 - o New accessible main entrance and office with secure entry
 - o Elevator
 - o Two accessible restrooms
- Repurposed former main office into a classroom

WHITTIER

- New accessible main entrance and office with secure entry
- New accessible restroom

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The District Administration and Board continue to be proactive at managing the finances associated with the 2018 referendum. The decision to go with a 10-year repayment period instead

of a 20-year period, which is what the majority of Wisconsin school districts use, was intentional. This choice allowed us to avoid \$13 million in estimated interest before we even began to borrow money.

Additionally, Waukesha remains steadfast in our commitment to minimize interest costs through refinancing and prepaying debt. By taking advantage of lower interest rates and making additional payments, we have successfully avoided \$6.05 million in interest expenses from what was estimated before the referendum. With our current plan and market conditions, we anticipate paying off the referendum debt early.