



USD 250 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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July 14, 2021

USD 250 Patrons,

You may be aware of the school district's interest in taking advantage of historic low interest rates and pursuing a bond referendum aimed at renovating and preserving the 1921 section of PCMS. The goal is to take advantage of the low interest rates and NOT to increase the bond and interest mill rate in this project. There are specific reasons which have led the USD 250 Board of Education to follow this course of action.

1. The Board has seen sustained growth within the district over the past 3 years and we are now at functional capacity at PCMS.
2. The Board is transforming exploratory course offerings at PCMS to enhance career interest discovery and occupational preparation by providing a 21st century learning facility for our students.
3. The Board desires to restore and renovate a historic building that has withstood the test of time and remains as a strong and durable fixture in our community. This includes repairing the grand steps into the west entrance of the building and making it an access for the building. During school hours, due to security, the current north entrance will be used during school hours.
4. The Board knows we must take advantage of historical low interest rates on bond financing. We will NOT increase taxes in the bond and interest fund to finance this remodeling project of the Middle School.
5. The Board will preserve the historic towers, steps and auditorium of the building and will actively engage the community for its use.

The process of developing and passing a bond is extensive. We are currently working with the architect to initiate foundational phases of the process. As we progress, we will engage the public. We understand the value that this historic building holds to our community. It is our intention to continue to be transparent with you, provide opportunities for community feedback and answer any questions you may have.

The USD 250 Board of Education meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Bevans Education Center. If a second meeting is needed it will be on the fourth Monday of the month, starting at 6:00 pm. Meetings are recorded and available to view following the meetings on the USD 250 Vimeo Channel.

Our current goal is to review initial designs in August and engage students, faculty, staff and the Community during the month of September to develop a final bond package. That may take longer, as our primary goal is to control costs and not require a tax increase.

We have been engaged in these discussions for more than two years and we are excited about this project that has been needed for years. We are committed to controlling costs and delivering a quality project on-time and on-budget of which our community can be proud.

Sincerely,

USD 250 Board of Education