

Alden-Hebron District #19 has spent over 10 years analyzing existing facilities. During this time it has prepared a Needs Analysis of both schools and a 10-year Health/Health/Life Safety Survey. Most recently, the District engaged an independent cost estimation firm to perform an analysis for the cost of a new Middle/High school versus doing an addition and renovation to the existing Middle/High school.

Amount for New Middle/High School: Amount for Addition and Renovations to Existing:

\$20,300,000

\$17,400,000

The analysis shows the estimated cost for a new Middle/High School is \$20.3 million versus an Addition and Renovation to the existing school at \$17.4 million. As such, the Board of Education has decided to place a referendum on the **April 2, 2019** ballot, which will ask voters whether or not to issue \$20.3 million in bonds for the construction of a new middle/high school.

WHAT IS THE COST TO THE TAXPAYER?

The District has been **fiscally responsible** and is currently carrying very little debt (\$395,000 of principal).

The referendum bonds would be issued in the summer of 2020 and would be structured with **level annual payments** for 20 years.

For a home with a \$150,000 fair cash value, property taxes would increase by \$913 in calendar year 2020.

This equals **\$76 per Month, \$17.56 per Week, \$2.50 per Day.**

To understand the impact on your individual property tax bill, please go to the **"Referendum Information"** section on the District's website, www.alden-hebron.org, and enter the details from your most recent McHenry County property tax bill.

WHY THE NEED FOR A NEW MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL?

The recent comprehensive facilities study and the latest 10-year Health/Life Safety study identified the following challenges and inadequacies with the existing middle/high school:

INADEQUATE LEARNING SPACES

- Lack of appropriate spaces for educational services that did not exist when the building was built
- Curricular changes have impacted the types and sizes of classrooms and labs needed
- Inability to provide 21st Century learning, including hands-on, minds-on learning opportunities, which need appropriate spaces

INADEQUATE SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Currently students must go outside to walk to mobile classrooms on the southeast side of the building
- Fire escape, smoke and fire suppression and detection systems are outdated
- General safety/modern day security upgrades are needed

AGING BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- The Middle/High School Building is over 90 years old, with much of the infrastructure from 1950's
- Plumbing, heating, electrical, water and other key building systems have exceeded their life expectancy/cycle and regularly require costly repairs
- Asbestos containing materials exist throughout the building
- The building is non-compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA accessibility)
- Over the last 10 years, the district has invested heavily on repairs and replacement of aged systems in the middle/high school building

For any comments or questions please contact Dr. Debbie Ehlenburg, Superintendent of Schools, 815-648-1602 or dehlenburg@ah19.org