



GALESBURG CUSD #205

Building Renovations Plan FAQ

What is the overall cost to the district for renovations/additions?

- Projected Cost \$56 Million
- \$52 Million will come from borrowed funds
- \$4 Million is projected to come from district reserves/operational savings

What are the projected Construction Cost for each location?

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----------------|
| • King Elementary School | \$ | \$ 11,800,000 |
| • Lombard Middle School | \$ | \$ 6,800,000 |
| • Steele Elementary School | \$ | \$ 4,900,000 |
| • Galesburg High School | \$ | \$ 28,500,000* |

*\$4,000,000 of district resources, when available, will be added to GHS project that will come from reserves/operational savings.

Why is the District using reserves/operational savings to fund the remaining \$4,000,000 of the project?

- By using dollars captured from operational savings and those in reserves, the District does not have to max out its bonded debt capacity.

Why have the costs for the project changed over time?

- The distribution of funds between buildings has changed, *but not the overall budget*. It has remained the same.

Why did the distribution of funds change?

- Over the past year, the District has convened numerous committees made up of staff, parents, and members of the Board of Education to determine the specific scope of work needed to best accommodate the educational needs of our students and staff. Through this process, the scope of work has been modified to meet these needs.
- The original projections from Legat Architects and Russell Construction were part of an overall project concept. As needs were refined, some of the dollars for the overall project were shifted to King and Lombard Schools. For example, King's School's infrastructure and mechanical systems have remained largely untouched and the committee felt that now was the time to fix it.

Does the District have the option of doing nothing and holding off the renovation projects?

No. The District has approximately \$40 million dollars in required Health Life Safety work that must be completed in the next 3 years to remain compliant with state law.



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How does this affect my homeowner's taxes?

- Your tax bill includes other government entities other than the school district.
- For the District #205 portion of the tax bill, the tax rate of \$4.83 has remained the same for the past 2 years, which is lower than the \$4.95 rate the Board of Education approved in 2016.
- While no one can predict the direction of school funding from the State of Illinois, the District is committed to keeping a rate at or below \$4.95.

Will District #205 be reducing classroom teachers as part of the renovation plan?

- No. The District is not reducing teachers and it is making all class sizes in grades K-5 smaller beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.
- There are no foreseeable cuts to our teaching staff unless dictated by the decreasing enrollment of students.