



The Valley Voice

Bond Initiative Special Edition

Last week, the Valley Voice published a story about the upcoming bond initiative. This bond is for a renovation of the elementary wing, construction of a multipurpose activity center, and creating a more secure entrance to the school.

The administration wants this process to be as transparent as possible for the community, so any questions or concerns can be addressed by contacting the school administration or a school board representative.

The bond will be determined by eligible voters in the school district of Belt. Ballots will be sent out on September 15th, 2016 via mail, and polls will be counted by election officers once the voting window closes. **Voters need to be aware that both ballots must be in the school office by October 4th at 8:00 p.m.** The bond initiative consists of two ballots, one for the high school and one for the

elementary. The Belt school system is comprised of both a high school and elementary district. **Therefore, both initiatives must pass in order for the project to proceed.**

The vote will determine if the project moves forward. The high school bond represents 40% of the total cost, and the elementary bond comprises 60% of the sum. The tax burden for each household depends on the value of the individual's home. For example, if the value of your home is around \$150,000, then your contribution will average about \$89 annually.

The last time Belt Public School had a major facility upgrade was in 1996. The students during that time saw significant changes such as: the original gym became the upstairs classrooms, the library was added to the first floor, and the modern gym was built. The Valley

Voice is happy to share that the former bond has been paid in full. That should lessen the financial impact of the new bond initiative if it should pass.

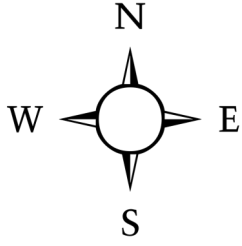
Positive changes will come once this project is complete, and Mr. Paulson believes that the need exists, not only because of the building's age, but also because of the evolving nature of K-12 education. Mr. Paulson adds, "As educational programs and initiatives continue to change, the demand for additions and reconfigurations to our existing campus is warranted."

The final public meeting about the bond initiative will take place in the **Belt Public School cafeteria on September 14th, 2016 at 7 p.m.** Community members are encouraged to attend to voice their opinions and ask questions.

By: Morgan Davis

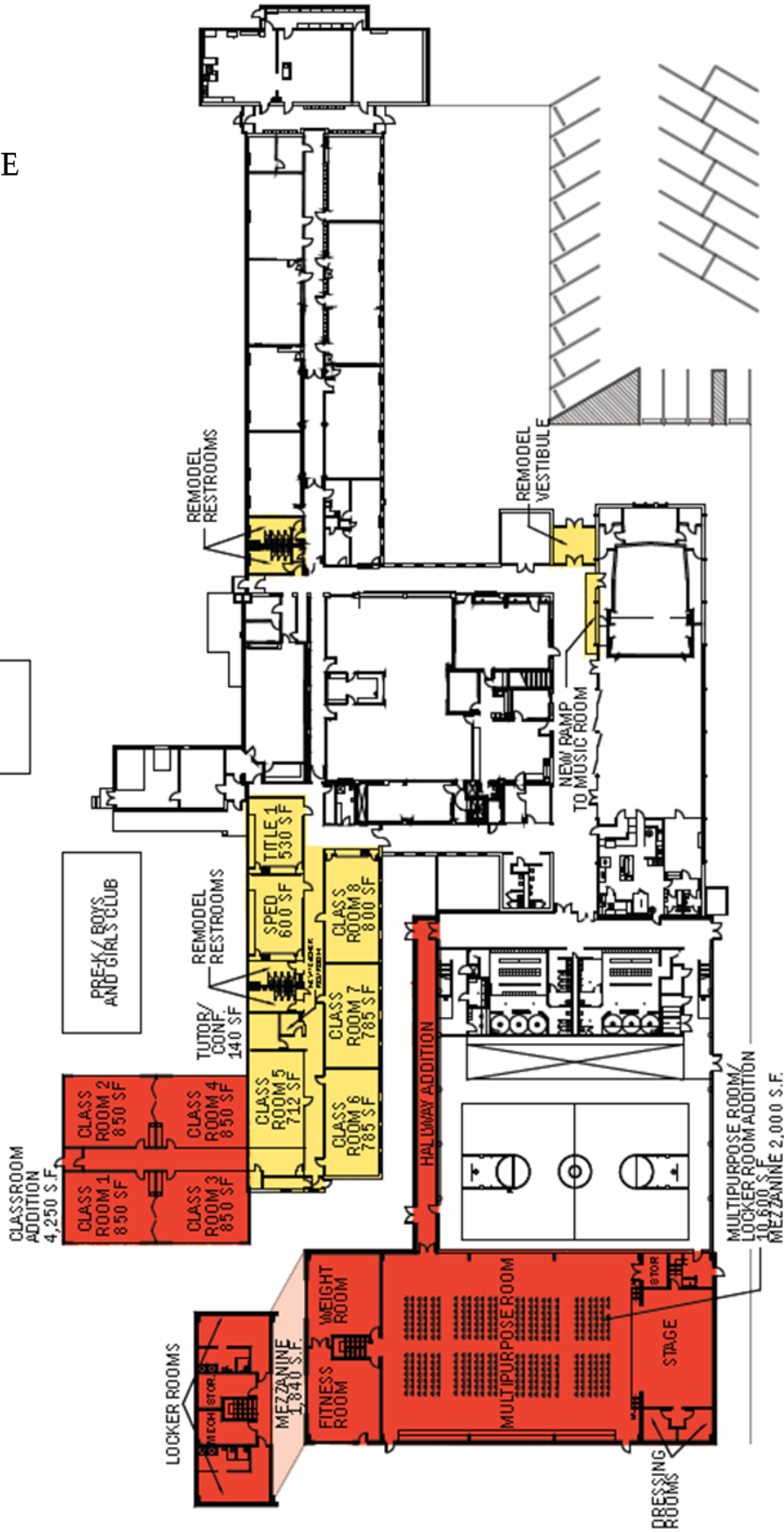
2017 Bond Investment				1996 Bond Estimated payments Ended June 2016			Projected Annual Increase over 1996 Bond
Assessed Value of your Property	Annual Cost in Elementary District	Annual Cost in High School District	Annual Total for both districts	Annual Cost in Elementary District	Annual Cost in High School District	Annual Total for both districts	
\$75,000	\$22.88	\$21.62	\$44.50	\$17.73	\$17.64	\$35.37	\$9.13
\$100,000	\$30.50	\$28.83	\$59.33	\$23.64	\$23.52	\$47.16	\$12.17
\$150,000	\$45.76	\$43.24	\$89.00	\$35.46	\$35.28	\$70.74	\$18.26
\$200,000	\$61.01	\$57.66	\$118.67	\$47.28	\$47.03	\$94.31	\$24.36
\$250,000	\$76.26	\$72.07	\$148.33	\$59.10	\$58.79	\$117.89	\$30.44
\$300,000	\$91.51	\$86.49	\$178.00	\$70.92	\$70.55	\$141.47	\$36.53

Proposed Renovations to Belt School Campus



SHOP

KINDERGARTEN



REMODEL
NEW CONSTRUCTION

BELT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PROPOSED REMODEL AND ADDITION