

CENTRAL LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Central Lake Public Schools place bond proposal on November 7 ballot

The Central Lake Public Schools Board of Education has unanimously approved placing a \$26.69 million bond proposal on the November 7 ballot. The bond would provide funding for updates and renovations at both of Central Lake's schools.

School Superintendent Monique Dean said the comprehensive bond proposal is designed to continue enhancing school security while updating classrooms, technology, and athletic facilities. "If approved by voters the bond proposal will finance updates of building infrastructure, including mechanical and electrical systems, classroom HVAC units, and furniture," she said. "In addition, the bond will provide funding for updating technology and renovating facilities at the athletic field."

If approved by voters, the bond proposal will require a 2.98 mill tax increase over last year's levy. For a homeowner with a \$150,000 market value home (\$75,000 taxable value), the cost would be \$18.63 per month or about 61¢ per day. Some homeowners will pay more, but most Central Lake homeowners will pay less than 61¢ per day.

Board of Education President Gerry McAvoy said the bond proposal was designed to assure that Central Lake's school facilities are up-to-date and provide an appropriate learning environment for students. "This bond proposal calls for well over 100 projects. I believe voter approval of the bond proposal will help protect the community's investment in its school district, make school facilities more competitive with neighboring school districts, and assure that Central Lake has a quality learning environment," he added. "I also believe it will enhance our ability to provide comprehensive educational programs for all the students that we serve."



Central Lake’s secondary school was built in 1927, destroyed by a fire, and then rebuilt in the 1930’s. The school was added onto in 1989 and was last upgraded in 1993. “Minor maintenance and repairs to school facilities have been completed using the school district’s sinking fund and operation budget dollars. A bond proposal is now necessary to address large-scale renovations and updates, such as heating and cooling system (HVAC) upgrades, roof replacement, adding secure entrances, and replacing fire alarm systems.

“The school district sought opinions about the bond proposal projects under consideration via an online survey that was open to all school employees and all members of the community. Survey respondents overwhelmingly supported the proposed bond projects and encouraged the Board of Education to place this bond proposal on the November ballot.

“After the community survey, a list of bond projects was finalized by Central Lake’s architects and engineers, and the project list was submitted to the Michigan Department of Treasury. The Department of Treasury approved the bond proposal after reviewing and assessing every project described in the bond proposal,” Dean added.

The school district will share information about the bond through presentations, social media, news media, and printed materials to help ensure that community members are well-informed, and their questions are answered.

Information about the bond proposal—including a list of projects planned for each school—is available now on the school district’s website.

Superintendent Dean invites all residents to visit <https://clps.k12.mi.us> and click on *Bond Election Info* or to contact her by phone (231/544-3141) or email (dean@clps.k12.mi.us) with any questions.

The school district invites you to share your thoughts about the bond proposal. Visit www.research.net/r/CLPSbond or scan the QR code to take a brief survey.

