



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 15, 2015

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Lansing School District Board of Education approves May 2016 Bond Proposal Vote

Lansing Pathway Promise bond supports upgrades in school facilities

(Lansing, MI)— The Lansing School District Board of Education tonight approved a bond proposal for a public vote on the election ballot in May 2016. The \$120 million bond proposal to improve many school buildings is part of the long-term **Lansing Pathway Promise** plan designed as a strategic community investment in PreK-12 education.

“The Lansing Pathway Promise bond proposal is a key next step for the strategic plan developed by the Board of Education to make a significant investment in our school buildings in the next few years and to provide our Lansing students with 21st Century learning opportunities,” said Board of Education president Peter Spadafore. “The actual dollar investment is a prudent financial step forward for Lansing schools. Parents, taxpayers and our students want a better school system and I know we will all see a tremendous return on our investment.”

“Our Bond Committee and Board of Education listened to citizen feedback and we are ready to implement the **Lansing Pathway Promise** program, which is the foundation of this very important bond proposal. The bond wisely invests in upgrades to nearly all of our school facilities and aligns schools with themed programs that connect students with their passion and pathway for learning. This investment will ultimately guide our students toward career and college readiness,” said Lansing School District superintendent Yvonne Caamal Canul.

The school building improvements include moving Eastern High School to the current Pattengill building and expanding facility classrooms, cafeteria and labs to accommodate the needs of 7th-12th grade school students in International Baccalaureate, Chinese Immersion and Biotechnology studies. Everett High School would house expanded facilities to better provide the New Tech High and Visual and Performing Arts programs. J.W. Sexton High School would be the focus of STEM/STEAM, Manufacturing and Skilled Trades, and Spanish Immersion. A renovation of Fairview would expand the school into a PreK – 8th grade campus, and upgrades would convert Rich to a Visual and Performing Arts themed school. Many other remodeling improvements would be made to other Lansing elementary school buildings.

If approved the bond would result in a modest property tax increase for homeowners of a dime a day or just \$3 per month for homes with a market value of \$100,000 or be the equivalent of just over \$37 more in total school property taxes per year. The \$120 million bond would rollover an existing 1.5 mill school Sinking Fund millage set to expire, and include a fraction 0.75 mill increase. The Lansing School District currently has the lowest property tax millage of all 16 school districts in Ingham County. The school district has been complimented by auditors as being financially well-managed with a sound and conservative budget and appropriately-sized growing fund balance.

The Lansing School District is the largest public school district in the Mid-Michigan region and is committed to offering a high quality education to students in a caring, collaborative and excellent learning environment. For more information about the bond proposal, go online to Lansingpathwaypromise.net

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