

# REFERENDUM 2018



## Dear Pointer Community,

As one of the oldest publicly supported schools in the state, the Mineral Point Unified School District has a long standing tradition of Pointer Pride. There are many earned accolades, most importantly in the classroom, but also with our extra and co-curricular programs. The **District was ranked as the #2 4k-12th Grade District in the State by the 2016-17 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Report Cards**, released last fall. All of this has been accomplished through your support.

For the first time since 2002, when the agriculture addition was added on to the middle/high school, the Mineral Point Unified School District has placed a facility referendum question on the ballot in November.

Question 1 will ask voters whether or not to approve renovations and an addition to the existing elementary building that is comprised of late 1960s original construction and an early 1990s addition.

This referendum comes after a comprehensive and thoughtful process led by an ad-hoc committee of the School Board entitled the Elementary School Planning Committee. This committee was open to all community members and included residents, parents and non-parents, current and former educators, as well as business representatives.

Through its monthly meetings, the committee prioritized the Elementary's facility needs, discussed potential solutions, received feedback from a community-wide survey, and made a recommendation to the School Board.

In addition, in order to maintain the educational programs and services we offer now, not including an expanded elementary, the District is asking for an operational referendum for ongoing expenses. This will be Question 2 on the ballot. As any homeowner or business owner knows, there are unavoidable fixed costs that continue to rise. These dollars will assist us in continuing to provide a high quality education that makes our students college and career ready.

The School Board is giving voters the opportunity to make their voices heard on November 6 on both of these questions.

There have been, and always will be, challenges—but through it all, the District has been committed to positively affecting the lives of children while balancing the interest of the taxpayer.



**In a community where history runs deep, we are proud of our past, but we also understand the importance of investing in the future of our students.**

More information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead about our needs and the proposed solution.

If you have any questions, please consider attending one of our **Community Open Houses at the Elementary on either Wednesday, October 10 or 24 at 7 pm**, or contact me at [mitch.wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us](mailto:wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us) or 987-0740.

Yours in Education,

Mr. Mitch Wainwright  
Interim Superintendent and High School Principal  
Mineral Point Unified School District



## WHAT WILL BE ON THE BALLOT?

Q1: \$11.92 million to renovate and expand the existing elementary.

Q2: \$350 thousand recurring for ongoing operational expenses.

## OPEN HOUSES

October 10, 2018

October 24, 2018

7:00pm • MPES Gym





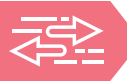
## NEEDS

### Q1:

- ★ Facilities that are welcoming and accessible inside and out
- ★ Comfortable, safe, and secure environments for students and staff
- ★ A space that serves large student gatherings and as a community resource
- ★ Learning environments that promote student success--innovative instruction
- ★ Foster student interaction across age groups
- ★ Facilities that offer wellness learning and recreation activity opportunities
- ★ Fiscally responsible investments that deliver operating cost efficiencies
- ★ Learning and staff spaces that are flexible and adaptable for change

### Q2:

- ★ Sustain and enhance educational programming and district operations



## SOLUTION

### Q1:

- ★ \$11.92 million for facility improvements to the existing elementary including:
  - ★ Code, Maintenance, American with Disabilities Act (ADA): \$2,175,601
  - ★ Renovate & Update 1st Floor (including floor settling): \$2,986,409
  - ★ Renovate & Update 2nd Floor: \$809,381
  - ★ Finishes: \$399,502
  - ★ Parking, Bus Lane, Storm water: \$726,108
  - ★ Secure Lobby, Office, Classroom Addition: \$2,548,448
  - ★ Gym & Phy Ed Addition: \$2,272,446

### Q2:

- ★ The District is seeking \$350K annually in additional revenue above its current revenue limit.
- ★ An operational referendum allows the District to maintain educational programming and class sizes, retain staff, backfill budget cuts, address technology needs.



## PROCESS

- ★ School Board convened Elementary School Planning Committee Nov. 2017 to study capacity and accessibility
- ★ Community survey: Spring 2018
- ★ ESPC recommendation to Board: May 2018
- ★ Board passes referenda resolutions: August 2018



## COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

SPRING 2018 • 365 Responses



**87% support**

Code, Maintenance, ADA items



**69% support**

Parking, bus lane, storm water updates

**66% support**

Gym & Phy Ed Addition



**70% support**

Renovate & Update Existing Elementary (1st & 2nd floor and finishes)



**69% support**

Secure lobby, office, classroom addition



# BALLOT LANGUAGE

## QUESTION 1:



"Shall the Mineral Point Unified School District, Iowa and Lafayette Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$11,920,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of an Elementary School building and improvement program consisting of: code, maintenance and ADA improvements; renovations and updates; parking, bus lane, site and stormwater improvements; construction of an addition for a secure lobby, offices and classrooms and an addition for physical education and a gymnasium; and acquisition of related furnishings, fixtures and equipment?"

Yes  No

## QUESTION 2:



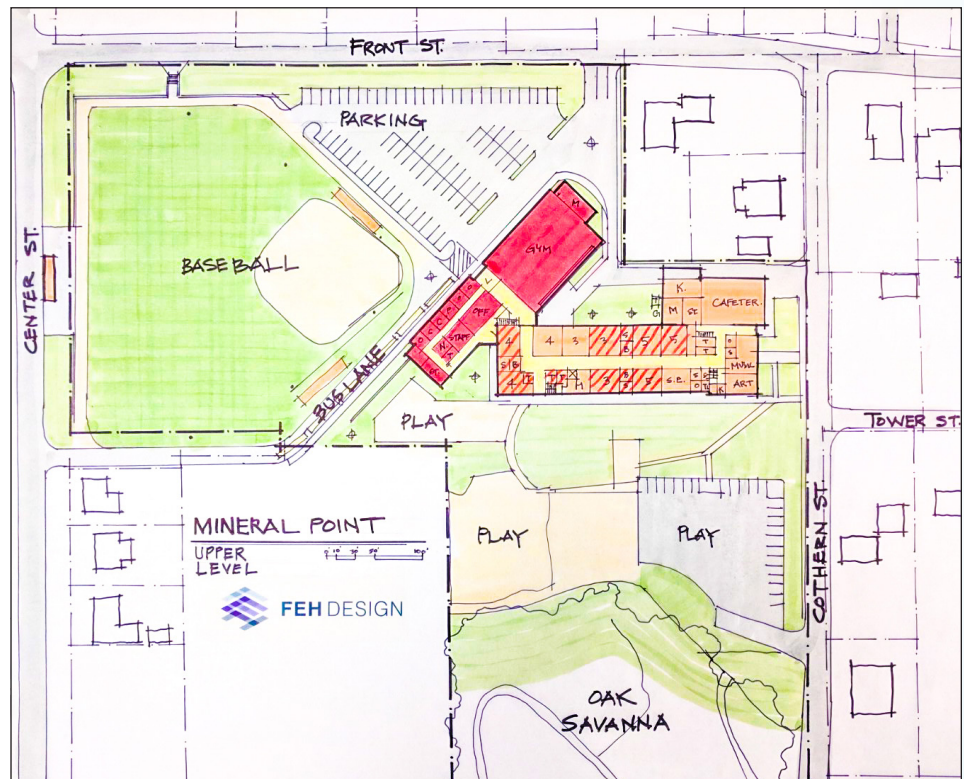
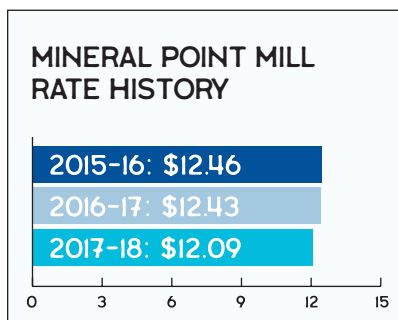
"Shall the Mineral Point Unified School District, Iowa and Lafayette Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$350,000 recurring for the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter, for recurring purposes consisting of on-going operational expenses?"

Yes  No

## DRAFT OF PROPOSED ELEMENTARY RENOVATIONS BY FEH DESIGN

Major changes include, but are not limited to:

- ★ Pre K: move to existing lower level
- ★ Kindergarten: move to new addition lower level
- ★ Gym: move to new addition
- ★ Office: move to upper level new addition



## ESTIMATED SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Fair Market Property Value	Question 1: Facilities \$11,920,000		Question 2: Operations: \$350,000	
	Annually	Monthly	Annually	Monthly
\$100,000	\$178.00	\$14.83	\$74.00	\$6.17
\$200,000	\$356.00	\$29.67	\$148.00	\$12.33
\$300,000	\$534.00	\$44.50	\$222.00	\$18.50

Tax impacts provided by Robert W. Baird financial consultants. Borrowing assumes two 20-year loans at an estimated interest rate of 4.00 – 4.50%. Property value growth estimated at 5% in year one and 1% thereafter. State Aid applied.



Mineral Point Unified  
 School District  
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 LIKE the Mineral Point School District on Facebook.

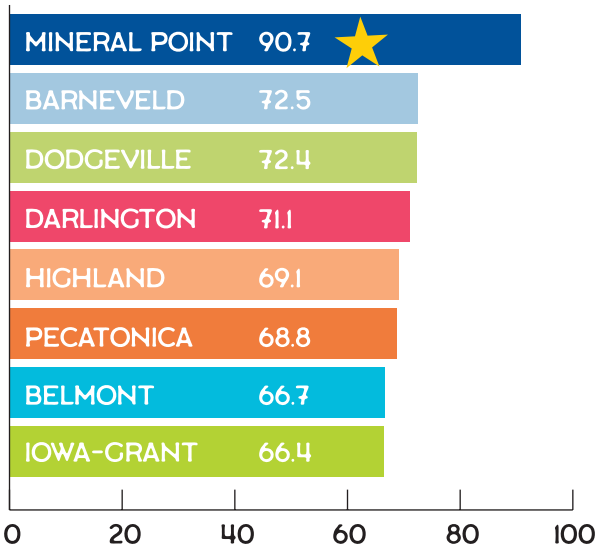
 Search #PointerNation on Twitter

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## HOW ARE WE PERFORMING?

WI Department of Public Instruction 2016-17 report card score comparison to adjoining and Iowa County Districts. Of CESA 3's 31 districts, only two received a five star ranking (MP 90.7 and Prairie du Chien 83.4).



## HOW TO LEARN MORE

- ★ [www.mineralpointschools.org/referendum](http://www.mineralpointschools.org/referendum)
- ★ Contact Interim Superintendent Mitch Wainwright at 608.987.0740 or [mitch.wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us](mailto:mitch.wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us)
- ★ Watch your mailboxes for more information
- ★ Attend an upcoming open house Wednesday, October 10 & 24, 7 pm, MPES gym
- ★ Find us on social media
- ★ Contact us if you'd like to set up a presentation for your group

## VISIT MYVOTE.WI.GOV FOR:

- ★ Voter registration
- ★ Photo id requirements
- ★ Early voting
- ★ Polling places
- ★ Absentee voting

Of CESA 3's 31 school districts, only six have not placed at least one referendum before voters in the last five years.

- ★ Belmont (will in Nov.)
- ★ Kickapoo
- ★ Lancaster
- ★ Mineral Point (will in Nov.)
- ★ Seneca
- ★ Wauzeka-Steuben (Source: DPI's Finance Portal)