



Kent City Schools *Connecting to the future*

October 15, 2019

EXCITING NEWS about the Kent City Schools

Resolution to Proceed with No New Tax Bond Issue on the March 17, 2020 ballot!

It was evident in the results of community surveys and focus groups conducted in the spring of 2019 that we need to keep our students safe and maintain the community's investment in our schools.

What you need to know:

Because bonds issued over 20 years ago to construct Stanton Middle School and make renovations to Roosevelt High School and Davey Elementary are maturing, Kent Schools is taking advantage of this opportunity for our district and our community to make much needed improvements to all our schools at **no new cost to the taxpayer**. This \$25 million bond issue would **NOT** raise taxes for our homeowners.

Representatives of ThenDesign Architecture (TDA) and Hammond Construction, firms with experience in school-related renovation projects across the state, provided recommendations and cost estimates to the Board of Education for each project.

As we put together our 2019-2024 Strategic Plan, we asked our community for input. Our Kent residents made it clear that they saw the immediate necessity to keep our students safe and maintain the community's investment in our schools. The survey results showed the need for improvements in safety and security across the district, as well as upgrades to modernize school buildings and facilities.

Projects include:

1. Improve **Safety** and **Security** in all our schools
 - a. Entry vestibules (each school will have increased security during the day)
 - b. Exterior LED lighting (lighting upgrades will provide security and be cost effective)
 - c. Redesigned traffic/ circulation/ parking on secondary campus (student/visitor vehicle and pedestrian safety will be increased)
 - d. Additional Davey And Roosevelt parking (increased safety by parking closer to the building)
 - e. Building access controls (electronic access will provide increased security)
2. Improve **Instructional Environment**
 - a. Installing air conditioning in elementary and high school classrooms
(Stanton Middle School is already air conditioned.)



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- b. LED classroom lighting
- c. Replace elementary gym flooring used for instruction, cafeteria and assemblies
- d. Walls classroom addition
- e. Davey and Stanton flooring upgrades
- f. Stanton roof upgrade

3. Improve **Performing Arts** and **Athletic Facilities**

- a. RHS auditorium renovation
- b. RHS gymnasium expansion
- c. Roosevelt Stadium upgrades with turf and fieldhouse
- d. Natatorium renovation

Groups Impacted by Performing Arts and Athletic Facilities Renovations:

- Auditorium: Elementary Performances, SMS Band/Choir/Orchestra, RHS Band/Choirs/Orchestra/Drama and Musicals, School Assemblies, Student Recognitions, Community Events & Rentals
- Gymnasium: Physical Education Classes, Athletic Practices & Contests (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Ninth Grade), School Assemblies, Band Extravaganza, Parks & Recreation, Kent Community Expo, Craft Shows, Homecoming Dance and Prom, Student/ Community Fundraising Events
- Stadium Upgrades: Physical Education Classes, Athletic Practices and Contests (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Ninth Grade), Athletic Healthcare Program, Marching Band Practice and Performance, SMS Football Games, Kent Youth Football and Cheer, Off-season Practices, Improved Concession and Expanded Restroom Facilities
- Natorium: Swimming & Diving Team Practice and Competitions, Off-season Conditioning, Seariders Youth Swimming, Community Swimming Lessons and Water Programming, Parks and Recreation Summer Swimming Programs

We look forward to sharing more information with our community over the next several months!