

# Oakes Times



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## Oakes School Board votes to call special election, part 3

On Friday, January 12th, at the regular monthly board meeting of the Oakes Public School Board, members of the board voted unanimously to call a special election to approve the issuance of general obligation bonds for school building construction purposes. On March 14th, district voters will decide on a \$14.84 million plan to address critical facility challenges at our 100-year-old school building. If approved, this plan will provide our school with:

- New HVAC systems
- Accessible bathrooms
- Updated kitchen infrastructure
- Repaired underground plumbing

Visit [OurSchoolOurFuture.org](http://OurSchoolOurFuture.org) to learn more about the plan to maintain key infrastructure throughout our school building.

As a district, we have been and will continue to be commit-

ted to ensuring transparency about decision making and information pertaining to the proposed project. During the next two months, we will be sharing a series of facility questions and answers (FAQs) focused and guided by stakeholder input. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Anna Sell, Oakes Public School Superintendent, at [anna.sell@k12.nd.us](mailto:anna.sell@k12.nd.us) or 742-3234.

### 1. How do I determine the tax impact of the proposed bond on my property?

The Oakes School District's financial advisor, PFM Financial Advisors, helped create a tax impact calculator for district residents to understand their potential tax impact if the proposed bond is approved. You will find the tax calculator on the Cost page of the district's dedicated website: [OurSchoolOurFuture.org/Cost](http://OurSchoolOurFuture.org/Cost). To utilize the

tax impact calculator, please reference your tax statements to find the True and Full Value of your property. If you would like help to calculate your tax impact or have questions, please contact Business Manager Shannon Jepson at 701-742-3234.

### 2. Can I vote by absentee ballot on the bond referendum?

Yes. Voting by absentee ballot is now available. Your completed absentee ballot must be postmarked or hand-delivered to the Oakes School District Office by Wednesday, March 13, to be counted. Please allow sufficient time for mail delivery. For detailed information on voting, including how to vote by absentee ballot, visit [OurSchoolOurFuture.org/vote](http://OurSchoolOurFuture.org/vote). You may also contact Business Manager Shannon Jepson at 701-742-3234.