



OUR SCHOOL, OUR FUTURE

2024 Oakes Public School Referendum

OAKES PUBLIC SCHOOL

March 2024 Referendum



Visit [OurSchoolOurFuture.org](https://www.ourschoolourfuture.org)

for more information or use your smartphone camera to scan the code.



On Thursday, March 14, district voters will consider a \$14.84 million bond referendum to address our school's most critical infrastructure needs.

Oakes Public School has worked hard to maintain its aging 100-year-old school building. However, our critical needs go far beyond the scope of our regular maintenance budget.

After conducting a detailed facility analysis and with input from our community, staff, and students, the district has identified and prioritized our most critical facility needs to ensure a safe, healthy, and accessible learning environment at our school today and for years to come.



Our Most CRITICAL NEEDS



- Outdated, broken, and deteriorating heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), indoor air quality, and window systems that are not fully functioning and fail to meet current air quality standards.
- No ADA-compliant bathrooms on the upper levels in the high school.
- An undersized kitchen with deteriorating infrastructure, electrical and plumbing systems, and appliances that are more than 50 years old and can no longer be repaired.
- Broken and deteriorated underground sewer pipes.



The PROPOSED PLAN



Visit [OurSchoolOurFuture.org/plan](https://www.ourschoolourfuture.org/plan) for more.

If voters approve the bond referendum, the \$14.84 million plan would fund needed investments in repairing, updating, and renovating critical infrastructure in our building, including:

- **Ensuring proper air quality, temperature control, and energy efficiency** by replacing the HVAC system, providing new indoor air quality systems, and replacing the windows to optimize the performance of the new HVAC system and reduce energy costs.
- **Providing accessible bathrooms** by adding new ADA-compliant, single-stall bathrooms on the second and third floors of the high school.
- **Repairing and updating the kitchen** by updating infrastructure, electrical systems, food storage, appliances, and plumbing.
- **Improving underground sewer maintenance** by repairing and replacing sewer pipes.

The COST OF THE PLAN



\$100,000 home =
\$19.22 PER MONTH
starting in 2025.

Visit OurSchoolOurFuture.org/cost to find your estimated tax impact.

If voters approve the referendum, a home in the district valued at \$100,000 would see a monthly property tax increase of \$19.22, and agricultural land valued at \$914 would see a tax increase of \$2.34 per year, starting in 2025.



If the referendum is successful, Oakes Public School will apply for a State School Construction Loan at a 2% interest rate. The process to obtain these funds is competitive, with a March 31, 2024 deadline. **If funds are awarded to the district at a lower interest rate, it would lower the overall cost of the project – resulting in tax savings.**

Make Your VOICE HEARD



on or before Thursday, March 14



Our community helped inform this plan, and our residents will have the final say on the plan.

Election Day is Thursday, March 14, 2024. Absentee voting will begin on Saturday, February 3, 2024. **Visit OurSchoolOurFuture.org/vote for more information on voting.**

Why is the district proposing this plan?

As Oakes Public School reached its 100th birthday last year, we are dedicated to ensuring our school is equipped to serve students for another century. We have worked hard to maintain the school building within our budget; however, critical facility challenges go far beyond what can be addressed through regular maintenance budgets. We have reached the point where additional investment is needed to ensure our aging building and outdated equipment do not impact the health and safety of students and staff.

OurSchoolOurFuture.org

oakes.k12.nd.us

701.742.3234

@OakesPublicSchool