



EASTPOINTE
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Background Information

August 8, 2023, Bond Proposal





When is the election?

The election will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Absentee ballots will be available after June 29, 2023, and can be cast through Election Day.

What is on the ballot?

A \$36.4 million no-tax-rate increase bond proposal that is designed to improve safety and security, update and renovate the Early Learning Center and Eastpoint Elementary Schools, playgrounds, and parking lots, and update mechanical, roofing, and athletic sites at Eastpointe Middle School and Eastpointe High School.

What Schools will be impacted by the bond proposal?

All Eastpointe Community Schools' buildings. Bellview Elementary, Crescentwood Elementary, Forest Park Elementary, Pleasantview Elementary, Eastpointe Early Learning Center, Eastpointe Middle School, Eastpointe High School.

The bond proposal will not increase the current tax rate.

How will the bond proposal not increase the current tax rate?

Eastpointe Community Schools will extend the current tax rate for the entirety of the bond, which will not require any tax rate increase to complete the projects.

When was the last bond proposal passed?

The last bond proposal approved by Eastpointe Community Schools' voters was in 2009, 14 years ago. The primary focus of the 2009 bond was at the secondary level and included projects such as replacing roofs, boilers, and parking lots.

What is a bond?

A bond is a state-approved funding process for an identified list of projects. When voters approve a bond proposal, the school district sells bonds in the authorized amount and uses the bond sale proceeds to pay for the bond proposal projects. Bonds are typically paid back in 20–30 years.

In many ways, the bonding process is like a homeowner refinancing their home and making payments over a period of years. The Eastpointe Community Schools' bond proposal length is 27 years.



What can Eastpointe Community Schools bond proposal revenue be used for?

A bond for Eastpointe Community Schools is a State-approved funding process for a set scope of projects.



Bonds can be used for:

- Remodeling existing school buildings
- Energy conservation improvements
- Site development and improvements
- Athletic and physical education facility development and improvements
- Playground development and improvements
- Direct bond program costs such as, election fees, issuance costs, qualification fees, insurance fees, and final audit costs
- Purchasing loose furnishings and equipment
- Technology purchases are limited to hardware and communication devices that transmit, receive or compute information for pupil instructional purposes only. The initial purchase of an operating system and customized application software is allowed if purchased with the initial hardware.



Bonds cannot be used for:

- Salaries, service contracts, lease payments, installment contracts, and supplies
- Repairs, maintenance, or maintenance agreements
- Purchasing automobiles, trucks, or vans
- Portable classrooms purchased for temporary use
- Uniforms
- Textbooks
- Upgrades to an existing computer operating system or application software
- Computer training, computer consulting, or computer maintenance contracts .

Can any of the bond proposal funds be used for employee salaries or operating expenses?

No. Bond proposal funds cannot be used for employee salaries. They also cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses. Bond proposal funds must be used only for purposes specified in the ballot language, and, as required by state law, they must be independently audited.



How were the bond proposal projects identified?

As part of the Eastpointe Community Schools' strategic plan, school administrators worked with architectural, engineering, and construction management specialists to identify short- and long-term facility needs. The needs were prioritized, and the bond proposal projects were finalized.

Who reviews bond proposal projects before they are placed on the ballot?

Bond proposal projects must be reviewed and approved by the Michigan Department of Treasury. In addition, all renovations and upgrades must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Did the Michigan Department of Treasury approve the ECS bond proposal?

Yes. The Michigan Department of Treasury reviewed and approved all bond proposal projects.

Will the bond provide for the installation of secure entrances?

Yes. Secure entrances will be constructed at the middle school and high school.

What Arts improvements are included with the bond?

The Culinary Arts space will be renovated with the 2023 bond. Eastpointe Community Schools has used operational dollars and ESSER funds to update the Arts since the last bond. The improvements have included new auditorium seats and curtains, purchasing and repairing band instruments, and purchasing professional development for all Art teachers in the district.

What athletic improvements are included with the bond?

Playgrounds will be improved at all elementary buildings, the track will be resurfaced for student and community use, the tennis courts will be removed, the football/soccer practice field will be improved, and the pool equipment will be replaced to bring the pool back online for student and community use. Resurface the track.

What is the projected enrollment for Eastpointe Community Schools?

Preschool and early elementary enrollment are projected to double in the next five years. Eastpointe Community Schools wants to make sure the school district's youngest learners have a space that will support their educational program.

A YES vote typically means that a voter supports a ballot proposal. Is that the case in this election?

Yes. Voters who support the Eastpointe Community Schools bond proposal should vote YES; voters who oppose the proposal should vote NO.

What will happen if voters do not approve the bond proposal?

The bond projects cannot be completed as proposed.



What will appear on the August 8th ballot?

Here is the exact ballot wording for the no tax-rate increase bond proposal:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

**EASTPOINTE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
COUNTY OF MACOMB
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

SCHOOL BUILDING AND SITE BOND PROPOSAL

Shall the Eastpointe Community Schools, County of Macomb, State of Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Thirty-Six Million Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$36,415,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, in one or more series, for the purpose of paying for the cost of the following projects:

- Remodeling school buildings for safety by constructing, equipping and re-equipping (including equipping and re-equipping for technology) school buildings with security and safety features such as secure vestibules at the Middle and High School properties, exterior lighting, gym sound systems, emergency communication systems and improved door locks.
- Improving sites for, and constructing thereon, parking lots, drives and drainage, including traffic flow renovations and pick-up and drop-off lanes.
- Preparing, developing and improving sites, including sites for school buildings and additions thereto.
- Preparing, developing and improving sites for the construction thereon, and construction and equipping thereon of playgrounds, playfields and athletic fields and renovating the High School track and facilities.
- Remodeling, constructing, equipping and re-equipping (including equipping and reequipping for technology) all school district buildings.

YES _____

NO _____

The maximum number of years any series of bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of refunding, is not more than thirty (30) years; the estimated millage that will be levied to pay the proposed bonds in the first year is 1.95 mills (which is equal to \$1.95 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a 0 mill net increase over the prior year's levy; and the estimated simple average annual millage that will be required to retire each series of bonds is 3.02 mills annually (\$3.02 per \$1,000 of taxable value).

The school district does not expect to borrow from the State School Bond Qualification and Loan Program to pay debt service on these bonds.

The total amount of qualified bonds currently outstanding is \$9,075,000. The total amount of qualified loans currently outstanding is \$0.00.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for teacher, administrator or employee salaries, repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses.)

If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Crescentwood Elementary School?



Year built: 1954

Project improvements: \$3.71 million

K-2nd

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace parking lot paving, sidewalks, and curbs
- Replace handicap crosswalk pads
- Replace bollards
- Improve directional signage

Learning environment improvements

- Replace the playground surface and playground equipment
- Upgrade playfields
- Upgrade the technology network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Refinish the wood gym floor
- Install water bottle fill stations
- Replace the gym sound system
- Replace select furniture and equipment

Facility improvements

- Upgrade mechanical systems to add air conditioning
- Replace select roofing
- Replace select exterior brick
- Replace select ceiling tiles
- Upgrade classroom restrooms
- Replace the hot water circulation pump
- Replace sinks and faucets
- Replace galvanized water piping and water heater
- Upgrade the electrical panel
- Extend Eastwood Avenue to the parking lot
- Add paving for the bus loop



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Forest Park Elementary School?



Year built: 1957

Project improvements: \$3.99 million

K-2nd

Safety and security improvements

- Replace the wood soffit above the classroom doors
- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace parking lot paving, sidewalks, and curbs
- Reconfigure the parking lot for circulation
- Replace paving at the play pad

Learning environment improvements

- Replace the playground surface and playground equipment
- Upgrade playfield
- Replace bleachers, benches, and fencing
- Upgrade the network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Replace the gym sound system
- Purchase select furniture and equipment

Facility improvements

- Upgrade the mechanical system to add air conditioning
- Replace select roofing
- Replace select exterior brick
- Address masonry issue in boy's restroom
- Update classroom restrooms
- Replace sinks and faucets
- Add water bottle fill stations
- Replace galvanized water piping and domestic water heater, and circulation pump
- Upgrade electrical panels
- Improve drainage around the building



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Bellview Elementary School?



Year built: 1960

Project improvements: \$3.61million
3rd-5th

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace parking lot paving, sidewalks, and curbs
- Replace play pad paving
- Replace crosswalk pads
- Add a bus lane along Phlox Avenue
- Expand the parking lot

Learning environment improvements

- Replace playground surface
- Upgrade the playground equipment
- Upgrade playfield
- Upgrade the network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Refinish the gym wood floor
- Replace display cases
- Replace the gym sound system
- Purchase select furniture and equipment

Facility improvements

- Upgrade the mechanical system to add air conditioning
- Replace select roofing
- Replace select exterior brick
- Replace ceiling tiles
- Replace sinks and faucets in restrooms
- Add a water bottle fill stations
- Replace galvanized water piping
- Replace plumbing fixtures
- Upgrade electrical panels



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Pleasantview Elementary School?



Year built: 1960

**Project improvements: \$5.1million
3rd-5th**

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace paving, sidewalks, and curbs
- Add concrete walk at egress doors
- Add a bus lane

Learning environment improvements

- Replace the playground surface
- Upgrade the playground equipment
- Upgrade playfield
- Upgrade network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Refinish the gym wood floor
- Replace the gym sound system
- Purchase select furniture and equipment

Facility improvements

- Upgrade the mechanical system to add air conditioning
- Replace select roofing
- Replace select exterior brick
- Update classroom restrooms
- Replace the domestic hot water heater and circulation pump
- Replace sinks and faucets
- Add a water bottle fill stations
- Replace galvanized water piping
- Replace plumbing fixtures
- Upgrade electrical panels



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Eastpointe Middle School?



Year built: 1965

Project improvements: \$2.95 million

6th-7th Grade

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade door locks
- Create a secure entry vestibule
- Add interior corridor doors for security
- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace select concrete walks
- Add visitor parking by secure entry location

Learning environment improvements

- Replace the gym sound system
- Upgrade network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Purchase select furniture and equipment
- Add a basketball court for physical education
- Add outdoor equipment for physical education

Facility improvements

- Replace select roofing
- Improve drainage around back of the building



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Eastpointe High School?



Year built: 1929

Project improvements: \$10 million

8th–12th Grade

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade door locks
- Create a secure entry vestibule
- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace paving

Learning environment improvements

- Renovate the Culinary Arts space
- Replace gym sound system
- Upgrade the network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Purchase select furniture and equipment
- Resurface the track
- Remove the tennis courts
- Improve the football/soccer practice field

Facility improvements

- Replace select roofing
- Renovate restrooms
- Replace the boiler system
- Replace the air conditioning chiller
- Upgrade the pool equipment and bring it back online
- Demo the west end portion of the school



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Early Learning Center?



Year built: 1953

Project improvements: \$6.28 million

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Replace paving and concrete
- Expand the east parking lot
- Add visitor/staff parking
- Add a bus lane
- Replace fencing

Learning environment improvements

- Replace playground surface
- Upgrade playground equipment
- Upgrade the playfield
- Upgrade the network infrastructure
- Replace student and staff computing devices
- Upgrade interior lighting
- Replace gym sound system
- Purchase select furniture and equipment

Facility improvements

- Upgrade the mechanical system to add air conditioning
- Replace select roofing
- Replace select exterior masonry
- Replace domestic water heater and circulation pump
- Replace sinks and faucets in classroom restrooms
- Upgrade sink piping
- Install water bottle fill stations
- Replace galvanized piping
- Upgrade electrical panel



If voters approve the bond proposal, what improvements will be completed at Eastpointe Transportation Center?



Year built: 1988

Project improvements: \$665 thousand

Safety and security improvements

- Upgrade door locks
- Upgrade exterior lighting
- Upgrade cameras
- Add an emergency communication system
- Add automatic gate closer

Technology improvements

- Upgrade the network infrastructure

Facility improvements

- Replace failing masonry wall section
- Replace doors and windows
- Replace water heater and plumbing fixtures
- Replace rooftop units





Information about voting...



Who can vote in the August 8 election?

Residents of Eastpointe Community Schools who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day and are registered to vote can vote in this election.



Where can I get information about voting (such as how to register, where to vote, and absentee voting)?

Go to the Michigan Voter Information website (www.michigan.gov/vote) or call your local Clerk's Office.

Do I need to update my voter registration?

You need to update your voter registration if you have changed your name or address since the last time you voted. You can do this at any Secretary of State Office or your local Clerk's Office.



Can I vote by absentee ballot?

Registered voters do not need a reason to vote by absentee ballot. You can request an absentee ballot application from your Clerk's Office or by going online to www.michigan.gov/vote and clicking on Absentee Voting in the left column. Applicants will receive their absentee ballot in the mail.

Absentee ballots will be available to voters after June 29 and can be cast through Election Day.



Where can I get more information about the bond proposal?

- Go to www.eastpointeschools.org and click on *School Bond Info*
- Call any Eastpointe Community Schools Principal
- Contact Superintendent of Schools Christina Gibson at christina.gibson@eastpointeschools.org



Where can I voice my opinions—pro or con—on the bond proposal?

Simply scan the QR code below or go to www.research.net/r/eastpointecommunityschools to complete a brief survey.

