

Press Release

For Immediate Release
October 19, 2023

Contact Information:

Ginger Smith, Executive Director of Marketing & Communications

Phone: 231.933.1795

Email: smithgi@tcaps.net

TCAPS Board of Education Holds Pre-Bond Planning Study Session

Process remains on-track for a 2024 vote on formal ballot language and election date

TRAVERSE CITY, MI - Today, the Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) Board of Education held a study session to review and discuss the most recent updates and information regarding the school district's pre-bond planning process.

Pre-bond planning began in March 2023 and included the collection of data and information from district-wide programming assessments, facility condition assessments and outreach surveys to students, staff, parents, and the community. Today's study session served as a follow-up to the Board of Education's retreat held on August 16, 2023.

At the August retreat, the Board of Education expressed interest in developing a plan that would maintain the district's current millage rate of 3.1 mills and focus on addressing Central Grade School, as well as projects identified as Priority 1 (necessary now) and Priority 2 (necessary within the next two years). The Board of Education also requested additional information to discuss at today's retreat.

While no formal decision was to be made at the study session, after reviewing the additional information, the Board of Education signaled that the effort was moving forward in the appropriate direction and key priority areas and projects would include a focus on:

- Central Grade School - Reconstruction/Renovation
- Aging Infrastructure - Priority 1 & 2
 - Roofing, boilers, septic systems, storm water drainage, hot water heaters
- Performance Management & Priority 3
 - Lighting, controls and switches, windows, restrooms, sidewalks, lockers, flooring
- Improvements identified from the programming assessments

"To ensure public involvement and awareness, our Board of Education discussed facility assessment data to gain a deep understanding of the current condition of the district's facilities. This includes the needs of all of our learners, educators, and the programs within the school district's buildings now and into the future, and what might be possible, or not possible, due to site restrictions and budget constraints, for a potential 2024 bond,"

said Scott Newman-Bale, President of the TCAPS Board of Education. Should the Board vote to move forward with a 2024 bond, the school district would prepare and share information about the proposal with parents, staff and the community prior to the election date.

Additional information can be found at: www.tcaps.net/bond.

TCAPS Board of Education meeting agendas, minutes and video recordings are available at: www.tcaps.net/board.

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