

Why a Referendum Now?

1. We have an aging, outdated, and inefficient high school.

- JHS was originally constructed in 1963, with additions in 1967 and 1977. Minor upgrades and renovations were completed as necessary to improve delivery of programs and to address routine maintenance issues. Many building systems such as heating, cooling, ventilation, electrical, and plumbing now exceed their normal life expectancy. The roofs are in need of replacement.
- The current design affects students and residents with special needs and creates significant Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) code compliance issues.
- Windows and classroom lighting are inefficient and inadequate by today's standards.

2. Our facility challenges affect our learning environment and safety.

- Antiquated science labs and inadequate special education and art areas do not meet students' needs.
- Our outdated electrical system and building design fails to provide the appropriate infrastructure for technology and computer labs.
- Security and safety are primary concerns, especially related to the main entrance lobby and general access to the building.
- It is increasingly difficult to meet our students' needs for appropriate gym space due to changes in the Physical Education curriculum, growth in the girls' sports program (due to Title IX federal legislation passed in 1972 after the high school was built), as well as increased community use.

3. Federal stimulus funds only available in 2010.

- Federal stimulus programs subsidize the borrowing costs and have the potential to lower the interest cost paid by taxpayers by approximately **\$7,600,000** over the life of the financing.
- Federal stimulus funds are only available for approved referendums in 2010.
- Current school borrowing rates are at the lowest level in 40+ years—dropping over 40% since October 2008.
- Competitive construction bidding environment has resulted in recent school referendum projects coming in under budget.



Many building systems have exceeded life expectancy



Overcrowding in cafeteria



Science classrooms are obsolete



Pool is beyond reasonable repair