

FAQ's



2016 WOOD COUNTY SCHOOLS BOND ELECTION

What happens if the bond does not pass?

Wood County Schools will continue to maintain the existing facilities to the best of our ability. Facilities, like your home, are not always predictable. Issues at school facilities will be prioritized for repair or replacement.

Will the bond projects be done in stages?

The intent is to begin the Planning and Design of the projects as soon as the Bond passes. Construction of the roofing projects will be completed from a prioritized list beginning with the most critical need. The roofing projects will begin in the Spring of 2017. The larger school projects will require a longer planning and design timeframe. These projects will begin later in 2017. All communities will be involved in the planning of the new and renovated facilities.

What will happen to the old buildings?

Efforts will be made to work with city and community leaders to retain certain facilities for their use, while others will likely be demolished.

What will my child receive?

Your child has the potential of attending a modern, safe facility. His/her learning environment will be as good as or better than those of neighboring counties.

What will it cost me?

Costs will vary dependent upon the amount of personal property and real estate an individual owns. For example, an individual that owns a house appraised at \$100,000, taxed at 60% of market value, will pay \$52.56 per year, \$4.38 per month; .15 cents per day. Individuals subject to the homestead exemption would pay \$35.04 per year; \$2.92 per month; and .10 cents per day.

Will the interest rate fluctuate on the payback of the bond?

Once the bonds are sold, the interest rate will not change. A bond consultant agency will sell our bonds at the lowest market rate available so as to benefit the tax payer

How long will the bond last and what are the terms of the bond?

The proposed bond is for 15.5 years at a maximum interest rate of 5.0%. The total amount presented on the face of the bond is \$41,140,000.

What is the difference between a levy and a bond?

A levy can be for no longer than 5 years and is to provide funds for the general school system operation. *(Example: maintenance, textbooks, fieldtrips, copy machines, etc. are reasonable levy expenditures.)*

A bond can extend for several years and is designed to build, renovate, or fund larger facility complex projects. *(Example: The proposed bond is 15.5 years and funds multiple large projects.)*

OUR INVESTMENTS

Will the current administration see this project to completion?

The current administration represents the State and the State intends to assure that the tax payers of the county obtain the complete project work as set forth in the bond call.

Will the new buildings be designed appropriately for Wood County weather conditions?

The preliminary design work has taken into consideration the weather conditions in our school system. The funds aligned for school projects allow for pitched roofs and other weather related factors. It is a goal to incorporate renewable energy sources in our facilities.

Will the passage of the bond eliminate the need for school fund raising?

The bond will provide funds for new and renovated facilities. Also, other large scale building projects are to be addressed. However, the levy should continue to help the school system operate.

How will we know if the money is going where it is intended?

The bond call is a legal and binding document. Anyone who misappropriates funds is subject to criminal prosecution and dismissal from their position.

What will it mean for the community?

The bond offers funds to be used to benefit project work in every school community.

- 1. A New Elementary School** that would combine the student populations of the current Waverly and Williamstown Elementary Schools. The projected cost is \$17,941,600. The school system is currently seeking funding from the West Virginia School Building Authority to offset the amount by approximately half. The new school would be home to approximately 605 students in grades PK through 5 and would be located in the vicinity of Williamstown.
- 2. Renovations** at Williamstown High School to allow the incorporation of the 6th grade students of both Waverly and Williamstown Elementary Schools. The renovations will include four additional classrooms and an auditorium. This will create a new Williamstown Middle School and align the grade levels throughout Wood County to PK through 5, 6 through 8 and 9 through 12.
- 3. Renovations and Additions** to the Wood County Technical Center. The Wood County Technical Center is located on the campus of Parkersburg South High School. The expansion of the Technical Center will allow for additional students to enroll in programs, provide a multi-purpose room that will be utilized by the child care program participants, a security link between Parkersburg South and the Technical Center and expansion of Therapeutic Services program. Additional classroom space will be added to move the Culinary Arts and Broadcasting programs out of Parkersburg South and into the Technical Center. The expansion will close the existing Adult Learning Center at the former Lincoln Elementary and provide Adult programs at the Technical Center.
- 4. Roof Replacement.** Wood County Schools has worked diligently to replace as many roof structures as possible in recent years. Some schools will only require partial completion while others will require complete replacement.

Any Wood County School not listed has already had the roof addressed in the recent past. Roof replacement would be at the following facilities:

Blennerhassett Elementary
Blennerhassett Middle
Criss Elementary
Edison Middle
Emerson Elementary
Fairplains Elementary
Franklin Elementary
Greenmont Elementary
Hamilton Middle
Jefferson Elementary
Kanawha Elementary
Maplewood School
McKinley Elementary
Mineral Wells Elementary
Neale Elementary
Parkersburg High
Parkersburg South High
VanDevender Middle
Vienna Elementary
Worthington Elementary
Administration Building
Edgelawn Maintenance Facility
Lincoln Warehouse Facility
Transportation Garage