



BRECKENRIDGE PRIDE

Investing in our Future
2021 Referendum

Breckenridge Public Schools 2021 Referendum Fast Facts Vote November 2, 2021



We have a lot to be proud of!

Students are learning! Our school district is in good financial standing, enrollment is steady, and our operating expenses, revenue, and fund balance are stable. We have excellent community support for our schools and our students with 66% of district residents rating the district between 7 and 10 on a scale of 1 to 10.

Our current situation includes the expiration of our operating levy and significant facility challenges due to their age. To address these issues, the school board voted unanimously to hold a three-question referendum on November 2, 2021.

The Situation

Operating Levy Expires Soon

Voters approved an operating levy increase in 2013 that aimed to fund programming, technology initiatives, and was used to address some of the most critical issues in our buildings. The operating levy is scheduled to expire in 2023. Our current all-grade level technology program has no sustainable funding and cuts may be necessary to keep our budget in good standing. If our operating levy expires, our revenue will be reduced and we may have to reduce staff or educational programs to keep up with technology needs, or do without.

Building Deficiencies

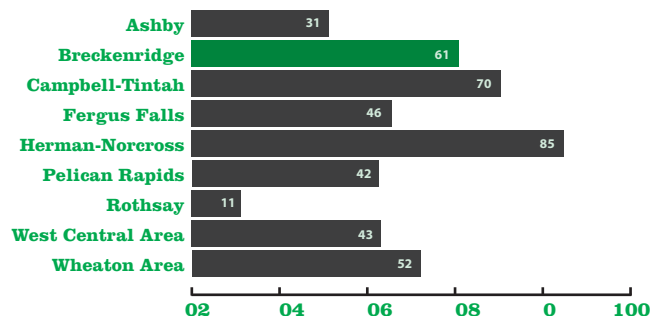
Our school buildings have served our district well for decades, but they simply do not meet our needs for providing a 21st century education. Many building systems are beyond their useful life.

- Heating and air systems (HVAC) at end of service life
- Electrical and plumbing systems aging and inefficient
- Windows are inefficient for heating and cooling
- Brick and mortar deteriorated on exterior
- Interior finishes worn include doors, flooring, tiling, and cabinetry

Building Age Comparison

Did you know?

We have the third oldest buildings (average of 61 years) of all our neighboring districts.



What is the Plan?

Question One - Operating Levy

Proposes to renew and increase our current operating levy. The levy would provide a sustainable funding source for technology and technology infrastructure, as well as help maintain low class sizes and continue to provide excellent educational opportunities.

Question Two - New Single-Site PreK-12 Building

Proposes the construction of a new PreK-12 building. A single-site campus would allow the district to have a consolidated presence that offers operational savings. The district has selected a new site north of town for construction.

Question Three - Multi-Purpose Arena/Seasonal Ice Rink

Proposes a multi-purpose single sheet ice arena to be connected to the new PreK-12 facility. The multi-purpose arena would be used for physical education classes across all grade levels as well as for the girls and boys high school hockey teams. When not in use by the district, open ice time will be made available to local hockey associations and for community use.

Frequently Asked Questions

What was the process?

- 2014-2016 – Facility study and completion of highest priority facility issues
- 2019-2020 – Update facility study, work with faculty, staff, students, community members, and experts to determine facility options
- 2021 – Community meetings, community task force, opinion survey

What will it cost me?

If all three questions are approved, it will cost about \$1.32 per day for an average home value in the district of \$125,000. That's a monthly increase of \$40.09, or annual property tax increase of \$481.13.

An acre of homestead farmland valued at \$5,000 would see an increase of \$4.42 in 2022, which would drop to \$3.31 in 2023. Non-homestead would be \$8.84 and \$6.63.

Does farm property receive some tax relief?

Yes. In 2017, the Minnesota Legislature approved a 40 percent tax credit for farm land school bond taxes. In 2019, the legislature approved higher tax credits to be phased in over time:

- 60 percent in 2022
- 70 percent in 2023

SURVEY SAYS

70%

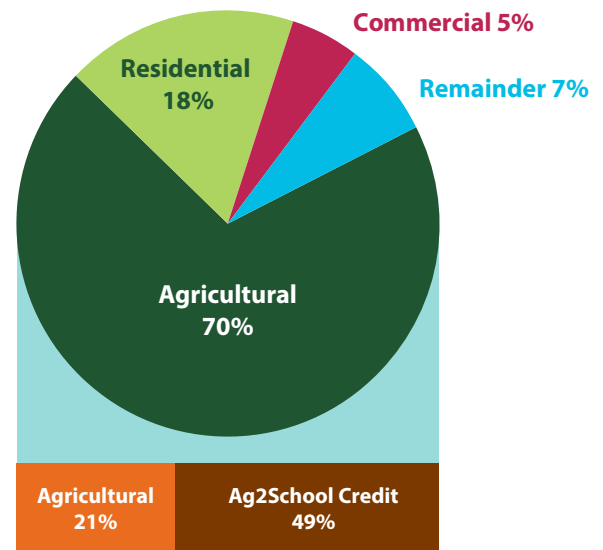
of residents agree that the district should explore a bond referendum to update schools.

What will it cost me?

For an average district home value of **\$125,000**, it will cost about **\$40.09** per month.

Who would pay for the bond referendum?

Ag property would ultimately pay 21% of the bond levy in 2023 with 49% of the total project being paid by state aid.



Join us for a Community Referendum Meeting

Thu., Oct. 7, 6pm - Breckenridge Middle/High School
Wed., Oct. 13, 6pm - Video Conference (See website for details)
Thu., Oct. 28, 6pm - Breckenridge Elementary

Get More Information

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