

14th Annual GPFPE Gala this Spring

Save the date!



GPFPE Annual Spring Gala
"Be the Beacon"
Saturday, April 18, 2020 | Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education (GPFPE) will hold its 14th annual Spring Gala “Be the Beacon” on April 18, 2020. The evening will be filled with fun, fine food and fundraising, and brings together community members from all over the district to support our public schools.

The GPFPE is pleased to announce JT Mestdagh as the Honorary Chair for this year’s Gala. Inspired by the impact the Tattum F.A.S.T. reading program had on his own reading skills, JT and his family led the effort to bring it to the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The integrated reading program has positively impacted over 4,000 students in the district and continues to empower students to read with confidence each day in our schools.

Gala proceeds allow the GPFPE to fund grant requests as well as support the elementary school *Leader in Me* program.

Culture, curriculum, construction - from page 1

tion services. Final classroom placements will be determined by enrollment data and IEPs (Individual Education Plans) happening now with parents. Regular updates are being made at our televised board meetings which can be seen online.

Culture

In everything we do, we want students, staff and families to feel safe and welcome in our schools. Work

GPFPE awards 2019 fall grants

The GPFPE awarded 15 grants totaling \$40,721 at the December 9, 2019 Board of Education meeting. The grants were submitted by teachers, administrators, students and parents across the district.



Two of the grants are literacy programs, and funded through the Lois J. Warden Fund, established in her memory and designated specifically for elementary programs within the school system. The GPFPE thanks the generous donors who make grant funding possible. To learn more or make a donation, visit gpfpe.org or call 313-432-3058.

continues with Restorative Practices, Safe Routes to School, anti-vaping, Positive Behavior Support and our Diversity Committee. The *Leader in Me* character education program is an integral part of our learning environment. And we are modeling civil discourse in our reconfiguration work. If you have ideas or questions, call me, and know my door is always open.

— Superintendent Gary C. Niehaus

Partners in Learning, page 8

Project Find and Child Find

If your child age birth to six years is experiencing developmental delays, “Don’t worry, but don’t wait.” Contact Stefanie Hayes, Director of Student Services at 313/432-3856. Or, if you suspect your school-age child has a disability affecting his or her academic performance, notify your child’s teacher, counselor, or principal or call 313/432-3856.

Distinguished Employees

Help us thank this year’s GPPSS Distinguished Employees for their dedication to the students and our community schools: Rebecca Fannon, Alexis Lecznar, Anne Marie MacGillis, Sherry Martin, Jenny Sherman, Beth Walsh-Sahutske, and Stephen Zaraneck.

GPPSS welcomes CFO

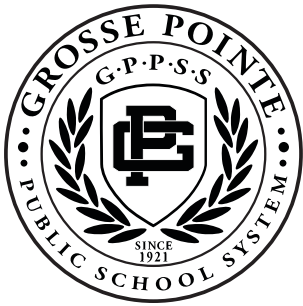
April 6, GPPSS will welcome Amanda Matheson as the new Deputy Superintendent of Business and Operations. She comes to us from Ann Arbor Public Schools where she was Chief Financial Officer.

GPPSS job postings

GPPSS is seeking qualified applicants for preschool, childcare, and buildings and grounds positions, as well as substitutes. If interested, visit gpschools.org - Employment.

Peachjar flyers

As part of our Green School initiative, GPPSS has moved to online ADA compliant flyer distribution through Peachjar. Click on the Peachjar icon on our website, and follow their directions to set your preferences. You can choose which schools to receive flyers from, and they will be delivered to your email inbox. Nonprofit groups can economically upload their own flyers and set distribution timelines also.



Partners in Learning

Our Mission: Promote Innovation → Maximize Potential → Embrace Community
Spring 2020

Inside This Issue:

Board Bulletin.....	p. 2
Bond Projects Dashboard.....	p. 3-6
Fine & Performing Arts Calendar.....	p. 7
GPFPE Gala & Grants	p. 8

Summer Programs

GPPSS offers programs for children of all ages this summer. These include Safety Town, Camp O’Fun, Musical Theatre Workshop, Camp Invention, Summer Music Festival, Summer Choir, K-8 Summer Learning, and High School Summer Learning with St. Clair Shores. Visit gpschools.org for details.

Family Center partnership

GPPSS continues to partner with The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods to provide programming and advocacy including the April *Light it Up Blue* campaign for Autism awareness that kicks off with a tree lighting April 2nd in The Village. Visit familycenterweb.org or call 313/447-1374 for details.

GPPSS annual survey open

Please participate in the online GPPSS customer satisfaction survey.

Census - Everyone Counts!

GPPSS is partnering with the GP Chamber of Commerce to educate our community about the importance of being counted. To learn more, visit www.becountedmi2020.com.

Calendar Highlights

- April 6-10- Spring Break
- May 1- deadline for Kindergarten registration to guarantee your neighborhood school
- June 3- North Graduation
- June 4- South Graduation
- June 12- Last Day of School



Culture, curriculum and construction

The past few years have been a time of tremendous change, and change can be difficult. But it can also be exciting if we maintain a steadfast focus on our *Why*. Why does our community support bonds, sinking funds, and hold harmless millages? Because we value public education. Why have all our staff sacrificed and served to move the district forward—not only on curriculum and planning committees, but day in and day out in our schools? Because we value public education and what it offers all our children. Have the changes been difficult? Yes, because we love our schools and they have served us well for generations. However, we cannot rest on our laurels. We must continue to move forward. And great progress has been made in Construction, Curriculum and Culture to keep resources focused on students.

Construction

The insert in this newsletter shows how our community will keep stu-

dents safe, warm, dry and connected. We are excited to share projects are coming in on time and under budget through careful oversight.

Curriculum

What the bond insert doesn’t tell you, is that as all the discussions on reconfiguration have moved us forward, we have held constant in what matters to us all – the highest quality teaching and learning.

Through reconfiguration we are improving language instruction and adding time for social and emotional, organizational and STEM instruction at the middle school level, while easing the transition for students. We have adjusted the multi-age program, expanded early childhood options, reduced testing, focused elementary instruction on literacy and numeracy, and carefully considered optimal placement of the same number of classrooms to deliver special educa-

— continued on page 8

BOARD BULLETIN

Every January, the GPPSS Board of Education holds elections for its officers. I am pleased to announce our officers for 2020: Vice President Kathleen Abke, Secretary Christopher Profeta, and Treasurer Judy Gafa. I am honored my colleagues have chosen me to serve as President.

One of our first responsibilities this year was to appoint a new board member to fill the vacancy when President Brian Summerfield resigned. We thank Mr. Summerfield for his steady leadership and dedication to our schools and community. And we were excited by the number of highly qualified candidates who offered to serve in this important role. Together we chose Joseph Herd.

Our board believes the quality of our public schools is intrinsically tied to the health of our community, and we are prepared to tackle the challenges the district faces and celebrate its many great accomplishments. I would be remiss if I didn't point out the amazing teaching and learning that has continued throughout the last year of reconfiguration. Students are coming to school each day ready to be challenged. Test scores remain high and steady. Professional development has continued, even as teachers and support staff serve on committees with our community members to strengthen and enhance curriculum and programs. Our focus remains on what is right for kids.

The Board's role in this process targets these key areas: hiring and evaluating our superintendent, establishing and maintaining a balanced budget, and setting policy that furthers the district's vision and goals.

Over the coming year, you will continue to see transparency in our



Left to right: new board appointee Joseph Herd, Dr. Christopher Lee, Cindy Pangborn, Kathleen Abke, Margaret Weertz, Dr. Gary Niehaus, Christopher Profeta, Judy Gafa, Dr. Jon Dean

budget development process, from establishing parameters as we did January 27th, to approving a balanced budget as we do each June. These are the budget parameters the board provided the administration:

1. Providing resources to achieve the action points identified in the District's strategic plan;
2. Not participate in School of Choice
3. With a greater focus on K-4, administration should seek to adjust elementary class sizes without increasing current class size caps
4. Offer expanded programming and options for grades 5-8
5. Expand early childhood program to the south end of the district
6. Maintain fund equity at 12% or above

Regarding bond planning and oversight, there is a concise yet comprehensive update on activities inserted as a pull-out in this newsletter. I encourage you to read it, share it with friends, and email us with any questions at schoolboard@gpschools.org.

I have every confidence our community will come together to ensure every student has the learning environment

they need to be successful today and in the future.

- Margaret Weertz, President
Grosse Pointe Board of Education

Board Meetings

These open meetings start at 7 p.m., and are held in the Brownell Middle School Multipurpose Room, 260 Chalfonte, unless noted. Dates are:

- March 9, 23
- April 13, 27
- May 11, 18*
- June 8 (location TBD), 22
- July 13, 27
- August 10, 24
- September 14, 28
- October 12, 26
- November 9, 23
- December 14

* off pattern to avoid holiday

2020 Board of Education

President Margaret Weertz
Vice President Kathleen Abke
Secretary Christopher Profeta
Treasurer Judy Gafa
Trustee Joseph Herd
Trustee Dr. Christopher Lee
Trustee Cindy Pangborn



The Seventh Grade Choir from Pierce was one of only two middle school choirs and six high school choirs featured at the Michigan Music Conference (MMC) in Grand Rapids January 17, 2020. The MMC is held annually and draws nearly 2,000 teachers and 10,000 attendees as participants from Michigan choral, band, and orchestral associations.

Gold Card calendar demonstrates commitment to the arts

Free admission to various athletic functions and dramatic and musical productions is our way of thanking local senior citizens for the support they have provided the school system. If you are 60 years of age or older, a resident of the district, and wish to obtain a Gold Card, please call 313/432-3003. Fall events will be published in our next district newsletter. Copies of the calendar are available at the Board Office, 389 St. Clair, Grosse Pointe, as well as at the public libraries and The Helm. Events are subject to change; please check our website for the latest information.

Date	Time	Event	Location
3/6	7:00 PM	North Drama "Theatre for the Young"	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
3/7	2:00 PM	North Drama "Theatre for the Young"	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
3/9	7:00 PM	Pierce Vocal Pre-Festival Concert	Pierce Auditorium, 15430 Kercheval
3/25	7:00 PM	North Vocal Great Works Concert	Assumption Church, 21800 Marter
3/25-28	Vary	South Art Show - Awards Night Friday 7 p.m. Wednesday-Friday 8 a.m.-3:30, 5-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	South MPR, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd.
4/1	7:00 PM	Brownell Vocal Charity Concert	Brownell MPR, 260 Chalfonte
4/23-25	7:00 PM	South Spring Musical "Crazy for You"	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
5/6	7:00 PM	Pierce Spring Instrumental Concert	Pierce Auditorium, 15430 Kercheval
5/7-8	7:00 PM	Parcells Musical "Moana, Jr."	Parcells Auditorium, 20600 Mack
5/12	7:00 PM	Brownell Spring Vocal Concert	Brownell MPR, 260 Chalfonte
5/13	6:00 PM	Middle School Honors Band Concert	Brownell MPR, 260 Chalfonte
5/13	7:30 PM	Middle School Honors Orchestra Concert	Brownell MPR, 260 Chalfonte
5/14	7:00 PM	Brownell Spring Instrumental Concert	Brownell MPR, 260 Chalfonte
5/14, 15, 18, 19	Vary	North Art Show - 5/14 5-9 p.m., 5/15, 5/18, 5/19 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
5/14&15	7:00 PM	North Vocal Spring Concert	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
5/21	7:00 PM	South Instrumental Spring Concert	Brownell MPR, 260 Chalfonte
5/21	7:00 PM	North Drama One Acts	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
5/29&30	7:00 PM	South Choirs "Broadway" Concert	Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier
6/3	7:00 PM	Pierce Spring Vocal Concert	Pierce Auditorium, 15430 Kercheval
6/4	7:00 PM	Parcells Spring Vocal Concert	Parcells Auditorium, 20600 Mack
6/8	7:00 PM	Parcells Instrumental Concert/Ice Cream Social	Parcells Auditorium, 20600 Mack
6/9	7:00 PM	South Tri-M Concert	South Auditorium, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd.

Elementary concerts are posted on the district website www.gpschools.org - click Calendar - Performing Arts.



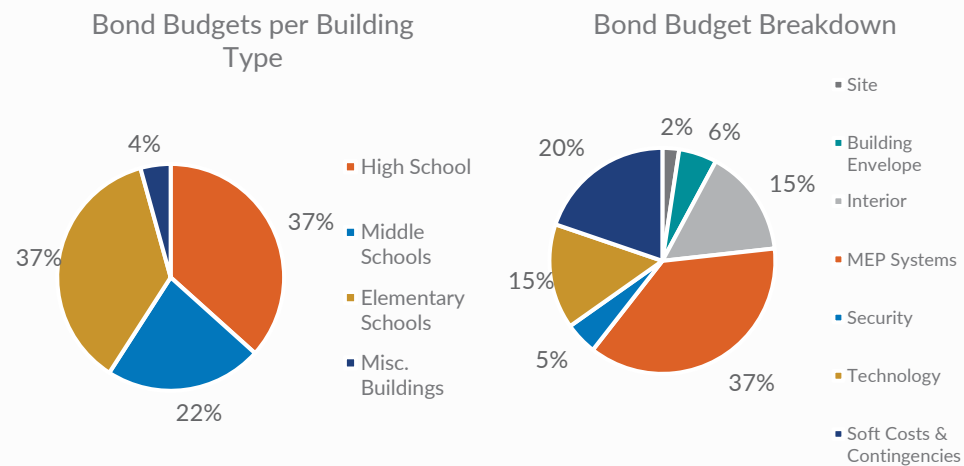
Grosse Pointe Public School System Bond Program | February 2020 Dashboard Report

2018 Bond Program Overview

\$111,040,000 Voter-Approved Bond (November 6, 2018)

Why now?

- Strong economy with favorable interest rates
- Facilities have an average age of 78 years
- Safety and security enhancements
- Addresses facilities critical needs: roofs, mechanical systems and finishes
- Technology infrastructure and instructional technology for classrooms
- Reduction of energy costs through upgrades
- Increases community school building longevity



Notable Bond Project Items

- Development of District-wide standards for materials and mechanical systems
- Evaluate and define project scope for each building based on bond team input
- Periodic Bond Oversight Committee Meetings
- Monthly Board of Education Facilities Meeting Updates
- Manage design to the budget and commit to schedules
- Managed 2019 construction projects to the budget and schedule
- 85% expenditure for Bond Series 1 within 3 years
- Decreased bid coverage due to labor shortage
- Tariff increase impact on materials
- High construction cost index
- State plan review and approval timeline
- Local first responder document review for Ferry, Monteith, Parcels and GP South

Proposed Bond Program Phasing

2019 Projects:

- South High School Track Replacement
- South High School Secured Vestibule
- Parcels MS Pool Equipment Replacement

2020 Projects:

- South High School Phase I
- Parcels Middle School
- Defer Elementary School
- Ferry Elementary School
- Monteith Elementary School

2021 Projects:

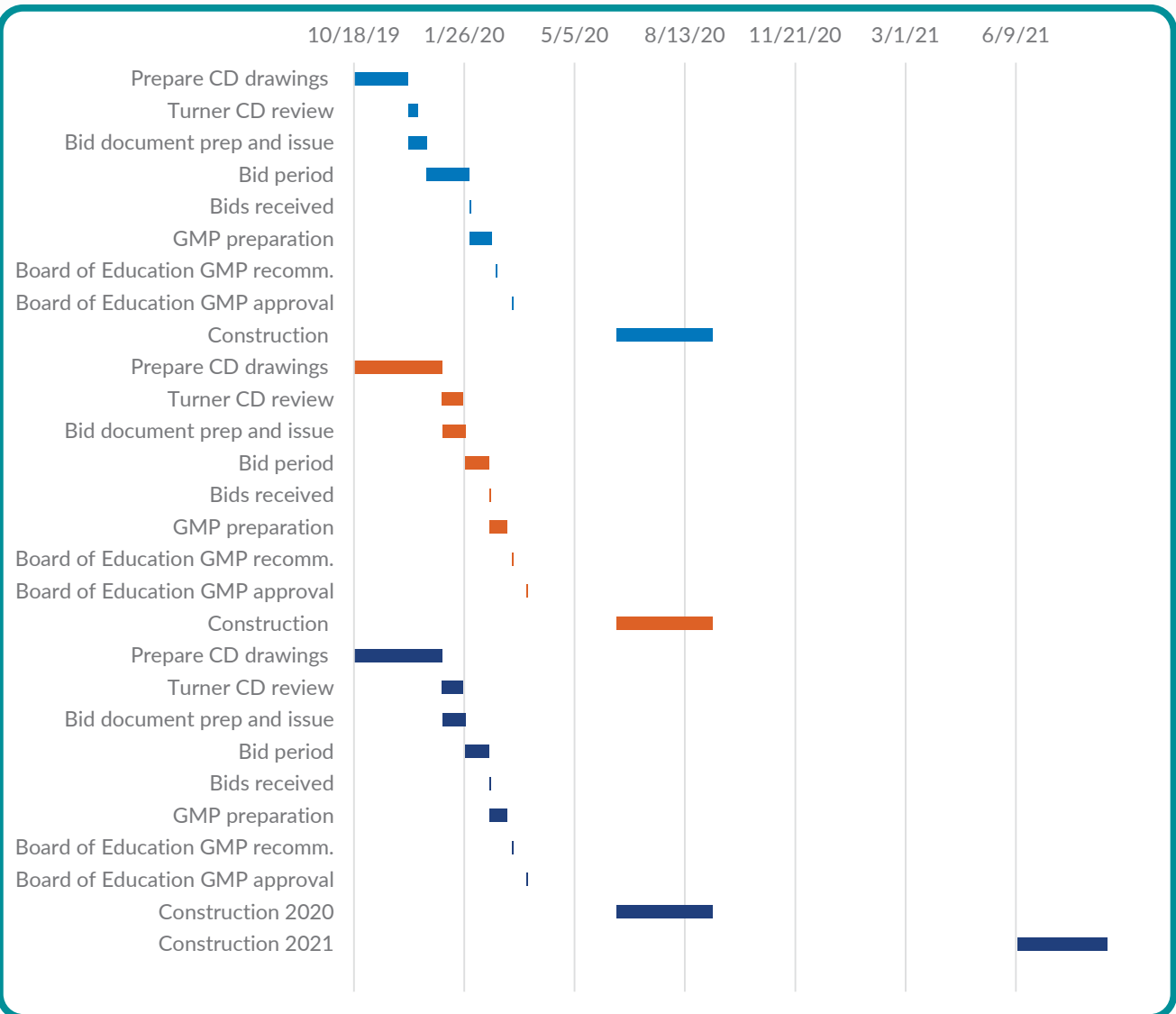
- South High School Phase 2
- North High School Phase 1
- Brownell Middle School
- Richard Elementary School
- Maire Elementary School

2022 Projects:

- North High School Phase 2
- Pierce Middle School
- Kerby Elementary School
- Mason Elementary School
- Barnes Pre-K

Project Summary – February 5, 2020

	Tasks	Duration (days)	Start Date	End Date
DEER ES & FERRY ES	Prepare CD drawings	49	10/18/2019	12/6/2019
	Turner CD review	9	12/6/2019	12/15/2019
	Bid document prep and issue	17	12/6/2019	12/23/2019
	Bid period	39	12/23/2019	1/31/2020
	Bids received	1	1/31/2020	1/31/2020
	GMP preparation	20	1/31/2020	2/20/2020
	Board of Education GMP recomm.	1	2/24/2020	2/24/2020
	Board of Education GMP approval	1	3/9/2020	3/9/2020
	Construction	87	6/12/2020	9/7/2020
MONTEITH ES, PARCELLS MS	Prepare CD drawings	80	10/18/2019	1/6/2020
	Turner CD review	19	1/6/2020	1/25/2020
	Bid document prep and issue	21	1/6/2020	1/27/2020
	Bid period	22	1/27/2020	2/18/2020
	Bids received	1	2/14/2020	2/14/2020
	GMP preparation	21	2/14/2020	3/5/2020
	Board of Education GMP recomm.	1	3/9/2020	3/9/2020
	Board of Education GMP approval	1	3/23/2020	3/23/2020
	Construction	87	6/12/2020	9/7/2020
GP SOUTH HS	Prepare CD drawings	80	10/18/2019	1/6/2020
	Turner CD review	19	1/6/2020	1/25/2020
	Bid document prep and issue	21	1/6/2020	1/27/2020
	Bid period	22	1/27/2020	2/18/2020
	Bids received	1	2/14/2020	2/14/2020
	GMP preparation	21	2/14/2020	3/5/2020
	Board of Education GMP recomm.	1	3/9/2020	3/9/2020
	Board of Education GMP approval	1	3/23/2020	3/23/2020
	Construction 2020	87	6/12/2020	9/7/2020
	Construction 2021	81	6/11/2021	8/31/2021



SD = Schematic Design
DD = Design Development
CD = Construction Document
CM = Construction Manager

GMP = Guaranteed Maximum Price
MEP = Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing



Grosse Pointe Public School System Bond Program | February 2020 Dashboard Report

Value-Add Items

- GP South Secured Vestibule project opened on time and under budget. Additional savings to be approximately \$30,000.
- Mother’s Club contributed to GP South Secured Vestibule project.
- Parcels Pool Project was opened on time and under budget. Additional savings to be approximately \$40,000.
- Issued Move Management RFP. Negotiated Move Management contract. 2020 Projects are currently \$72,000 under budget.
- Issued Roofing RFP for (5) buildings. Currently \$371,000 under budget. Work scope includes entire roof replacement at Defer ES.
- District obtained 30 year roofs instead of 20 year for only a 3% cost increase.
- Shared cost for Parcels parking lot expansion with Grosse Pointe Library.
- Updated District wide roof condition reports provided by Spalding DeDecker including short and long term replacement plan.
- Completed first quarter 2020 bond accounting meeting and cash flow updates.
- Under budget bid totals for first (2) 2020 building projects.

Photos – GP South Secured Vestibule & Parcels Pool Projects



Current and Future Activities

FEBRUARY 2020 Activities:

- Defer and Ferry Elementary School bids (1-31-20)
- Monteith, Parcels and GP South School bids (2-14-20)
- Defer and Ferry Elementary School GMP recommendation to be presented to the Board of Education
- Move Manager recommendation for 2020 projects to be presented to the Board of Education
- Roofing Contractor recommendation for 2020 projects to be presented to the Board of Education
- IT Cabling/AV Equipment vendor recommendation to be presented to the Board of Education
- IT Wireless vendor recommendation to be presented to the Board of Education
- Abatement contractor solicitation and procurement
- Construction documents submitted to the State for permits

MARCH 2020 Activities:

- Defer and Ferry Elementary School GMP to receive Board of Education approval
- IT Cabling/AV Equipment recommendation to receive Board of Education approval
- IT Wireless vendor recommendation to receive Board of Education approval
- Monteith, Parcels, GP South GMP recommendation to be presented to the Board of Education
- Project material expediting for 2020 projects
- Mobilization planning
- Move management information sessions with each school being renovated in 2020

APRIL 2020 Activities:

- Monteith, Parcels, GP South GMP recommendation to receive Board of Education approval
- IT P/A & Clocks vendor recommendation to Board of Education
- IT Security Cameras and Door Access vendor recommendation to the Board of Education
- Early start abatement work at select 2020 projects during spring break
- Planning and Programming for 2021 Projects begins

Bond Issuance

First Issuance

School	Current Budget
North High School Phase 1	\$8,606,767
North High School Phase 1 Technology	\$1,546,220
South High School Phase 1	\$8,953,778
South High School Phase 1 Technology	\$1,022,580
South High School Phase 2	\$9,174,642
South High School Phase 2 Technology	\$1,022,580
South High School - Track Improvements	\$220,864
Parcels Middle School	\$6,785,745
Parcels Middle School Technology	\$1,023,152
Parcels Middle School - Pool Equipment	\$500,000
(1) Middle School (TBD)	\$5,445,800
(1) Middle School Technology (TBD)	\$1,900,000
Defer Elementary School	\$3,770,166
Defer Elementary School Technology	\$865,696
Ferry Elementary School	\$4,007,750
Ferry Elementary School Technology	\$833,248
Monteith Elementary	\$4,621,647
Monteith Elementary Technology	\$759,616
(3) Elementary Schools (TBD)	\$12,000,000
(3) Elementary Schools Technology (TBD)	\$2,250,000
Total First Issuance	\$75,310,251

Second Issuance

School	Current Budget
North High School Phase 2	\$8,606,767
North High School Phase 2 - Technology	\$1,546,220
(1) Middle School (TBD)	\$4,655,753
(1) Middle School Technology (TBD)	\$1,900,000
(1-3) Elementary Schools (TBD)	\$12,000,000
(1-3) Elementary Schools Technology (TBD)	\$2,250,000
Barnes Pre-K	\$2,881,681
Barnes Pre-K Technology	\$728,416
Administration Building (Potential Sale)	\$552,096
Administration Building Technology (Potential Sale)	\$608,816
Total Second Issuance	\$35,120,933

Total Bond Amount	\$111,040,000
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