

Conrad D. Farner, Superintendent Jeff Gross, Director of Business Services Adam Kurth, AHS Principal



- Safety for Students & Staff is the priority.
- Time and failed referenda have put our facilities at a tipping point (1955, 1969, 1999).
- Wisconsin's school funding system requires referenda to address significant capital & operating needs.



- Better learning opportunities & outcomes.
- Taxpayers deserve the most efficient use of tax dollars.







Deteriorating
Pavement is
evident in
every parking
lot.





Deteriorating ceilings are evident in gyms.

The "mushroom" photo









## **Aging Facilities**

Deteriorating
Physical
Education
Support Spaces





# **Deteriorating Pool**





## **Aging & Failing Systems**





# By the way...

- Football Stadium
- Scoreboard
- Hockey Rink
- 2 Locker Rooms

None of these were at taxpayer expense. None of these impact safety or learning.



## **Challenges with a 2-Building Campus**

- Safety and Security
  - travel between campuses
  - multiple access points unmonitored
- Communication
  - emergency situations
  - collaborative work
- Incredible inefficiencies in staff and equipment
  - two main offices, two cafeterias, two libraries
  - duplicate equipment/spaces (tech ed, music, art)
  - estimated \$1 million in annual redundancies



### **Challenges with a 2-Building Campus**

- Scheduling/Learning
  - 8 minute passing times
  - students/staff traveling between buildings
- Behavior Modeling
  - upperclassmen should be seen modeling appropriate social and academic behavior
- Inconsistency
  - disjointed connections
  - relationships with counselors & staff over 2 years

WI School Funding Requires Referenda.





- In 1993, WI's Legislature instituted a <u>limit</u> on the <u>revenue</u> (<u>state aid</u> + <u>property tax</u>) a school district is provided each year (The Revenue Limit).
- The initial limit was arbitrarily set at the amount each school district spent (per student) in 1992-93; it therefore varies widely across the state.
- The Revenue Limit was conveyed as a temporary property tax "fix," and became permanent 2 years later.
- For 30+ years, the amount of funding public school districts are provided is limited/capped by this law.

#### **MAXIMUM REVENUE LIMIT COMPARISON**

Waukesha County School Districts (2023-24)

	Max. Revenue	Max. Revenue per		
	per Student	Student times(x) 2,000	ANNUAL	Five-year
District	per year	(Arrowhead) Students	Difference	Difference
<b>Kettle Moraine</b>	\$12,708	\$25,416,000	\$3,416,000	\$17,080,000
Elmbrook	\$12,532	\$25,064,000	\$3,064,000	\$15,320,000
New Berlin	\$11,984	\$23,968,000	\$1,968,000	\$9,840,000
Menomonee Falls	\$11,756	\$23,512,000	\$1,512,000	\$7,560,000
Hamilton	\$11,410	\$22,820,000	\$820,000	\$4,100,000
Pewaukee	\$11,130	\$22,260,000	\$260,000	\$1,300,000
Oconomowoc	\$11,037	\$22,074,000	\$74,000	\$370,000
Muskego	\$11,000	\$22,000,000	\$0	\$0
Waukesha	\$11,000	\$22,000,000	\$0	\$0
Mukwonago	\$11,000	\$22,000,000	\$0	\$0
Arrowhead UHS	\$11,000	\$22,000,000	\$0	\$0

Data source: WI Department of Instruction

#### **MAXIMUM REVENUE LIMIT COMPARISON**

Wisconsin Union High School (UHS) Districts (2023-24)

	Max. Revenue per Student	Max. Revenue per Student times(x) 2,000	ANNUAL	Five-year
District	per year	(Arrowhead) Students	Difference	Difference
Nicolet	\$16,162	\$32,324,000	\$10,324,000	\$51,620,000
Lakeland	\$15,260	\$30,520,000	\$8,520,000	\$42,600,000
Lake Geneva	\$13,781	\$27,562,000	\$5,562,000	\$27,810,000
Bigfoot	\$13,583	\$27,166,000	\$5,166,000	\$25,830,000
Waterford	\$13,554	\$27,108,000	\$5,108,000	\$25,540,000
Wilmot	\$12,594	\$25,188,000	\$3,188,000	\$15,940,000
<b>Union Grove</b>	\$12,157	\$24,314,000	\$2,314,000	\$11,570,000
Central/Westosha	\$11,868	\$23,736,000	\$1,736,000	\$8,680,000
Hartford	\$11,853	\$23,706,000	\$1,706,000	\$8,530,000
Arrowhead	\$11,000	\$22,000,000	\$0	\$0

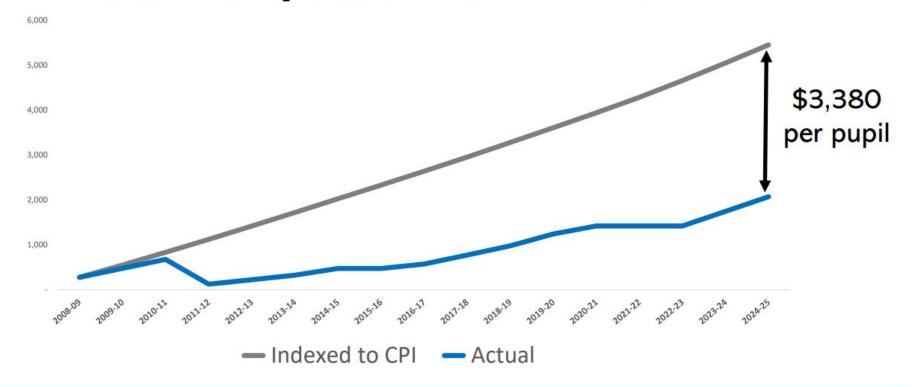
Data source: WI Department of Instruction



In 2008, Wisconsin's Legislature stopped adjusting school funding to keep up with inflation.

The chart on the next slide shows the impact.

# General school district revenues per pupil lag inflation by more than \$3,300 since 2009





### Where does AHS rank on spending per student?

Arrowhead ranks 366 out of 420 districts at \$15,012 Total District Cost (TDC) per resident student. Arrowhead is \$2,170 below the State Average TDC per resident student of \$17,182 (remember high schools cost more to operate).

1	2022-23 School District Annual Report Data				Districts TDC > Arrowhead			87%
	State Cost Per Member = \$17,182				<i>F</i>	Arrowhead	1	420
				Districts TDC < Arrowhead			54	13%
1	District	Total Current Ed. Cost per member	Transport. Cost per member	Facility Total Ed. Comm. Cost per Cost per Serv. per member member member		Total District Cost per member	2022-23 RESIDENT ENROLLMENT	
3	Elmbrook	\$12,780	\$654	\$1,082	\$14,516	\$550	\$15,066	7,967
7	Shawano	\$12,306	\$557	\$1,033	\$13,896	\$1,158	\$15,054	2,389
8	Mondovi	\$12,299	\$573	\$1,411	\$14,283	\$745	\$15,028	965
9	Durand	\$11,696	\$1,071	\$1,639	\$14,406	\$610	\$15,016	998
0	Arrowhead UHS	\$13,194	\$598	\$749	\$14,542	\$469	\$15,012	1,975
1	Oconomowoc Area	\$12,563	\$502	\$1,335	\$14,400	\$581	\$14,980	5,489

### Arrowhood Spanding Compared to Other Union HS Districts

<i>                                     </i>	Arrowneau spe	namy (	Sompa	irea t	o Othe		ט פח ווכ	15th Ct5
1	2022-23 School District Ann	Districts TDC > Arrowhead			365	87%		
2	State Cost Per Member = \$1		Arrowhead			1	420	
3				Districts TDC < Arrowhea			54	13%
4		Total Current Ed. Cost per	Transport.	Facility Cost per	Total Ed. Cost per	Food & Comm. Serv. per	Total District Cost per	2022-23 RESIDENT

member

\$6,372

\$2,566

\$6,144

\$4,285

\$2,448

\$2,623

\$787

\$2,430

\$870

\$749

member

\$26,631

\$25,121

\$22,970

\$21,202

\$19,661

\$17,834

\$16,829

\$16,044

\$15,367

\$14,542

member

\$1,450

\$820

\$2,461

\$745

\$963

\$863

\$1,213

\$686

\$817

\$469

member

\$28,081

\$25,941

\$25,431

\$21,947

\$20,625

\$18,697

\$18,042

\$16,729

\$16,185

\$15,012

**ENROLLMENT** 

1,098

722

477

959

978

711

1,295

1,143

1,465

1,975

member

\$846

\$1,552

\$927

\$558

\$520

\$712

\$754

\$541

\$676

\$598

3	
	Total
4	Current
7	Cost p

member

\$19,413

\$21,004

\$15,899

\$16,359

\$16,692

\$14,499

\$15,289

\$13,073

\$13,822

\$13,194

District

Nicolet UHS

Lakeland UHS

**Big Foot UHS** 

Wilmot UHS

Waterford UHS

Hartford UHS

Arrowhead UHS

Union Grove UHS

Lake Geneva-Genoa UHS

Central/Westosha UHS

5

6

8

10

11

12

13

14



# The links below are to state reports on school district costs.

Arrowhead is one of the lowest spending districts in the state.

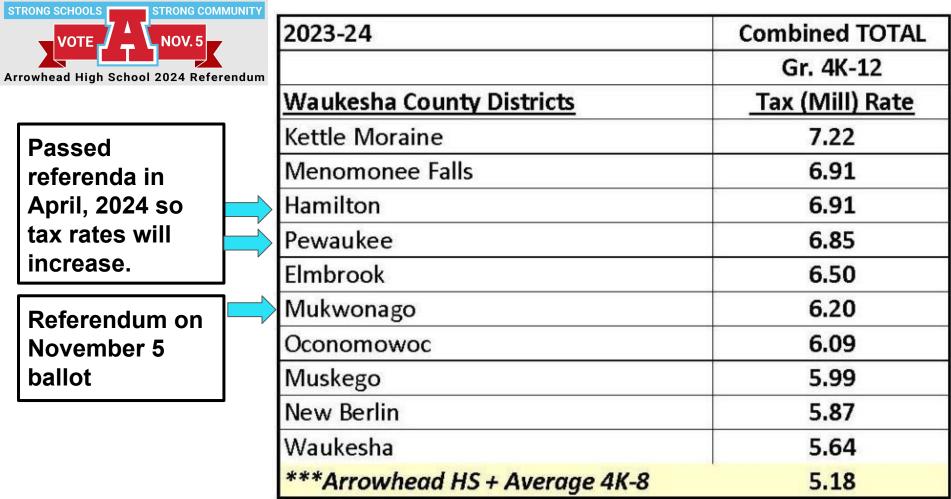
Total District Cost Per Member 2023-24

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CKwSRFBXTDbXNn6aH8F3kbgK7DobeXGbB9SokJE6vvQ/edit?gid=1145061473#gid=1145061473

### MILL (Tax) RATE ANALYSIS

(Revenue Limit) Funds





Source: Wisconsin Department of Public instruction.



## Arrowhead is one of the:

- lowest funded,
- lowest spending,
- lowest taxing,
- most cost-effective districts in the state.



"State legislators have told school districts, "If you need more funds, ask your taxpayers."

That is what districts across the state are doing.

- 82.4% of districts have asked their communities to pass operational referendums since 2000
  - (347 districts have asked 1,345 questions).
- 59% of districts in the past two years.
- 29% of districts have questions on Nov. 5.



### WI Public school districts are depending on local referenda!

- 194 districts have put forth at least 3 referenda.
- 42 districts have put forth 4 referenda.
- 35 districts have put forth 5 referenda.
- 30 districts have put forth 6 referenda.
- 18 districts have put forth 7 referenda.

**Custom Referenda Reporting** 



### WI Public school districts are depending on local referenda!

- 14 districts have put forth 8 referenda.
- 8 districts have put forth 9 referenda.
- 7 districts have put forth 10 referenda.
- 3 districts have put forth 11 referenda.
- 2 districts have put forth 12 referenda.

**Custom Referenda Reporting** 



### WI Public school districts are depending on local referenda!

- 2 districts have put forth 13 referenda.
- 1 district has put forth 15 referenda.
- 1 district has put forth 16 referenda.
- 1 district has put forth 20 referenda.

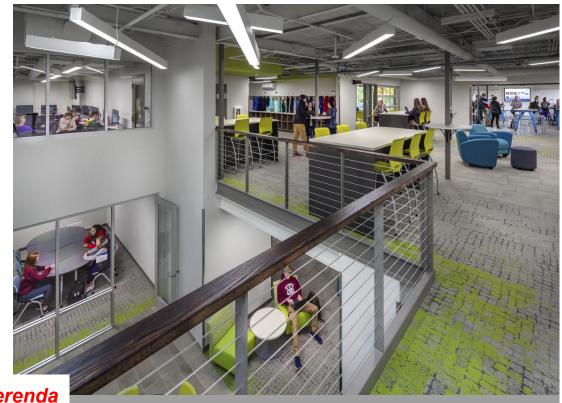
STRONG SCHOOLS STRONG COMMUNITY NOV. 5	*Southeast Wisconsin Referendums Passed Since 2000 Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction							
Arrowhead High School 2024 Referendum  147 passed.	District	Number Passed	Cumulative Funding Received to Date- Debt, Nonrecurring, & Recurring Referendums	Recurring Revenue Authority, to Date, (each year forever)	District	Number Passed	Cumulative Funding Received to Date- Debt, Nonrecurring, & Recurring Referendums	Recurring Revenue Authority, to Date, (each year forever)
	Milwaukee	2	\$339,000,000	\$87,000,000 (since 2023)	South Milwaukee	3	\$61,605,000	\$9,625,000 (since 2023)
	Waukesha	5	\$317,200,000	4,900,000 (since 2002)	Menomonee Falls	3	\$56,250,000	0
	Racine	11	\$195,935,000	0	Brown Deer	5	\$55,960,000	0
	Kenosha	6	\$162,053,000	\$2,427,000 (since 2010)	Greenfield	6	\$53,520,000	0
	Oconomowoc	4	\$153,000,000	0	Port Wash-Sauk.	3	\$52,025,000	0
Hamilton &	Muskego-Norway	5	\$148,685,700	\$1,156,700 (since 2003)	St Francis	3	\$47,100,000	0
Kettle	Wauwatosa	1	\$124,900,000	0	Maple Dale-Indian Hills	4	\$32,290,000	0
Moraine 📥	Pewaukee	5	\$114,450,000	\$450,000 (since 2002)	Cudahy	6	\$28,360,000	0
passed	Sussex Hamilton	6	\$111,100,000	\$1,500,000 (since 2019); \$7,600,000 (since 2024)	Hartland-Lakeside	3	\$23,009,000	\$598,000 (since 2001)
recurring 📥	Nicolet UHS	4	\$110,950,000	0	Whitefish Bay	2	\$22,600,000	0
operational	Kettle Moraine	4	\$96,667,000	\$485,000 (since 2001); \$7,000,000 (since 2020)	Whitnall	1	\$16,160,000	0
referendums	Shorewood	6	\$94,870,000	\$275,000 (since 2019)	Glendale-River Hills	4	\$15,790,000	0
so they have 🛑	Germantown	3	\$88,100,000	0	Northern Ozaukee	1	\$14,950,000	0
\$7 million or	Cedarburg	4	\$81,800,000	0	Swallow	3	\$14,200,000	\$100,000 (since 2000)
more in	Fox Point J2	6	\$81,655,000	0	West Allis	1	\$12,000,000	0
	Elmbrook	2	\$80,090,000	0	Lake Country	1	\$9,500,000	
revenue	Franklin	3	\$76,300,000	0	Arrowhead UHS	1	\$8,500,000	0
forever.	Mukwonago	4	\$75,350,000	0	New Berlin	1	\$8,500,000	0
	Mequon-Thiensville	2	\$73,900,000	0	Merton Community	2	\$7,060,000	0
	Grafton	4	\$67,670,000	0	Stone Bank	1	\$2,500,000	0
	Greendale	5	\$65,915,000	0	North Lake	1	\$2,260,000	0
	All Arrowhead Area	12	\$67,029,000	*These numbers are not adjusted	for inflation; construction costs h	ave increase	d significantly since t	he early 2000s.



### Arrowhead's Facilities are falling behind.

Our closest competitors recently addressed operations and/or renovated buildings:

- Oconomowoc 2023 & 2016
- Hamilton \*2024 & 2018
- Germantown 2016
- Pewaukee 2024 & 2018
- Kettle Moraine \*2020, 2014,
   2001



\* \$7M+/year Recurring Operational Referenda

Oconomowoc HS



### Arrowhead's Facilities are falling behind.

## Competing districts are passing referenda:

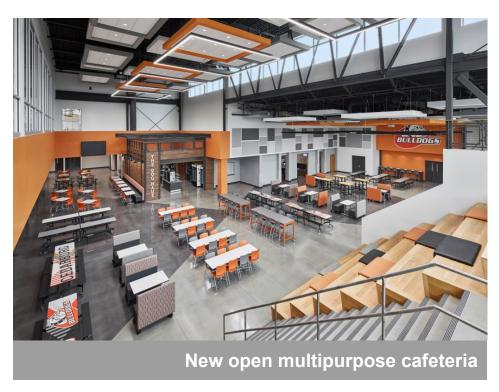
- Mukwonago 2016
- Muskego 2022 & 2016
- Cedarburg 2019
- Nicolet 2022
- Mequon-Thiensville 2020



### Arrowhead Cafeteria vs. Cedarburg Multi-Purpose Space



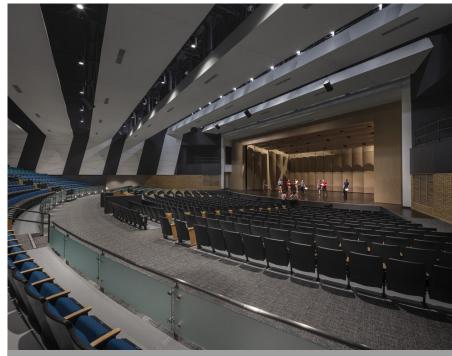
Undersized AHS



#### **Arrowhead Theater vs. Verona Theater**



**Undersized Theater - AHS** 



**Appropriately Sized Theater - Verona HS** 

## AHS Classrooms vs. Cedarburg Learning Spaces





## AHS Classrooms vs. Cedarburg Learning Spaces



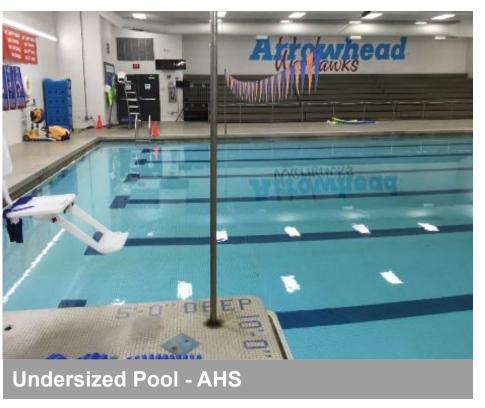


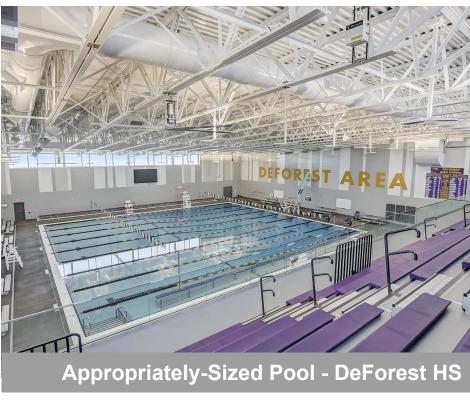
#### **Cedarburg Learning Spaces**





#### **Arrowhead Pool vs. DeForest Pool**

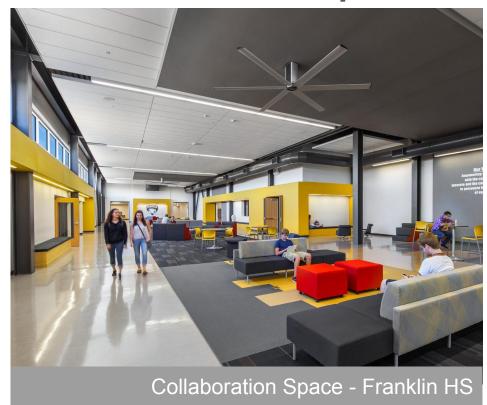




#### Arrowhead Space vs. Franklin Collaborative Space



Lack of Collaboration Space - AHS



#### Natural Light Access - Arrowhead vs. Monona Grove



Lack of Natural Light & Limited Sight - AHS

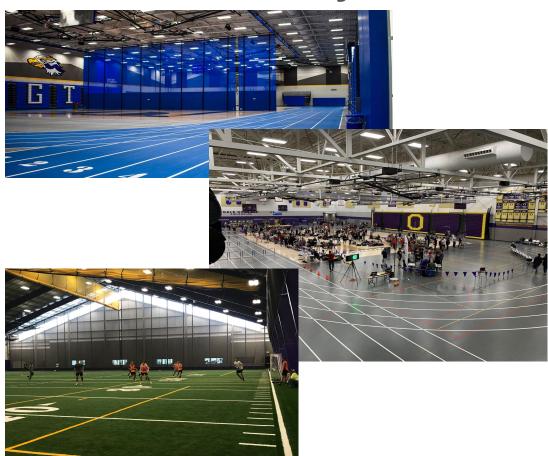


Transparency and Light - Monona Grove

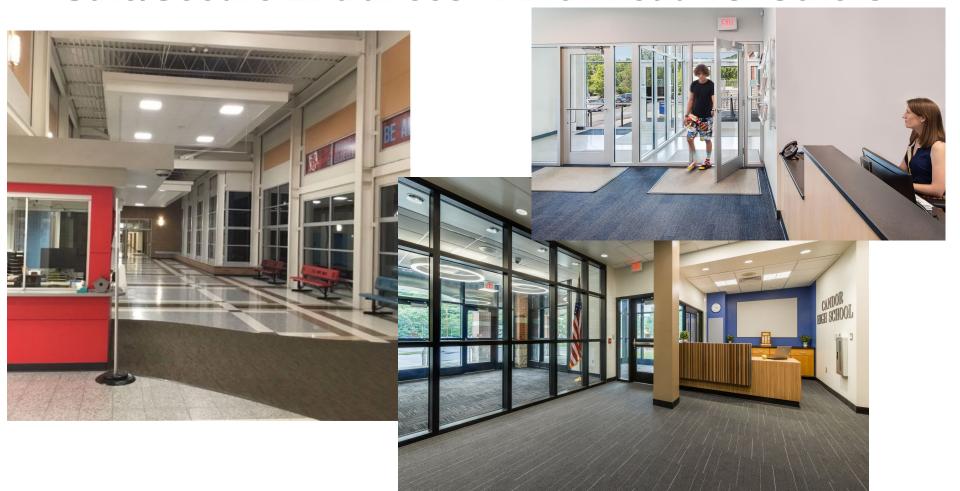
#### **Gym Facilities - Arrowhead vs. So Many Others**







#### Safe/Secure Entrances - Arrowhead vs. Others









### Will Arrowhead Compete?

According to the US News Ranking of High Schools, in 2015 Arrowhead ranked #4 in the state.

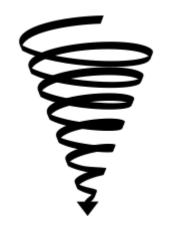
In 2022, Arrowhead ranked #15.

This is the wrong trend that correlates to our decreasing enrollment and deteriorating facilities.

Year	State
2015	4
2016	7
2017	8
2018	6
2019	12
2020	13
2021	13
2022	15



#### The Declining Enrollment Spiral



- When a school's facilities are not attractive, families enroll students elsewhere.
  - Declining enrollment = cuts to programs & staff, difficulty attracting quality staff, less competitive extra-curricular programs.
- Those cuts mean even fewer students enroll which contributes to more reductions.
- When districts do not draw students, the spiral leads to far less attractive schools and decreasing property values.



### Why are we here?

For over 3 decades, school administrators and school board members have asked state legislators to address school funding. Their response...

If you need more funds, ask your taxpayers.

So we surveyed the community...



## How did we get here?

Eppstein Uhen Architects (EUA) was chosen through a competitive and public bid process. The Board solicited proposals from seven firms, interviewed two finalists, and selected EUA based on their multi-disciplinary expertise, K-12 planning and project experience, knowledge of our campus, and their fee proposal for both pre-referendum and post-referendum services.

VJS Construction was also selected through a competitive RFP process that included reviewing and scoring responses from five firms. Three of the five firms were interviewed, with VJS being selected as the construction manager to manage the project.

All trade work required to build the project will be competitively bid after the project design is complete. The \$261.2M is an estimate and a not-to-exceed number.

The construction will be divided into multiple phases, covering masonry, concrete, paint, drywall, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, casework, and flooring so local subcontractors can bid as interested throughout the entire project.



#### **Community Survey Results**

- □ The \$261.2 million proposal for an all new school, new pool and new auditorium garnered 43.2% support.
- □ The \$214.5 million option for a new school without a new pool or new auditorium generated 44.1% support.
- □ The \$172.2 million option to renovate and add on to one existing building generated 43.9% support.

https://www.arrowheadschools.org/facilities/2024AHSCommunitySurveyReport.pdf



#### **Community Survey Results**

Waightad

Total

	Parent Weight		Parent % No		Parent %		Parent Weight		Parent %		Non-Parent % No		Weighted No %
\$261.2 million	30%	X	23%	=	6.9%	+	70%	X	57%	=	39.9%	=	46.80%
\$214.5 million	30%	X	21%	=	6.3%	+	70%	X	55%	=	38.5%	=	44.80%
\$172.2 million	30%	X	22%	=	6.6%	+	70%	X	49%	=	34.3%	=	40.90%
	Parent Weight		Parent % Yes		Weighted Parent % Yes		Non- Parent Weight		Non- Parent % Yes		Weighted Non-Parent % Yes		Total Weighted Yes %
\$261.2 million	30%	X	67%	=	20.1%	+	70%	X	33%	=	23.1%	=	43.20%
\$214.5 million	30%	X	70%	=	21.0%	+	70%	X	33%	=	23.1%	=	44.10%
\$172.2 million	30%	X	67%	=	20.1%	+	70%	X	34%	=	23.8%	=	43.90%
					Total Weighted No %		Total Weighted Yes %		Total Weighted Yes & No		Undecided		Total %
	\$261.2 million		46.8%	+	43.2%	=	90.0%	+	10%	=	100%		
\$214.5 million		44.8%	+	44.1%	=	88.9%	+	11%	=	100%			
\$172.2 million			40.9%	+	43.9%	=	84.8%	+	15%	=	100%		



#### **Community Survey Results**

- □ The community also indicated strong support for a new or renovated pool (63.5%).
- □ Support for a new auditorium was at 52.5%.

□ The community did *not* support investing \$153.2 million to renovate both current buildings (37.1%).



#### **Referenda Questions**

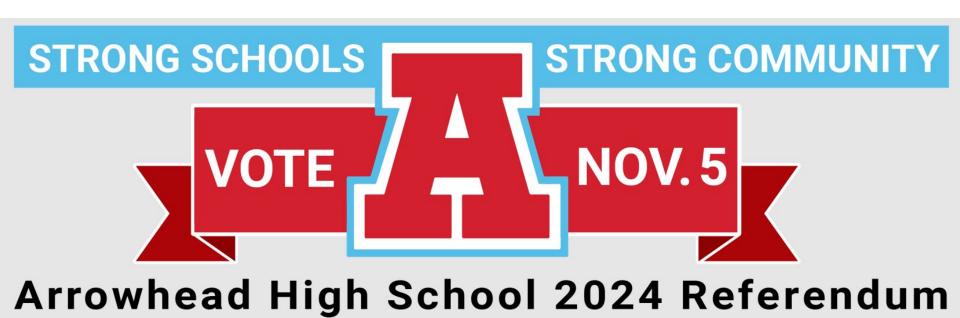
#### **Question 1 - OPERATIONAL**

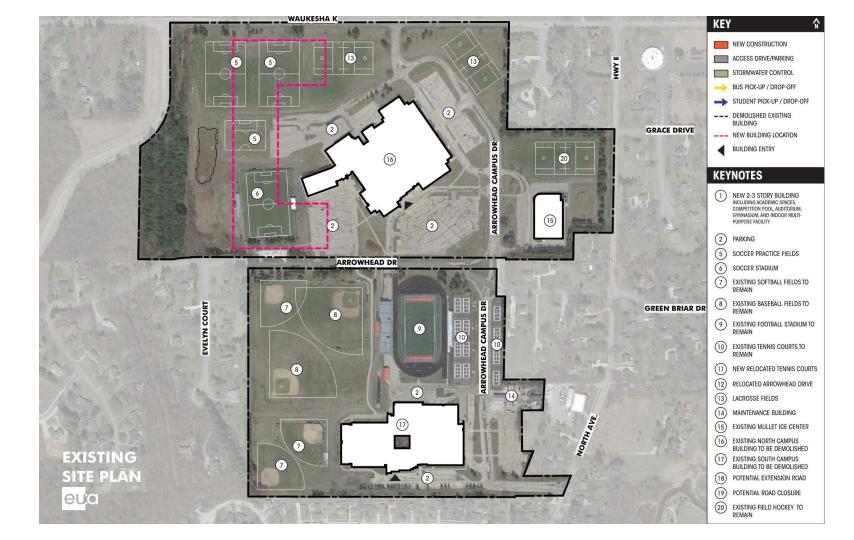
- > \$1.9 Million for four years to support operational needs?
  - = \$0.02 tax/mill rate or \$2 per \$100,000 property value

#### **Question 2 - NEW CONSTRUCTION**

\$261.2 million for a new facility?
= \$1.91 tax/mill rate or \$191 per \$100,000 property value
(20 year max tax impact)

# Rough Possible Layout







#### What is included?



- modern safety & security measures
- intentionally designed classrooms and learning spaces
- breakout learning spaces
- Modern and flexible STEAM space (Science, Technology Engineering, Art, Math)
- natural light to 90%+ learning spaces
- modernized instructional technology
- 1200+ seat multi-use Cafeteria/Commons/Study Hall

- 1000+ seat performing arts classroom/auditorium with pit and back of stage
- safer traffic flow
- fieldhouse for physical education with indoor track
- indoor multipurpose facility
- replicated, new, or improved outdoor athletic facilities
- competition pool with dive well
- designed to maximize community availability and use

Impact on LEARNING

Modernized spaces provide flexible grouping and active learning opportunities.

Access to natural light, modern/comfortable/versatile learning environments positively impact student culture and outcomes.

Versatile spaces help take learning from "sit and get" to active analysis, synthesis & application.

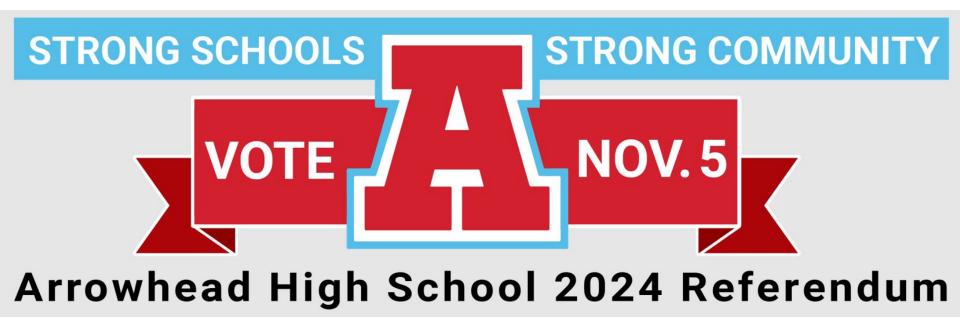




#### **Advantages to a New Facility**

- Improved Security (#1 Goal)
- Better Learning Opportunities
  - little disruption to instruction
- Greater Community Access
- Best Return on the Investment
  - greater operational efficiency
  - greater energy efficiency
  - never a more affordable time to build

# What if my kids are already out of high school?





Attendees at an early presentation asked if there was any data to support property values increasing due to having a new high school facility. The studies on the following slides are what we found. We make no claim that these studies apply directly to Arrowhead's circumstances, nor do we consider the studies as guaranteeing an increase in property values. These are the best examples of research we could find at the request of citizens.



"Housing prices, while exhibiting largely insignificant changes while construction is ongoing, increase by nearly 9% during the period in which construction is slowing and buildings are becoming occupied."

Impacts of New School Facility Construction: An Analysis of a State-Financed Capital Subsidy Program in Ohio

Michael Conlin, Michigan State University and Paul N. Thompson, Michigan State University

https://ntanet.org/wp-content/uploads/proceedings/2015/021-conlin-differentia l-impacts-local-tax-referenda.pdf



"After the [bond] election, house prices gradually increase in districts that approve a bond measure, reaching a 7% higher level 9 years post election...this indicates that household value increases in school capital spending more than the additional local taxes they are asked to contribute."

Effectiveness and Efficiency of School Capital Investments Across the U.S.

Barbara Biasi, Yale School of Management; Julien Lafortune, Public Policy Institute of California; David Schonholzer, University of Stockholm

https://www.barbarabiasi.com/uploads/1/0/1/2/101280322/bilaschon\_2023.pdf



"The estimated total effect of [school] construction – the sum of the score gains at each project phase – is 9.6%"

The effect of school construction on test scores, school enrollment, and home prices.

Christopher A. Neilson, Yale University Department of Economics; Seth D. Zimmerman, Yale University Department of Economics

https://christopherneilson.github.io/work/documents/NZ JPubE 2014.pdf



"Capitalization occurs somewhat gradually upon completion, with nearly all of the effect coming in the first two years after school completion, before stabilizing after three or more years. Three or more years after the new school construction, house prices in the new school attendance areas were 7% higher."

The Impact of School Facility Investments on Students and Homeowners: Evidence from Los Angeles

Julien Lafortune, Public Policy Institute of California; David Schönholzer; University of Stockholm

https://www.aeaweb.org/content/file?id=14772



"The estimates indicate that the TOT [treatment-on-treated] effect of bond approval in year t is to increase average prices by 2.8%-3.0% that year, 3.6%-4.1% in year t + 1, 4.2%-8.6% in years t + 2 through t + 5, and 6.7%-10.1% in t + 6."

The value of school facility investments: evidence from a dynamic regression discontinuity design.

Stephanie Riegg Cellini; Fernando Ferreira; Jesse Rothstein.

https://real-faculty.wharton.upenn.edu/wp-content/uploads/~fferreir/document s/qjec.2010.125.1.pdf



# **Takeaways**

- Arrowhead's facilities are aging and have fallen behind those of neighboring districts.
- The quality of the facilities impacts the identity of any high school...and the community.



# **Summary**

- AHS buildings are deteriorating and require expensive maintenance.
- Safety, better learning & the best use of tax dollars are priorities.
- State funding is insufficient; referendum is the only option.
- Current facilities are behind area districts.

# What does the community want Arrowhead's identity to be?

