



ON POINT

ANNUAL UPDATE 2024



Arrowhead Union High School District
TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

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District Performance

Academic Highlights

Achievement

81.7

State Report Card
Exceeds State Expectations

1,207

Advanced Placement exams taken
by AHS students in 2022-23

81.4%

of 2023 graduates earned a
cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher

88%

of AHS students scored a 3-5 per AP test
3 is qualified, 4 is well qualified, and
5 is extremely well qualified

Surrounding District Results

New Berlin	81.5%	Pewaukee	73.1%
Hamilton	81.3%	Kettle Moraine	67.7%
Elmbrook	78.9%	Mukwonago	66.9%
Muskego-Norway	77.4%	Hartford Union	66.6%
Menomonee Falls	76.3%	Oconomowoc	61.6%

23.1

Arrowhead's average ACT
exam score of 2023 Graduates

Surrounding District Results

Elmbrook	23.8	Pewaukee	21.7
Hamilton	22.3	Menomonee Falls	21.0
Muskego-Norway	22.3	Mukwonago	20.8
New Berlin	22.3	Oconomowoc	20.7
Kettle Moraine	21.7	Hartford Union	19.7

Future Ready

60

courses offered in construction/skilled trades, health care, manufacturing, engineering and information technology.

85%

of students participated in at least one Financial Literacy course.

100%

of students participated in Academic Career Planning lessons.

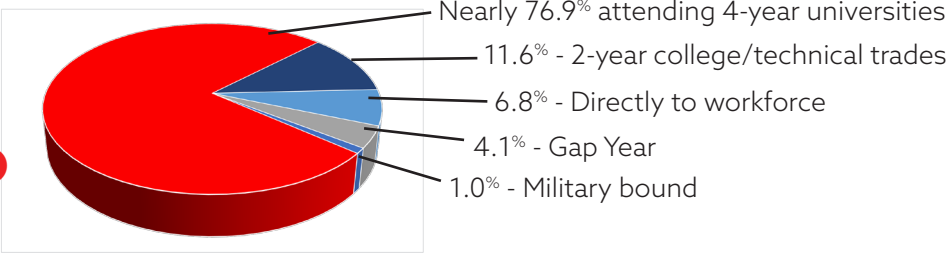
60.6%

completed college credits while in high school through Dual Enrollment, AP, and CAPP courses.

99.1%
4-Year
Graduation
Rate

* Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

WHERE ARROWHEAD GRADUATES GO



Students attending 2 or 4-year universities plan to study one or more of these fields!

Business, Management Economics or Finance	37.8%	Communications/Public Relations/Public Policy	8.8%
Health Science/Health Care	27.9%	Manufacturing	8.2%
Science/Technology/Engineering	26.5%	Law/Public Safety/Corrections	8.2%
Social Science/Education	16.7%	Architecture/Construction	6.1%
Creative and Visual Arts	11.6%	Agriculture, Food and Nutrition	5.4%
World Languages	10.5%	Transportation	3.7%
Undecided	9.9%	Hospitality and Tourism	3.1%
Information Technology/Computer Science	8.8%	Government and Public Administration	2.7%

Journey to Antiquity: Arrowhead Students Explore Greece

Arrowhead High School students travel for educational benefits beyond the classroom. Each year, students have various travel opportunities including a trip to Greece in June 2024. Travel enhances personal growth, cultural awareness, and practical learning, broadening students' horizons and fostering global citizenship.

Sixty students explored Greek historical sites, museums, and landscapes, enriching their understanding and bringing their studies to life. They visited Athens, touring the Olympic Stadium, Syntagma Square, and the Acropolis; walked through Heraklion and Knossos Palace; and explored the archaeological site of Akrotiri in Santorini.



These immersive experiences spark passion for subjects, inspire future pursuits, and strengthen bonds among peers and teachers. Arrowhead teachers offer these trips to create lasting impressions and shape well-rounded individuals.

Trip organizer and Arrowhead teacher Chris Herriot emphasizes the value of student travel: *"There is no better classroom than the real world. Students who are able to travel have a better understanding of global cultures, history and even economic differences. Students leave feeling connected to new places and also often end up with lifelong connections with those they meet there and those they have traveled with."*

Students Assist Our Community

Arrowhead students use essential skills to collaborate and contribute within the local and global community through numerous community service projects, participating in over 130 each year. They contributed thousands of donated items, raised tens of thousands of dollars, and accumulated at least 10,000 service hours for various causes. We are proud of their efforts and share a few highlights below.

- **Girls Swim and Dive** raised over \$12,000 for the Make a Wish Foundation, fulfilling 2 wishes! They donated over 11,000 items to the Hartland Food Pantry!
- **Boys Soccer** held a Journey 21 Camp, and a community service event with a defibrillator and gave a chest compressions presentation and raised funds to get an AED for the soccer team rooms.
- **Warhawk Interact** held a book drive and book fair with thousands of free books for the community and worked with the Hartland Rotary Club and helped to build beds for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace organization.
- **AHS Football** adopted Highway K and will do cleanups for the next 3 years!
- **Boys Volleyball** worked with the Christmas Clearing Council of Wisconsin and raised over \$600 plus collected over 50 toys for kids during the holidays and hosted a Spike Out Cancer Event and raised over \$3000 for the American Cancer Society.
- **AHS Student Senate** held multiple blood drives, helping the American Red Cross to save lives locally and across the nation.



ARROWHEAD PRIDE

1st Place State Championship Teams!



Girls Basketball is the State Championship Team.



Girls Tennis is the State Championship Team for two years in a row!



Girls and Boys Track and Field won the State Championship!



Girls Field Hockey Team won the State Championship!

Classic 8 Conference Accomplishments



Congratulations to the recipients of the Dave and Mary Sterning Classic 8 Conference Sportsmanship Award!

Girls Golf
Girls LaCrosse
Girls Volleyball

Boys Golf
Girls Basketball



Boys Varsity Soccer has not lost a Classic 8 Conference game in four years.



Boys Baseball won the Classic 8 Conference title for the past four years!

National Publications Name Arrowhead Among the Best!



Ranked 8th in Wisconsin
(out of 574) and
518th Nationally
(out of over 25,000)

"Top STEM School"
Top 2.5% in the Nation and
Top 2.8% in Wisconsin



One of
**"America's Most
Challenging High
Schools"**



2024 Jerry Award Winners

Mean Girls

Outstanding Leading Performance

Brady Schiro (Damian)

Outstanding Supporting Performance

Ben St. Martin (Aaron)
Jr Araque (Kevin G.)

Outstanding Musical

Direction, Choreography
& Lighting Design - Scott Michaels
Musical Direction - Gustavo
Chaviano

Scenic Design - Erik Diaz
Costume Design - Darcy Devens
Sound Design - Matthew Pea

Spirit Award - Logan Makowski



Congratulations to Seniors for their commitment to serve in the military!

Ray Gulmatico - Coast Guard Academy
Nick Kreitlow - Marines (pictured above right)
Bryce Lau - Marines (pictured above left)
Braden Stechner - Army (pictured above center)
Josh Staus - Air Force Academy

Arrowhead DECA club qualified 16 students for the International Career Development Conference!



The Arrowhead Scholarship Fund (ASF) raised and
awarded \$98,500 in scholarships this year! Thank you
ASF, as well as the community
members, businesses, and
organizations who contributed
toward the future of these
98 students.



Wisconsin Sports Network Cup Winner

Arrowhead won the Large School
Division for the 14th title in 16 years!



Congratulations to Arrowhead's National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Anay Bansal • Tanner Esper • Benjamin Faessler
Anakin Fischer • Benjamin Otte • Alexander Mackay
Lily Lui • Katherine Schoeppe • Benjamin Harkavy

*Of just 16,000 semifinalists across the USA,
Arrowhead has nine of them.*



Wisconsin Technology Education Association High School Program of the Year Award

Honored for outstanding service and
commitment to Technology Education



**2024
Teacher of the Year**
Sarah Kraus, Math Teacher



**2024 Support Staff
Star of the Year**
Garet Taylor, Lead Custodian



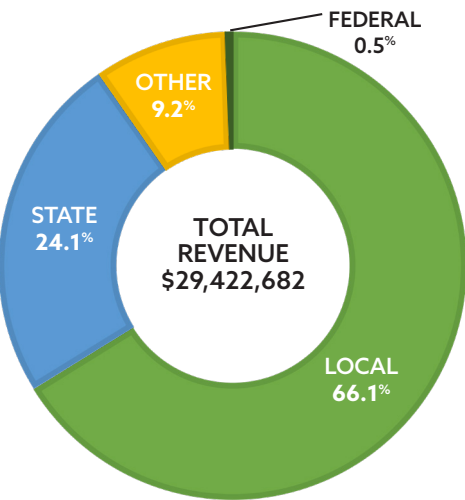
Annual District Budget

ABOUT OUR BUDGET PROCESS

The annual district budget is the financial plan designed to support Arrowhead's Focus Plan, which outlines the vision, mission, and enduring goals for student success. The Arrowhead Administration and School Board will continue to work to balance priorities, maintaining and improving student programs, attracting and retaining quality staff, and ensuring a safe learning environment.

The district budget must meet state and federal regulations as well as school board policies. Arrowhead's budget receives initial approval from the school board in April/ May, and then district residents, in attendance at the Annual Meeting, have the opportunity to provide an advisory vote on the School Board's projected tax levy. The final tax levy is approved by the School Board in late October, following the finalization of student enrollment, state aid, property values and staffing.

2024-25 DISTRICT GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL EXPANSION REVENUE SOURCES



Local Sources: \$19,454,600

Taxes levied by the district on the assessed valuation of property located within the Arrowhead Union School District, as well as local fees, gate receipts, interest income, etc.

State Sources: \$7,096,349

Money received through the state based on property value per student. This includes money for special education, transportation, and state equalization aid

Other Sources: \$2,715,811

Includes donations and various fees

Federal Sources: \$155,922

Includes Federal Grant monies and Medicaid revenue

NUMBERS EXPLAINED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Arrowhead's 2024-25 budget and tax levy will be reviewed at the Annual Meeting in the South Campus Cafeteria at 6:00 PM on October 16, 2024.

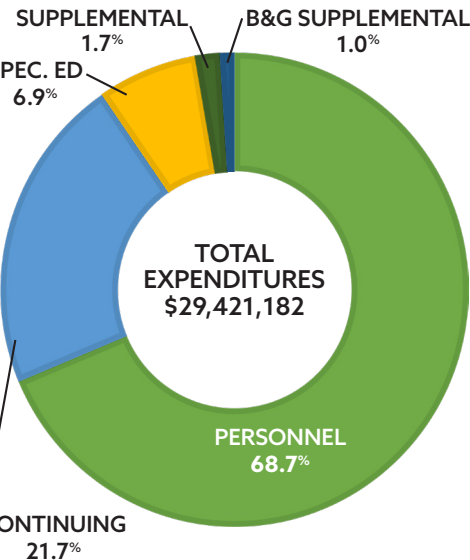
The budget, detailed in this bulletin, shows that about 69% of it is allocated to personnel expenses, which is typical for school districts, where 65-80% of the budget goes toward staff. With a 4% salary increase, personnel costs will rise by approximately \$790,000 compared to last year.

By adjusting our health insurance structure, the district remained within the healthcare trend in terms of premium increase. For high deductible plan employees, the district pays 88% with employees paying 12%. For the lower deductible plan, the district covers 85%, and employees pay 15%.

BUDGETARY CHALLENGES

Arrowhead's costs for insurance, transportation, utilities, and supplies have been rising, while revenue has decreased due to state funding freezes over the past eight years. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to maximizing community investments through property taxes and donations, striving to deliver exceptional educational and co-curricular programs, attract and retain quality staff, and maintain a safe learning environment.

2024-25 DISTRICT GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES



Personnel: \$20,220,622

Wages and benefit payments for Arrowhead employees

Continuing: \$6,389,858

Services, supplies and dues

Special Education: \$2,015,664

Special services beyond regular education services

Building and Grounds Supplemental: \$300,000

Capital improvement projects

Supplemental: \$495,039

Equipment, technology, and textbooks

ARROWHEAD'S 2024-25 MILL RATE

\$1.80

\$1.80, down from \$1.81 the prior year. Mill rate equals the tax impact per \$1,000 of home value. For a \$300,000 home, the tax impact is \$541, for a \$500,000 home, the tax rate impact is \$902.

Annually, over \$515,000 of the ARROWHEAD portion of your property taxes goes directly to private/parochial/charter schools.

ARROWHEAD HIGH SCHOOL REFERENDUM 2024



Arrowhead High School Community Members:

We take great pride in helping to lead one of the premier high schools in Wisconsin. **Arrowhead High School delivers an exceptional education** and comprehensive extracurricular opportunities to our students. We thank our engaged parents, amazing staff, and supportive community for making Arrowhead a destination high school. It is important to celebrate all that we have achieved together. At the same time, **significant challenges remain**.

Over the past year, we've been hard at work developing plans to address two fundamental challenges to our tradition of excellence.

First, **rising inflation and inconsistent state funding** have hampered Arrowhead's operations. So, we've crafted a solution to our operating needs.

Second, **aging, deteriorating facilities** required the development of a comprehensive plan. Our proposed new high school avoids tens of millions in capital maintenance costs while bringing all students under a single roof.

On Election Day – November 5, 2024 – we are asking the community to review our 4-year, \$1.9 million operating referendum. In addition, we are asking the community for a \$261.2 million facilities referendum to construct a new, comprehensive high school.

These proposals will:

- improve safety and security;
- consolidate Arrowhead under one roof;
- modernize Arrowhead's academic, arts, and athletic spaces;
- avoid significant capital maintenance costs; and
- construct an asset for community use.

Our decision to go to referendum has been deliberate and driven by community input. The community survey was clear that moving to a one-building campus was preferred over maintaining the two existing buildings.

Please review this insert and utilize the additional resources on this page to learn more.

Sincerely,

Conrad Farner,
Superintendent

Adam Kurth,
Principal

Kim Schubert,
School Board President



LEARN MORE!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

For more info about the facilities planning process and the referendum plans, visit:
www.arrowheadschoools.org/referendum/



REQUEST A PRESENTATION

Does your neighborhood or organization want more information? We'll come to you! Schedule a brief information session by emailing:
referendum@arrowheadschoools.org.



SCHEDULE A TOUR

The best way to make an informed decision is to see our buildings. Schedule a tour with our staff by emailing:
referendum@arrowheadschoools.org.

INFORMATION NIGHTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

All events above begin at 6:00 PM
in the South Campus Cafeteria.

VOTING INFORMATION

Please visit **MyVote.WI.Gov** for more information on where to cast your ballot or how to register to vote. Mail in and absentee voting starts as early as mid-September; check with your local municipality for dates.

ARROWHEAD HIGH SCHOOL REFERENDUM 2024: NEEDS

THE PROPOSED PLAN: OUR DISTRICT'S NEEDS



MODERNIZE EDUCATIONAL SPACES

The proposed new high school will better support Arrowhead's academic, athletic, and arts programs.

Small and large group instructional spaces, advanced STEM labs (science, technology, engineering, and math), and new music, art, and theater spaces will better support Arrowhead's educational program.

The new pool and indoor co-curricular facility will provide space for academics, athletics, and the community.



Menasha School District



ENHANCE SAFETY & SECURITY

The North and South buildings lack secure entries and modern technology to lock down portions of the building in the case of an emergency.

The buildings each have multiple unsecured access points, and the ¼ mile walk between buildings makes it difficult to monitor student behavior and prevent interactions with unwelcome visitors.

The proposed new Arrowhead High School will improve safety and security by bringing all students under a single roof, thereby:

- implementing a secure entry sequence for students, staff and families;
- improving supervision;
- allowing the rapid lock-down of building segments in case of emergency; and
- eliminating open, unsecure access points to Arrowhead.



Sun Prairie School District - Secure Entrance



AVOID COSTLY MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS

Over the next 25 years, Arrowhead's existing buildings are estimated to require \$143 million in capital maintenance improvements.

This includes repairs and improvements to windows and roofs; mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems; and other building systems.

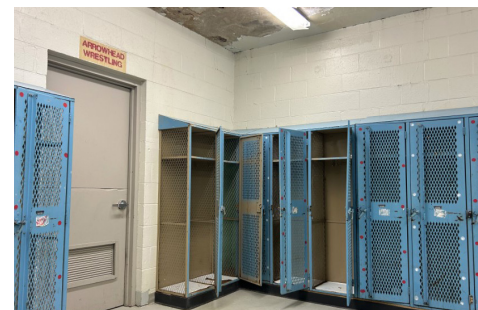
The \$143 million cost of repairing these systems **DOES NOT** include the cost of renovating, expanding or consolidating our existing school buildings.



Failing HVAC System



Deteriorating Gymnasium Ceiling



Deteriorating PE Locker Rooms

“Arrowhead is known throughout the region as an academic, athletic, and performing arts powerhouse. It’s an incredible source of pride and an important community asset.”
Terry Dittrich, Waukesha County Republican Party Chair

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO LEARN MORE



CONSTRUCT A COMMUNITY ASSET

Arrowhead is a central part of the Lake Country region. Our high school is a shared asset that helps bind our many municipalities together.

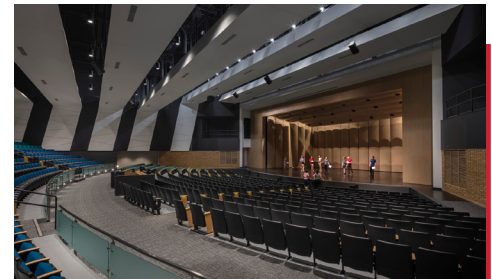
The proposed new Arrowhead High School will be open to our entire community. Residents and community organizations will have access to the pool, theater, gymnasium, and indoor academic and co-curricular facility.



Elkhorn Area School District



DeForest Area School District



Verona Area School District

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

It has been over 25 years since the last major facilities project at Arrowhead. Recognizing the need to modernize AHS, the School Board developed a long-range facilities plan.

Key milestones in this process included:

- ✓ performing a facilities assessment;
- ✓ identifying capital maintenance costs;
- ✓ developing facilities options and costs; and
- ✓ gathering community feedback.



Long-Range Facilities Planning - Community Meetings

Following this year-long process, the School Board approved going to the community with a \$1.9 million operating referendum and a \$261.2 million referendum to construct a new high school.

The community was provided multiple options, including renovating the existing buildings. Based on community input, the Board voted to approve the \$261.2 million referendum question because it was viewed as the **best long-term, comprehensive solution**. In addition, the **new construction option will be significantly less disruptive to student learning**, compared to renovating an existing building.

ARROWHEAD IS FALLING BEHIND



AHS VS.



OAK CREEK SD



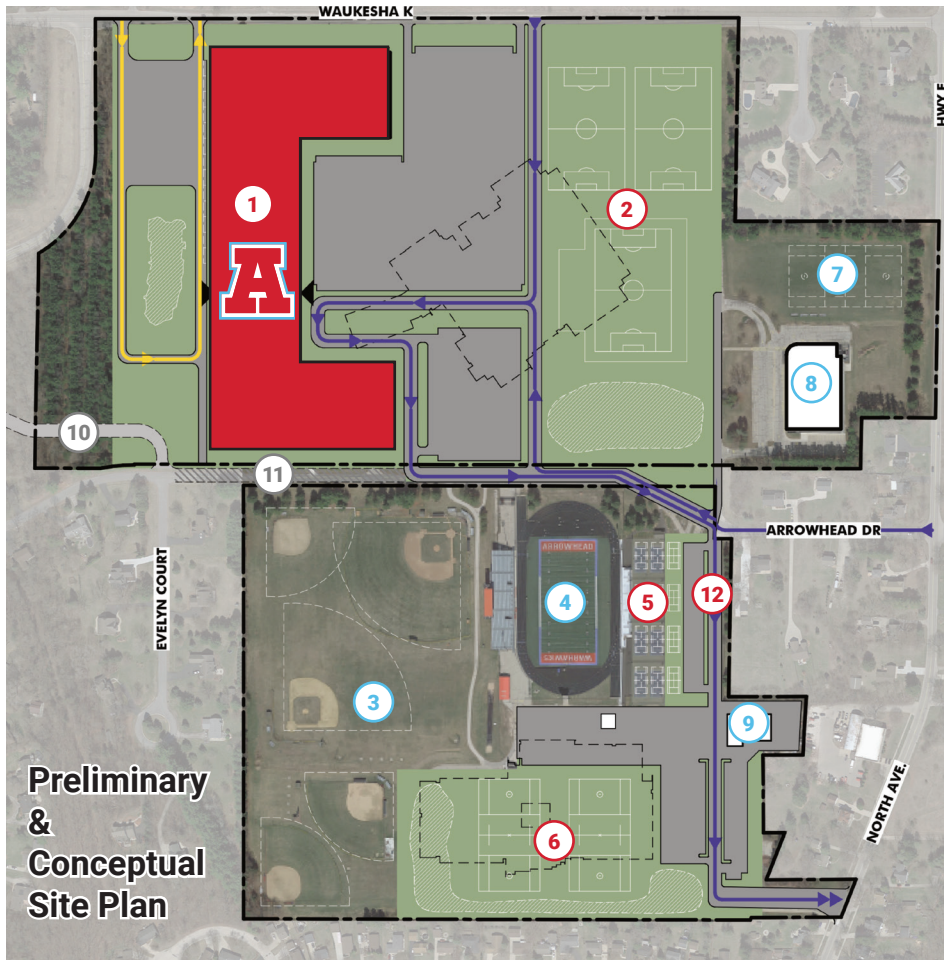
AHS VS.



OCONOMOWOC SD

A graphic for the Arrowhead High School 2024 Referendum. It features a large red letter 'A' with a white outline. Above the 'A' are two blue banners: the left one says 'STRONG SCHOOLS' and the right one says 'STRONG COMMUNITY'. Below the 'A' are two red banners: the left one says 'VOTE' and the right one says 'NOV. 5'. At the bottom, in black text, is 'ARROWHEAD HIGH SCHOOL 2024 REFERENDUM'.

KEY



- | # | New | Existing | Potential |
|------|-----|----------|-----------|
| (1) | | | |
| (2) | | | |
| (3) | | | |
| (4) | | | |
| (5) | | | |
| (6) | | | |
| (7) | | | |
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| (10) | | | |
| (11) | | | |
| (12) | | | |
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| | | | |

- capacity for 2,000+ students;
- enhanced safety and security;
- flexible classrooms and labs with advanced technology and collaboration spaces;
- enhanced efficiencies through elimination of redundant spaces;
- an 8-lane swimming pool;
- a 1,000-seat auditorium; and
- an indoor space for academics, co-curriculars, and community programming.

“ Our schools are the heart of our community. A new high school will ensure safety, provide the modern spaces needed for our students to thrive, attract top talent, and boost local business. By investing in our schools, we can catch up to neighboring districts and maintain the Arrowhead legacy!

Tiffany Cooley, AHS Parent, AHS PTO Founding Member & Co-President

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO LEARN MORE



WHAT WILL BE ON THE NOVEMBER 5 BALLOT?

QUESTION 1

OPERATING REFERENDUM \$1.9 MILLION ANNUALLY (4 YEARS)

\$1.9 million annually for four years beginning in 2025-26 to fund operational costs. If approved, this referendum will replace the school’s current \$1.7 million operational referendum, which expires at the end of 2024-25.

Operational funding will be used to attract and retain staff in this competitive market, protect educational programming, keep pace with inflationary cost increases, and fund necessary maintenance and infrastructure needs.

QUESTION 2

NEW HIGH SCHOOL \$261.2 MILLION

\$261.2 million to construct a new high school on the current AHS site. If approved, the approximately 555,000-square-foot high school will bring AHS under a single roof, including:

- enhanced safety and security;
- elimination of inefficient, duplicate spaces;
- new 8-lane competition pool also for community use;
- 1,000-seat auditorium also for community use;
- indoor space for academic, co-curricular, and community programming;
- flexible classrooms and labs with advanced technology and collaboration spaces; and
- minimal impact on learning activities during construction.

QUICK FACTS

Age of
Original South Building
70 years old

Age of
Original North Building
55 years old

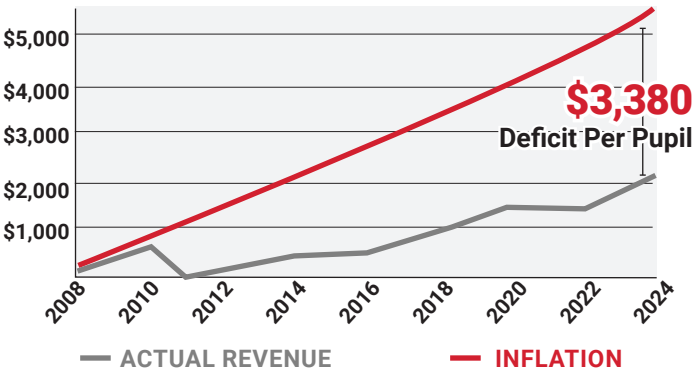
Last Major Investment
in Our Facilities
25+ years ago

Waukesha County Districts Have Passed
28
Facilities Referendums since 2000

\$143M
AHS Capital Maintenance
Needs Over the Next 25 Years

WHY DO WE NEED A REFERENDUM?

General school district revenue per pupil lags inflation by more than **\$3,300 per year** since 2009.



Source: Kava, Russ (1/9/23) Legislative Fiscal Bureau Memo

WHAT IS THE TAX IMPACT?

QUESTION 1 \$1.9 MILLION/YEAR (4 YEARS)			QUESTION 2 \$261.2 MILLION*	
PROPERTY VALUE	PER YEAR	PER MONTH	PER YEAR	PER MONTH
\$100,000	\$2.00	\$0.17	\$191.00	\$15.92
\$300,000	\$6.00	\$0.50	\$573.00	\$47.75
\$500,000	\$10.00	\$0.83	\$955.00	\$79.58

*Estimated equalized tax impact over previous year. Assumes 20-year borrowing, an interest rate of 4.25-4.5%, and equalized property valuation growth of 1.5%.

VOTE NOVEMBER 5!



Arrowhead Union High School District
700 North Avenue
Hartland, WI 53029-1143

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Hartland, WI 53029

FOLLOW AHS



As a result of postal routes, residents from neighboring districts may receive this publication.
Given the limitations of bulk mailing, this overlap could not be eliminated without significant costs.

SOUTH CAMPUS CAFETERIA

700 North Avenue
Hartland, WI 53029

Wednesday, OCTOBER 16, 2024

6:00 PM - Budget Hearing

6:30 PM - Annual Meeting

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given to qualified electors of the Arrowhead Union High School District that the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting will be held on October 16, 2024.

The Annual Meeting agenda and district budget information regarding the 2024-25 school year, as well as annual notices including the Wisconsin Accountability Report Card, are available on the district website at www.arrowheadschoools.org. Copies of these documents can also be obtained from the District Office at Arrowhead High School.

ARROWHEAD VALUES VETERANS!

Students and staff have established valuable connections with area veterans, gaining historical knowledge and character skills from their veteran friends.

Veterans experience camaraderie and the opportunity to share their meaningful stories!



- Spaghetti dinner hosted by SAVE for Veterans
- Veterans invited as guest speakers during various classes
- Arrowhead supported Stars & Stripes Honor Flight events
- Over 500 Arrowhead students visited the Wall that Heals in Nixon Park
- Annual Veterans Day Breakfast hosted by Arrowhead's Rho Kappa Honor Society
- SAVE Team (Survivor And Veteran Experience) interviewed veterans to hear and save their stories for the future
- Band ensembles raised \$1,500 at a holiday concert to donate to the Homeless Veterans Initiative of Milwaukee
- Hundreds of letters written by Arrowhead students to veterans through Creative Writing Class and student clubs