

# 2018 BOND REFERENDUM

## Equity

Passage of the bond referendum would provide greater equity for all students throughout the district. All students would experience 21st century learning spaces that provide greater collaboration, flexibility, and integration of technology.

## Efficiency

Over time it would cost more to maintain six elementary schools than to build two new schools. Operational efficiencies of four elementary schools would support repurposing \$1.8M annually.

## Opportunity

Repurposing \$1.8M annually would provide resources for enhanced 21st century programming and technology at the elementary, middle, and high school levels while reducing class sizes at the middle school & high school.

## Safety

Both of the new elementary schools would be equipped with 21st century safety and security features including secure entrances for the continued safety and security of all students and staff.

## Accountability

Keeping tax rates low while supporting educational needs is a top priority. Two elementary schools & UHS fitness center can be built in six to eight years with a minimal tax increase of \$0.25 per thousand of taxable valuation.

## What will the bond referendum support?



\$59M Bond Referendum would provide funds to build two new elementary schools, build an addition to Webster Elementary or UHS as needed for enrollment growth, and accelerate the timeline for building a new high school fitness center.



Passage of the bond referendum would provide funds to build, furnish, and equip two new 4-section elementary schools on the current Olmsted and Valerius sites. Jensen, Olmsted, Rolling Green, and Valerius would be retired. Year-round school would eventually move to Karen Acres. Preschool would be located at all four elementary schools.



Passage of the bond referendum would provide funds to build, furnish, and equip a fitness center as an addition to the existing high school building and related remodeling.



Anticipated construction start dates: spring 2019 UHS Fitness Center, summer 2019 first elementary school, & summer 2023 second elementary school.

[UrbandaleSchools.com/vote](http://UrbandaleSchools.com/vote)



**URBANDALE**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Honoring Our Past

- We are fortunate to live in a community where students, families, teachers, and staff develop caring relationships, strong bonds, and special experiences in all of our schools. While the physical structure of a school building may evolve to better support educational needs, it's our relationships that ultimately foster a sense of community and belonging.

- Past bond referendums supported by our Urbandale community ensured 21st century learning environments at Webster Elementary, Urbandale Middle School, and

Urbandale High School. The 2018 Bond Referendum ensures equity throughout all schools and creates greater opportunities for all K-12 students.



# BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

Urbandale CSD 2018 Bond Referendum

## Community Forums

- Monday, December 4, 2017
- Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Forums begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Urbandale High School Media Center (enter through media center doors).

★ VOTE ★  
**February 6, 2018**  
[UrbandaleSchools.com/vote](http://UrbandaleSchools.com/vote)

# Understanding Our Present

- Four elementary schools built in the 1950/60s—Jensen, Olmsted, Rolling Green, and Valerius—have served us well but have outlived their lifespan resulting in inequitable learning spaces that do not support criteria for 21st century learning environments.
- These four buildings will require significant investment to replace/repair/maintain core components (e.g. HVAC, electrical, technology, etc.).
- Inefficiencies of operating and maintaining six elementary buildings impact students at all levels by limiting resources and programming opportunities at UMS and UHS.
- Over the long term, it would cost more to maintain six elementary schools (hard costs and cost of lost opportunities) than to build two new elementary schools.
- We are continually in a reactive, instead of proactive, state for placing students due to limited sections in small buildings (one or two sections per grade level). Families are occasionally assigned to multiple elementary schools due to lack of space and staff.
- Since the 1960s, UHS has converted storage spaces to support fitness needs; no dedicated fitness facilities exist at the high school.

## Planning Our Future

- Throughout the 2016–17 school year, students, parents, teachers, staff, and community members participated in numerous facility planning meetings in order to gain a better understanding of how district facilities are performing in terms of educational adequacy, life-cycle costs, and cost/benefit analysis. This data, in combination with feedback received through online surveys and meetings, provided the Citizens Leadership Committee a 360-degree view of district facilities in order to create a comprehensive facility plan recommendation.
- Two new 4-section elementary schools will provide greater balance of class sizes within the same grade levels across the district, greater likelihood of children in the same family attending one elementary school, and improvements for and greater certainty of where Open Enrolled students will be placed each year.
- There are multiple funds that make up the total school tax levy. By adjusting rates within funds, the total tax increase would be just under \$0.25 per thousand of taxable valuation (~increase from \$17.75 to \$17.99). For example, the average Urbandale assessed home value is \$239,543 which would equal an increase of \$2.74/month or \$32.89/year.
- Anticipated construction start dates: spring 2019 UHS Fitness Center; summer 2019 elementary #1 (Olmsted site); summer 2023 elementary #2 (Valerius site). Simultaneously continue completion of remaining PPEL projects at UMS and UHS.

### EDUCATIONAL EQUITY STATEMENT

No student enrolled in the Urbandale Community School District shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in the District's programs on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, religion, marital status (for program), ethnic background, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, age (for employment) or socio-economic background (for program). The policy of the District shall be to provide educational programs and opportunities for students as needed on the basis of individual interests, values, abilities and potential. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district office at 1152 Aurora Ave, Urbandale, IA or call 515-457-5000. The district's Equity Coordinators are Dr. Keri Schlueter, Coordinator of Student Services, [schlueterk@urbandaleschools.com](mailto:schlueterk@urbandaleschools.com), Mark Lane, Director of Human Resources, [lanem@urbandaleschools.com](mailto:lanem@urbandaleschools.com) and Crista Carlile, Director of Teaching and Learning, [carlilec@urbandaleschools.com](mailto:carlilec@urbandaleschools.com).