

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ZERO MILL NET INCREASE BOND PROPOSALS ESTIMATED FROM THE CURRENT LEVY



Dear Whiteford Community Members,

On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, Whiteford Schools will have two (2) proposals for a Capital Bond Project that would provide funding to enhance our elementary school facilities and athletic fields—two critical areas that impact student learning, safety, and overall well-being. Please vote on Tuesday, May 6th at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 5790 W. Temperance Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 from 7am to 8pm.

PROPOSAL 1 - WHITEFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- ✓ \$6.5 Million
- ✓ Add 5 Classrooms
- ✓ Add 3 Single Stall Bathrooms
- ✓ Add Flex Space, Single Stall Bathroom, Storage
- ✓ Replace Roof
- ✓ Replace Rooftop Air Handlers

PROPOSAL 2 - WHITEFORD ATHLETICS

- ✓ \$1 Million
- ✓ Softball Field, Baseball Field, Main Entrance Work
- ✓ Replace Backstops, Dugouts, Bleachers, Press Box
- ✓ Replace Drainage Tile (Baseball Outfield)
- ✓ Add Asphalt Drive/Walkway and Concrete Paths

HOW CAN VOTERS BE SURE THE BOND FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT THE WAY THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SPENT?

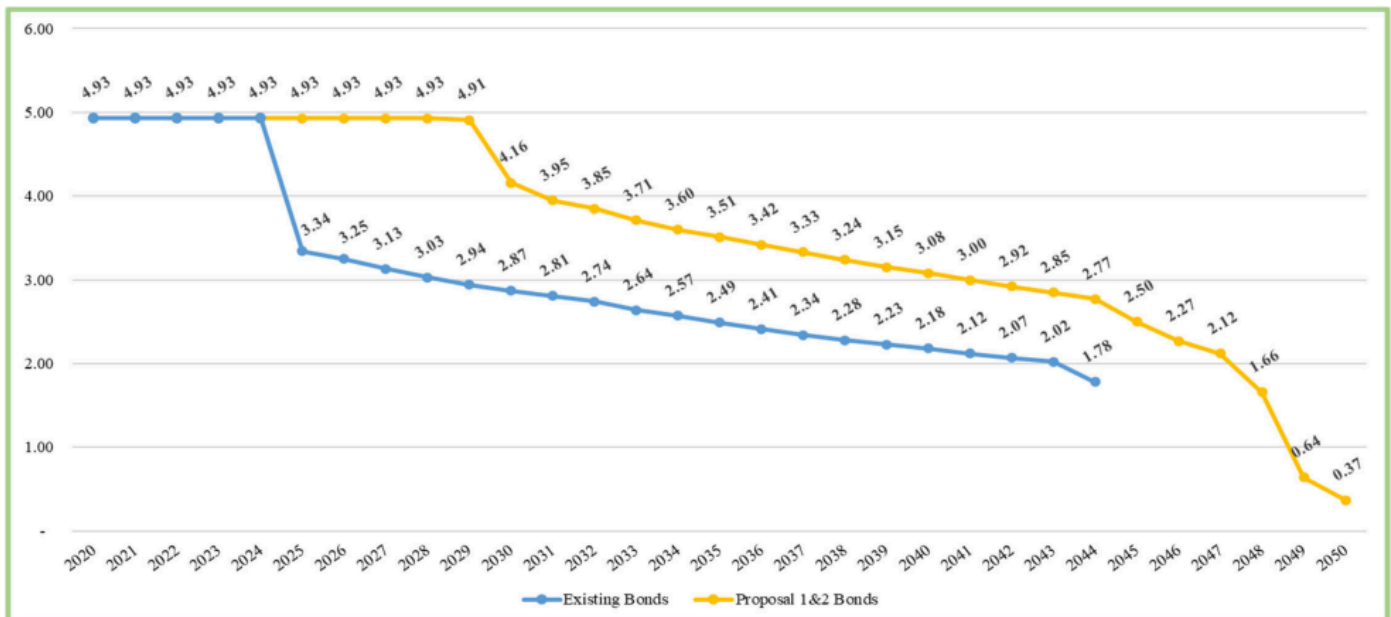
Michigan law requires the expenditure of bond proceeds be audited. The bond proceeds can only be spent for purposes approved by the voters. The bond cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator, or employee salaries, or other operating expenses. An audit would be completed and filed as required by law.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON PROPERTY TAXES?

If the bond proposals are approved, the current tax rate of 4.93 mills is not expected to increase from the current levy. This means property owners will continue paying the same millage rate they are already paying (4.93 mills), while enabling \$7.5 million dollars in improvements for our school district and community. In effect, the proposals would extend the millage rate of 4.93 before decreasing as the bonds are repaid. The graph below was provided by Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC showing the existing bonds (blue) and the extension (yellow) of the 4.93 mills.

Estimated Proposed Bond Millage Rates

(Assumes Taxable Value Growth of 2.50%-3.00%)



WHAT IS A MILL? HOW DOES IT WORK?

Mill rate is a tax rate—the amount of tax payable per \$1,000 dollars of the assessed value of a property. For example, a home with a market rate of \$200,000 (\$100,000 assessed value) would expect to pay \$493 per year (represented by the taxable value divided by 1,000 which equals \$100 times 4.93 as the projected millage rate) under this proposal. \$493 divided by 12 equals \$41.08 per month or \$41.08 divided by 30 equals \$1.37 per day.

DO WE REALLY NEED IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR ATHLETIC FIELDS?

In the pictures below, we show some of the issues and current building structures. The baseball drainage issue continues to be a problem each spring with rainouts. The softball and baseball fencing and bleachers need to be replaced, while the wood dugouts and press boxes would be replaced with block and metal structures. If bond proposal 2 is approved, the addition of an asphalt drive and concrete paths will make the athletic complex handicap accessible for all.



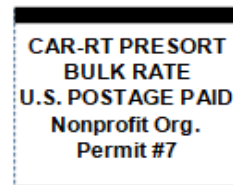
PROPOSAL 1 & 2 - MORE INFORMATION

We encourage all residents to learn more about the bond proposals by visiting the school district website at: <https://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us/our-district/bond-projects/>. Please contact Superintendent Huard at 734-856-1443 Ext. 101 or scott.huard@whiteford.k12.mi.us for questions or clarifications regarding the Capital Bond Campaign.

Paid for by Whiteford Agricultural Schools, 6655 Consear Rd., Ottawa Lake, MI 49267



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