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This information is provided by Glen Ellyn School District 41.

REFERENDUM 2007

A \$40 million bond referendum to expand, renovate and restructure our schools



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Board of Education members

John Vivoda, president
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WHY IS IT NEEDED?

- We are out of space. Nearly 600 (15%) of our students are housed in 26 portable classrooms, and enrollment growth is projected to continue.
- Core areas (libraries, gyms, lunchrooms, hallways, computer labs, bathrooms) are stressed.
- Portables are not a permanent solution.

Please vote on April 17



OUR VISION: Exceptional Learning in a Respectful and Supportive Environment.

(630) 790-6400

GLEN ELLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT 41

www.d41.org

THE SPACE CHALLENGE

Our buildings were last enlarged in 1998, and we are using all of that space plus additional space provided by portable classrooms.

- A school's worth of children (nearly 600) is housed in 26 portable classrooms; projections show growth through 2013.
- Portable classrooms have let us keep class sizes within acceptable ranges, although class sizes are expected to grow. However, portables have encroached on play areas, posed logistical challenges and eroded instructional time as students go in and out for services.
- There is stress on our programs and infrastructure. We are running out of space to schedule specialized classes such as gym and music, some of our libraries house cubicles and some services are delivered in halls and other spaces that were never intended for instructional or program use.
- If the referendum passes, by the time this building project is complete, it will have been 12 years since our schools were enlarged.

THE SOLUTION

This solution grew out of facilities planning that began in 2003 and involved many stakeholders. It includes both facility and educational components.

- On April 17, residents of D41 will be asked to approve a \$40 million bond referendum to pay for expansions and renovations to our schools.
- **Hadley:** \$36 million will fund expansion and renovation of Hadley Junior High. Hadley will become a 5-8 campus housing grades 5-6 and 7-8 in separate wings connected through core spaces.
- **The elementary schools:** \$4 million will fund a combination of additions and renovations among the four elementary schools, which will become K-4. Some portables may still be needed on some campuses at times in the future.
- **Four K-4 schools, one 5-8 school:** Expanding and restructuring our schools in this way meets the academic and developmental requirements of each grade level and is a practical solution to our space needs using land we already own.



D41's job is to provide the information you need to make an informed decision.

HADLEY SITE: operational efficiencies, adequate space for expansion

The district pursued a number of avenues for building a 5-6 school during its site selection process, investigating commercial parcels and collaboration with the Park District. In the end, the only options were the two parcels it owns: the Hadley campus and the vacant Spalding site.

The 4.7-acre Spalding site is too small unless additional parcels are acquired. There would be insufficient space for play areas, parking and bus traffic. Due to the absence of sidewalks in the Spalding area and the fact that many students would have to cross high-traffic roads (St. Charles and Main St.), nearly all students would be bused to the site, requiring 8 additional routes; the Hadley plan requires 3 additional routes. The advantages of conjoined buildings on the Hadley site include operational efficiencies, since staffing and other costs would be less than they

would with two buildings. It's also a chance to remedy inefficient spaces in Hadley. In addition, the new space can be built without acquiring additional land.

A concept diagram for Hadley is posted on www.d41.org/referendum. The diagram shows how expanding and renovating Hadley will address a number of facility needs. Additional classrooms and renovations of the core areas will result in improvements that affect the students' experience every day, such as renovated learning center (media center), gyms, lunch areas, band and orchestra rooms, hallways and other areas. There will be four athletic fields to accommodate Physical Education. Attention has been paid to neighborhood and safety concerns regarding vehicular flow and parking, with off-street bus-loading bays and parent drop-off, and staggered arrival and dismissal times.

THE COST: paying back bonds over 19 years

The District will sell \$40 million in bonds, repaying the debt through 2025 (19 years). The tax increase will affect money levied in the District's Bond and Interest Fund. The information below isolates the impact of the bond referendum. The projections are based on our best information at this time. The fair market values illustrated (\$300,000 and \$600,000) were chosen because they are representative of values in the area D41 serves, which includes parts of Carol Stream, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Lombard and Wheaton.

- Estimated tax impact to the owner of a property with a fair market value of \$300,000 in 2007 would range from \$134 to \$342, averaging \$243 a year over the 19-year term of the bonds. These calculations account for property value appreciation, estimating that by 2025, this property would be worth \$714,739.
- The estimated tax impact to the owner of a property with a fair market value of \$600,000 in 2007 would range from \$273 to \$695, averaging \$494 a year over the 19-year term of the bonds. These calculations account for property value appreciation, estimating that by 2025, this property would be worth \$1,429,479.

**For a projected yearly payment schedule
and other financial details,
please visit www.d41.org/referendum.**

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ENROLLMENT: gradual growth projected

Our demographic study projects a continuation of the slow, steady growth we've seen over the last 10 years. Projections are estimates based on the best information available. The demographers looked at census data, local trends such as tear-down/rebuilds, and development plans for the five communities we serve. The demographic study cited several reasons for enrollment growth, among them desirability of the D41 area, which attracts and retains many young families; intergenerational turnover in which empty nesters sell to young families; and changes in D41's socioeconomics which has led to more large families in the district.



PROJECT FEATURES:

The Board of Education took its direction from community input asking it not to spend money on detailed plans in advance of voter approval of the project. Upon a successful referendum, architectural drawings and construction documents will be created.

Hadley: \$36 million*

Completion target fall 2010

The proposal allows for approximately 142,000 sq. ft. of new construction and 107,000 sq. ft. of renovations at Hadley. Among the planned improvements are:

- Additional classrooms
- Expanded learning center
- Expanded technology center
- New multi-purpose cafe-torium
- Additional gymnasium
- Playing fields
- Expanded band/orchestra rooms
- Improved internal traffic flow
- Improved campus traffic flow with off-street bus bays & parent drop-off
- Expanded parking

Elementary schools: \$4 million*

Completion target spring 2011

The proposal allows for approximately 8,000 sq. ft. of new construction and 3,000 sq. ft. of renovations among the four elementary schools. Once the fifth grades are moved into Hadley (2010) and most of the portables are removed, work can begin at the elementary schools. Needs will be prioritized closer to the construction date to determine the specific expansions and renovations at each site.

* Costs are based on similar projects completed in the last 5 years and include architectural and engineering services, demolition, construction, light and heavy renovation, stormwater engineering, grading, finish materials, furniture and indirect costs such as fees and material testing. Estimates include allowances for inflation and contingencies.

**D41 has nearly 600 children
in 26 portable classrooms.**



Abraham Lincoln Elementary
Total enrollment: 651*
Portable classrooms: 6



Benjamin Franklin Elementary
Total enrollment: 624*
Portable classrooms: 4



Churchill Elementary
Total enrollment: 624*
Portable classrooms: 8



Forest Glen Elementary
Total enrollment: 539*
Portable classrooms: 4



Hadley Junior High
Total enrollment: 1150*
Portable classrooms: 4

* From the 2006 Fall Housing Report

**Please vote on
April 17.**

MIDDLE-LEVEL EDUCATION AT HADLEY:

An educational feature of this proposal is restructuring Hadley into a 5-8 middle-level campus. Middle-level education means focusing on the unique needs of young adolescents (defined as ages 10 through 15). Many educational and medical professionals note that children are developing the physical characteristics of adolescence at a younger age than in times past.

A 5-6 WING AND A 7-8 WING JOINED THROUGH CORE SPACES

- The plan calls for two wings (5-6 and 7-8), each with its own arrival and dismissal time, its own bus routes and its own daily schedules.
- The wings will share core spaces, using them at different times. Students in 5th and 6th grade will have some planned activities with older students, such as assemblies.

AN AGE-APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL PLAN FOR HADLEY

- A four-year experience in grades 5-8 will provide stability and a sense of school identity during the middle-level years. It is also an opportunity to meet the developmental needs that are unique to 5th and 6th grades, and unique to 7th and 8th grades. This approach is consistent with research on the academic, social and developmental needs of students this age.
- From an educational and developmental standpoint, sixth graders have much in common with fifth graders. Sixth graders will be in a smaller environment than currently, with age appropriate programs and services.
- Hadley will provide an environment for fifth and sixth graders that respects their childhood while providing a rich academic experience; an environment for seventh and eighth graders that fosters independence and provides structure for increasing academic challenge.
- Hadley will provide a program and activities that promote development of the personal qualities necessary for success in school and life.

TRANSITION PLANNING SUPPORTS LEARNING

- Transitions are ideal times to encourage parent and student involvement and create strong, positive identities for schools. Transitions are also times to address the social, organizational and motivational needs of students, parents and staff.
- District 41 already does transition work with students in fifth grade preparatory to entering Hadley, and those efforts would be adapted to fourth graders and their families. We also work with eighth graders and their families preparatory to entering high school, and those efforts would continue. Fifth grade teachers will receive support as they begin working together in a larger team.

IMPACT ON SPACE AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- Elementary students will have improved access to gyms, computer labs, libraries, bathrooms and playgrounds. Green space now occupied by portables can be reclaimed, although some portables may be necessary at times.
- Moving 5th grade to Hadley will relieve crowding in the elementary schools, both in the buildings and on the campuses.



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