



Harbor Springs Public Schools

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Harbor Springs Public Schools Bond Update, June 2022

On May 3, 2022, voters approved the passage of a \$41.85 million bond issue that features seven components:

1. Provide improvements at Blackbird and establish it as an early childhood facility, providing child care, pre-school, and after school care.
2. Construct a new K-4 elementary school that would house all of the District's elementary students (on the present Shay Elementary site).
3. Provide improvements and updates at Harbor Springs Middle School
4. Provide improvements and updates at Harbor Springs High School including a barrier free entrance to the athletic and performing arts areas as well as relocation of music/band programs to the north side of the building.
5. Site improvements at Harbor Springs High School to allow for increased safety and parking capacity.
6. Improvements to the Community Pool, including a secure entrance.
7. Synthetic turf at Ottawa Stadium

These bonds are to be sold in two phases (2022 and 2024). The first phase will raise approximately \$16.5 million and the second phase will raise approximately \$25.31 million. The first phase will include the demolition of Shay Elementary School and the construction of a new elementary school. The anticipated occupancy of a new elementary school would be at the start of the 2024-25 school year. The design process of a new elementary school will kick-off on June 13, 2022. Design for Phase Two projects will not occur until 2024.

Questions and Answers Regarding the Bond

Q: Why is it necessary to demolish Shay Elementary School?

A: Because of structural limitations and the extent of needed improvements, it is more efficient to demolish Shay and construct a new elementary school to house all of the District's elementary K-4 population.

Q: When will the demolition take place?

A: Originally, the District and professional bond team planned on demolition to begin in Spring 2023. This would have meant that teachers and students would need to relocate over spring break of 2023. In gathering input from staff, it was decided to vacate Shay in the summer of 2022 and begin the 2022-23 school year in new locations to avoid a transition during the school year. This will also move up the demolition to late summer or fall 2022, which also helps ensure that the construction of the new elementary school is on schedule.

Q: Where will Shay students be housed for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years?

A: Second grade students will be housed at Blackbird. Third and Fourth grade students will be housed at Harbor Springs Middle School in a separate wing of the school. They will have their own bathrooms and will be separated at lunch, recess, and in all classes from other grade levels.

Q: Will other staff and programs be impacted by the relocation of the Shay students and staff?

A: Yes. Unfortunately, this is part of the process when taking a building off-line for a couple of years. Some areas of the other schools that typically are not used for instructional spaces will be used for these purposes. Some programs that, in the past, have had their own spaces may be sharing spaces. In the long-run, with a new elementary school built, the District will have excellent learning spaces for many years into the future.

Q: Who serves as the District's "professional team"?

A: The HSPS Bond professional team consists of Plante Moran Cresa serving as the District's owner's representative. The architect on the total project is French and Associates. The District has received proposals for construction manager and will be awarding that contract on June 27.

Q: When does the design process begin for the new elementary school?

A: The design process for the new elementary begins kicks off on June 13 and 14 with French and Associates facilitating a group of staff, parents, and administration looking at floor plans, learning communities, and programming.

Q: When does the design process begin for the other projects?

A: The other components of the bond project are scheduled for Phase 2 and the design process will begin most likely in 2023 or 2024. There might be some components in Phase 2 that could have a partial start prior to the beginning of Phase 2.