

News-Review

ELECTIONS

Voters approve Harbor Springs school bond proposal

[William T. Perkins](#) The Petoskey News-Review

Published 6:01 a.m. ET May 5, 2022

HARBOR SPRINGS — The Harbor Springs Public Schools bond proposal won the approval of voters in the Tuesday election.

Final, unofficial results from the Emmet County clerks' office show the bond proposal was supported by a margin of 1,227 to 798. A total of 2,025 ballots were cast on the issue. Only a portion of precincts in the county had the Harbor Springs proposal on their ballots, including Harbor Springs, Cross Village Township, Friendship Township, Little Traverse Township, Pleasantview Township, and Redmond Township.

Overall, the voter turnout throughout all of Emmet County was just below 20 percent, with all precincts having at least one ballot issue — the Char-Em Intermediate School District funding proposal — appearing on the ballot for all precincts.

The \$41.85 million bond proposal will fund a variety of improvements, including a new 38,000-square foot kindergarten through fourth grade facility to replace the current Shay Elementary School building.

Other projects include improvements to the parking and traffic flow configuration at Harbor Springs High School, new synthetic turf at Ottawa Stadium's field, and improvements to the school district's community pool.

The current Blackbird Elementary School building will be converted to an early childhood center. Harbor Springs Middle School would be remodeled and used as a grade 5-8 facility. Harbor Springs High School would be remodeled and expanded to serve students in grades 9-12.

The overall millage rate for citizens will remain at the 2.5 mill rate approved in the 2021 levy. Of that, the new bond is estimated to require a total of .40 mills a year.