Volume:7 Issue:2 April 2022

NO PROPERTY TAX RATE INCREASE BOND!



A Message from our Superintendent

Dear Families and Community of Wyoming Public Schools,

A New Bond Proposal Is Slated to Bring Many Changes, but the One Thing That Will Stay the Same Is . . . NO PROPERTY TAX RATE INCREASE FROM THE CURRENT RATE

In November of 2017, Wyoming voters passed a bond proposal that would allow for a significant investment in the District's buildings, improving learning spaces for scholars for years to come. It paved the way to remodel and reconstruct outdated buildings throughout the District; bring them up to code; and improve security, air quality, and technology.

Soon after the bond passed, the work started. While it certainly would have been preferred to start all the work at once, that simply isn't possible. The design process for each building is extensive, and input from staff at each facility is used to ensure each building's unique needs are addressed. Additionally, school construction is typically confined to the summer months, meaning much larger crews are needed to concentrate the work within the several weeks of summer. The District would not find enough contractors to bid on our projects if we asked them to mobilize crews to every building in just one summer. So, working

with our architects and construction managers, the work is broken up into manageable projects each year.

To date, all the high school scholars and our elementary school scholars at Parkview and Oriole Park are now learning in spaces that have been modernized and updated to current learning standards. This was all accomplished as promised: without raising the property tax rate for Wyoming taxpayers. West Elementary and Gladiola Elementary will be completed this summer, with Wyoming Intermediate, Wyoming Junior High, and Huntington Woods scheduled for work in 2023.

Why Another Bond?

Now, I know what you're thinking: Why wasn't the previous bond proposal enough to complete all the work across the District?

And the answer is . . . the bond proposal in 2017 was structured for an amount that would not require a tax rate increase. It was not for the amount required to complete all the needed work across the District.

Specifically, as one of the District's oldest and largest facilities, the Junior High requires more investment than can be made from the 2017 approval. With the funds set aside from 2017, the District could lightly renovate portions of the Junior High School. But having experienced the

(Continued on page 2)

WYOMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

3575 Gladiola Ave., SW • Wyoming, MI 49519 (616) 530-7550 • www.wyomingps.org

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Wyoming Public Schools Administration

The Insight is published by the Wyoming Board of Education as the official newsletter for residents of the Wyoming Public School District. Send items for publication to Wyoming Public Schools, c/o Insight Newsletter, 3575 Gladiola SW, Wyoming, MI 49519 or email to mcewenc@wyomingps.org

A translation of this document is available upon request at the WPS Administration Building.

Design/Edit: Odd Bird Art & Design, Mrs. Kristen Clignett



In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Elliot-Larson Civil Rights Act of 1977, and the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, it is the policy of Wyoming Public School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program, activity, or in employment. The lack of English skills will not be barrier to admission or participation in educational programs. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies. Inquiries related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, origin, age, height, weight, sex, or marital status should be directed to Mrs. Sarah Earnest, Assistant Superintendent for Employee Relations, 3575 Gladiola, Wyoming, MI 49519, (616) 530-7554. Inquiries related to discrimination on the basis of disability or religion should be directed to Jason Maas, Director of Student Services, 3575 Gladiola, Wyoming, MI, 49519, (616) 530-7525.

successful transformation of the High School, the District is asking the community to consider improvements to the Junior High as extensive as those made at Wyoming High School.

If approved, the current proposal would provide an additional \$24.9 million for comprehensive renovations and the partial reconstruction of Wyoming Junior High School, a facility that has not seen major structural improvements in nearly forty-three years. And just like in 2017, if passed, this proposal will not raise the property tax rate above the current rate. The current millage rate (which has remained the same since 2016 and is currently lower than 14 of 20 Kent County school districts) would be extended into the future.

A Junior High that Mirrors the High School

The public's investment at Wyoming High School has completely transformed the property into a state-of-the-art educational facility.

These additional funds would allow for the same degree of transformation at the Junior High, an archaic building that is currently unable to support modern best practices in teaching and learning.

Renovations and reconstruction will include the following:

- Modern learning environments, new furniture, and integrated technology
- Adequate lab spaces and equipment
- Improved air quality
- Replacement of failing building systems (such as roofing, plumbing, and electrical) to become energy efficient and meet modern building codes
- Site improvements to traffic flow, aging parking lots, and athletic facilities

The Remarkable Results of the Completed High School

When our high school scholars first stepped into the newly renovated High School, they saw the cramped, dated classrooms and dark corridors had been transformed into open, inviting spaces filled with natural light. They freely moved through hallways that had been expanded

UPCOMING BOND PROPOSAL 2022: WJHS CONCEPTUAL PLAN ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE AIR QUALITY AND AIR CONDITIONING, SAFETY AND SECURITY, PARKING AND AUDITORIUM ACCESS, AND CAMPUS SITE PICK UP AND DROP OFF. SITE & ATHLETIC **UPDATES** RENOVATIONS TO EXISTING FACILITY RENOVATIONS TO EXISTING **AUDITORIUM** CONSTRUCT NEW CLASSROOMS WITH A 2-STORY BUILDING DEMOLISH/ ADDITION REPURPOSE EXISTING FACILITY IMPROVE PICK-UP AND DROP OFF

UPCOMING BOND PROPOSAL 2022: AREAS TO ADDRESS IN WJHS



PREVIOUS BOND PROPOSAL 2017: IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL









PREVIOUS BOND PROPOSAL 2017: IMPROVEMENTS TO ELEMENTARIES













(Top row: Oriole Park Elementary entry; classroom; gymnasium. Bottom row: Parkview Elementary entry; gymnasium; playground.)

into sizable areas designed for collaboration, gathered for lunch in the new cafeteria, and had access to upgraded technology in every classroom. And long after the final bell rang, they came back to enjoy football games and events on the revamped grounds.

While the High School has received the most dramatic makeover, our elementary schools are also being elevated into the twenty-first century.

Any Remaining 2022 Bond Proposal Questions?

To learn more about the 2022 bond proposal, and to see additional images of the work completed to date with funds from the 2017 bond, please visit www.wyomingps2022.com

Sincerely,

Mr. Craig Hoekstra Superintendent



DISTRICT-WIDE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS: WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED AND WHAT'S COMING NEXT

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

High School Addition + Football Field Upgrades ✓ Complete!

Thank you to our Wyoming Community for making these projects possible!

Elementary School Renovations ✓ Complete/In Progress

Junior High Renovations 1

Up Next!

When and Where Can I Vote?

Election Day is Tuesday, May 3, 2022, and all registered voters can either vote in person on Election Day or send in an absentee ballot.

- Absentee ballots are available beginning March 19, 2022, and must be returned by May 3, 2022, at 8 p.m. You can request an absentee ballot by contacting the City Clerk's Office online or by phone.
- In-person voting will take place on May 3, 2022, from 7 a.m.—8 p.m. at the polling location designated by the City. You will need to bring your voter ID.

What If I'm Not Registered to Vote?

If you're not registered to vote, you have a few options to **become registered to vote** in this election:

- By mail on or before April 18, 2022 Online at www.michigan.gov/vote on or before April 18, 2022
 - In person at your local clerk's office through May 3, 2022

Please contact your City Clerk if you have any questions about registering to vote.

WPS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Shared Values. One Purpose. Better Together.

Vision: Wyoming Public Schools will be the first choice for education and the pride of our community.

Mission: Wyoming Public Schools will empower all students to discover and achieve their potential in an inclusive, inspiring, and innovative culture of learning.

Our Values:

Character: We believe actions express priorities. We believe modeling the core principles of kindness, compassion, grace, trust, integrity, respect, and acceptance strengthens us as a community.

Continuous Improvement: We believe success is linked to high expectations. We believe that greatness is achieved through ongoing, incremental improvement.

Collaboration: We are better together. We believe authentic relationships and shared responsibility are fundamental to success.

Diversity: We are strengthened by our diversity! We believe our differences challenge our points of view and lead to better outcomes.

Open to the Public!

Regular Board meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 6:00 PM (*unless noted otherwise*) in the Board Room at the Administration Building (3575 Gladiola Ave. SW). Board meetings are open to the public.

Soon after each meeting is called to order, the Board president will ask any individuals wishing to address the Board to identify themselves by name, and state the topic they would like to discuss. Those individuals will be recognized under "New Business."

In the spirit of compliance with the ADA, Individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Office of the Superintendent by phone (616)530-7555 if requesting special services to effectively participate in this meeting.

May 9, 2022 at 6 PM	September 12, 2022 at 6 PM
May 23, 2022 at 6 PM	September 26, 2022 at 6 PM
June 13, 2022 at 5 PM	October 10, 2022 at 6 PM
June 27, 2022 at 5 PM	October 24, 2022 at 6 PM
July 25, 2022 at 5 PM	November 14, 2022 at 6 PM
August 8, 2022 at 5 PM	December 12, 2022 at 6 PM





Mrs. Lisa Manley President



Mr. Craig Popma Vice President



Mr. Brian Jirous Treasurer



Mr. Jeff Norton Secretary



Mrs. Shannon Frick Trustee



Ms. Jennifer Lewis Trustee



Mrs. Audrey Zapata Trustee

August 22, 2022 at 5 PM

Educators Rising Empowers Future Teachers

By Alexis Stark, School News Network for the complete article visit schoolnewsnetwork.org

Teacher John Doyle greets his students at the beginning of every class and asks them about the good things happening in their lives. The last class period of the day, his sixth-hour students take turns volunteering news about work, school, family and life. "You all have stories," Doyle said. "You just don't always get the chance to tell them, and when you're a student, people don't always ask."

The class is called Educators Rising, in its first year being offered at Wyoming High School. It is part of a national effort that aims to help establish a pathway to careers in education. Doyle's class of 18 mostly juniors and seniors in the semester-long elective learn about secondary education required to be a teacher, and the kinds of careers in education they can pursue. They also visit district elementary and middle school classrooms, as well as one class in their own school.

"Our primary goal for our students is to expose them to what a positive and exciting learning environment should look like, along with highlighting the importance and need for diverse, passionate students to one day have a potential opportunity to teach at Wyoming Public Schools," Doyle said. "Today's rising educator is tomorrow's accomplished teacher."

Jennifer Slanger, the district's director of teaching and learning, said Doyle's class provides an experience for students they may not otherwise encounter while exploring teaching as a career. "Knowing we are a very diverse school district, our hope is that through Mr. Doyle's Educators Rising class, we will attract a diverse

group of students who are interested in pursuing teaching as a career," she said.

Back in his sixth-hour class, Doyle explained to students how they were to review the results from their first test. "We're going to get out of here and circle up outside for conversation, a sharing circle," he said. "Discussing our written responses together expands our understanding of the topics we're learning." If students learned something from a classmate's test answers, Doyle encouraged them to take notes on their own tests to reflect on later.

One question read: "How do you want to be remembered as a teacher?" Senior Aja Miller raised her hand to share her answer. "I want to be remembered as a teacher who kids could come to anytime, with anything, and they feel welcome." Junior Bryce Bosovich wanted to be remembered for being "strict when you have to be" and "compassionate to your students."

(For complete article, visit schoolnewsnetwork.org)









WPS KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE



PASA A VER!

CONOCE A LOS MAESTROS

VISITA LOS SALONES

RECORRER LA ESCUELA

APRENDER MAS DE KINDERGARTEN

VISITA EL PATIO DE RECREO

MAY 12, 2022 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

GLADIOLA ELEMENTARY

3500 GLADIOLA AVENUE SW

ORIOLE PARK ELEMENTARY

1420 40TH STREET SW

PARKVIEW ELEMENTARY

2075 LEE STREET SW

WEST ELEMENTARY

1840 38TH STREET SW



Wyoming Public Schools



2022 FAMILY MOVE-UP NIGHTS

WPS is hosting a series of move-up presentations for parents and guardians of current 4th, 6th, 8th and 9th grade scholars. These presentations will allow scholars and their families the opportunity to learn about our schools and tour the buildings.

Class of 2030 Family Move-Up Night (Current 4th Graders)



When: Tuesday, May 17, 2022, from 6 PM - 7 PM Who: Scholars and families of incoming 5th graders Where: Wyoming Intermediate 1331 33rd Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49509 Parking available in the front lot (33rd Street) or in the back lot near Jackson Park Splash Pad (off of 32nd Street)

Overview: Short presentation starting in the gym at 6 PM. Followed by building tours. Cookies and water provided.

Class of 2028 Family Move-Up Night (Current 6th Graders)

When: Wednesday, May 25, 2022, from 5 PM - 7 PM Who: Scholars and families of incoming 7th graders

Where: Wyoming Junior High

2125 Wrenwood SW, Wyoming, MI 49519 Parking available in the main parking lot and enter through main entrance (canopy)

Overview: Dinner served in the Cafeteria from 5-6 PM. Presentation in the Auditorium from 6-7 PM.



Class of 2025 & 2026 Family Move-Up Night (Current 8th & 9th Graders)



When: Wednesday, May 18, 2022, from 5PM -6:45 PM Who: Scholars and families of incoming 8th & 9th graders

Where: Wyoming High School

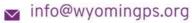
1350 Prairie Parkway, Wyoming, MI 49509 Parking available in east parking lot by the digital sign and enter through Main Entrance

Overview: Dinner served in the Cafeteria from 5 - 5:45 PM. Presentation in the Auditorium from 6 - 6:45 PM.

Questions? Contact Us:

3575 Gladiola Ave SW Wyoming, MI 49519

(616) 530-7550





@WolvesWPS



www.wyomingps.org



TEAM 21 is back this summer and offering six weeks of fun and learning for WPS students in grades 1-8.



The program includes summer academic classes led by certified teachers, along with a wide variety of afternoon activities including arts, fitness, recreation, STEM, life skills, field trips, and many other offerings.

Transportation will be available to all students who qualify, and all programming is offered at no cost to participants. Applications can be found online through Synergy.

TEAM 21 is a partnership between the City of Wyoming and Wyoming, Godwin Heights, and Godfrey-Lee Public Schools, made possible by a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant, awarded by the Michigan Department of Education.

The dates and schedules of the program are below:

Dates: June 13-July 28.

TEAM 21 runs Monday-Thursday; no program the week of July 4.

Elementary sites will all run at Parkview Elementary

Breakfast- 9:00 am

Summer Academics- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Lunch/Recess- 12:00 pm -1:00 pm

Afternoon Enrichment Activities-1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Wyoming Intermediate and Wyoming Junior High will both run at the Wyoming Intermediate

Breakfast- 8:30 am

Summer Academics- 8:30 am – 11:30 am

Lunch/Recess- 11:30 am - 12:00 pm

Afternoon Enrichment Activities-12:00 pm - 3:00 pm



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2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

DESCRIPTION CODES

STUDENTS - 1/2 DAY - AM ONLY

APRIL 22 - FRIDAY

JUNE 02 - THURSDAY

JUNE 03 - FRIDAY

NO SCHOOL - ALL

MAY 30 Memorial Day

TEACHERS & STUDENTS REPORT

Elementary Semester Dates

2nd Semester 01/03/2022 - 06/03/2022

Secondary Semester Dates

2nd Semester

01/03/2022 - 06/03/2022

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR THE

NEXT

SCHOOL YEAR

Tues., Aug. 23, 2022

[½ Day AM Only for Students]

2022-2023 School Year



1350 Prairie Pkwy SW, Wyoming, MI 49509

END OF THE YEAR **CLEARANCE SALE!**

REMAINING INVENTORY MUST GO!

Watch For Information About Dates & More On These Platforms



(O) wyoming_wolfden



(f) wyoWolfDen



(A) https://wyomingwolfden.square.site/

A Career with Wyoming Public Schools









Guest Teachers:

You impact our students by:

- Bringing your teaching skills and love of our students into a classroom setting.
- Keeping them engaged as learners.
- Providing a consistent school structure.
- Working with colleagues, administrators and paraprofessionals.
- Helping in ways big and small.

Food Service Staff:

Your contributions matter because:

- You are one of our valuable staff members who will interact with our students on a daily basis.
- You prepare and serve healthy meals to our students and staff.
- You maintain a clean work environment.
- You manage our food inventory.

Volunteers:

Your service matters because:

- You serve as a mentor and role model to our students.
- · You read to and with our students.
- You keep our students safe on the playground.
- You help staff with administrative needs.

Bus Drivers:

Why you are important to us:

- You are the one of the first and last WPS faces that our students see each day!
- You provide safe transportation of our students and staff to and from school, field trips, and sporting events.
- You play a very important role within our school community.

Join our team today!

Call to find out more about how to begin your career with Wyoming Public Schools!

(616) 530-7570

Easy online application at: www.WyomingPS.org

Wyoming Athletics Youth Summer Camp Calendar

				7		
Sport	Grades	Date/Time	Location	Cost	Contact Email	
Baseball	3rd - 8th	June 6 - 8 12pm - 2pm	Wyoming High	40\$	strickt@wyomingps.org	
Girls/ Boys Tennis	7th - 12th	June 13 - 15 5:30pm - 7pm	Lamar Park	Free	smithk5@wyomingps.org walcots@wyomingps.org	
Boys Basketball	3rd - 8th	June 6 - 9 8am - 11am	Wyoming High	50\$	vandert2@wyomingps.org	
Boys/Girls Soccer	3rd - 8th	June 20 - 23 4pm - 6pm	Wyoming High	25\$	romer@wyomingps.org lane.anthony01@gmail.com	
Wyoming Cheer	Pre-K - 5th	August 27 9am - 1pm	Wyoming High	25\$	coachkron5@gmail.com	
B/G Track/CC	3rd - 8th	July 20 - 22 6pm - 8pm	Wyoming High	35\$	vanenkb@wyomingps.org goodsos@wyomingps.org	
Football	3rd - 8th	July 11,19, 27 9am - 11am	Wyoming High	Free	brewstc@wyomingps.org	
Girls Basketball	3rd - 8th	June 11 - 12 12pm - 2pm	Wyoming High	50\$	danthony.da20@gmail.com	
Girls/Boys Golf	maplehillgolf.com/ jr-programs	June 13 - 15 TBD	Maple Hill GC	65\$	zajacs@wyomingps.org	
Softball	3rd - 8th	June 13 - 16 2pm - 4pm	Wyoming High	10\$	failink@wyomingps.org	
Volleyball	3rd - 8th	July 27 - 28 6pm - 8pm	Wyoming High	20\$	rcgrjc@yahoo.com	
Wrestling	3rd - 8th	July 27 - 28 6pm - 8pm	Wyoming Junior HIgh	10\$	faassej@wyomingps.org	
Weights/Speed/ Conditioning	7th - 12th	Mon,Tues,Thurs 7:30am - 10am	Wyoming High	Free	martinj4@wyomingps.org	
Bowling	3rd - 12th	Saturdays 9am	Spectrum Lanes	ТВА	walcots@wyomingps.org	

ParentVue

(PVUE) – ParentVue is an application for Parents to: Enroll students & Update demographic information

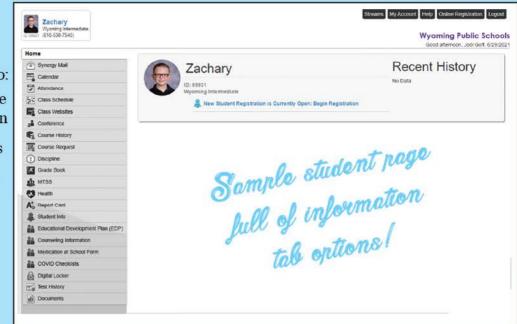
Assignments and Grades

Attendance & Discipline Information

Transcripts/Graduation Requirements

Academic Goals

And more....



Make sure you have an account....

New Student Enrollment

If you are *BRAND NEW* to Wyoming Public Schools (*never had any children enrolled in Wyoming before*), you can follow the process below.

Register online: go to wyomingps.org

Scroll to and click on "New Student Registration"

Scroll to and click on On-Line Enrollment

Follow these steps to create a ParentVue account to enroll your "new" child to the district:

Click on More Options (under Login button)

Click on Create a New Account

Click No and No, Click Continue

Read through and accept the Privacy Statement.

Parent Account Creation -

an email will be sent to the email address provided for you to create your ParentVue account and continue with the Registration Process.







(continued next page)

New Student Enrollment – *had students previously enrolled* in Wyoming Public Schools. If you already have a child enrolled in Wyoming Public Schools or have ever had children enrolled in Wyoming Public Schools, you will need to use your ParentVue account. *If you do not know your ParentVue account credentials, you can email pvue@wyomingps.org or call 616-530-7550*.

- Re-enrolling a student that was with Wyoming previously

Go to wyomingps.org

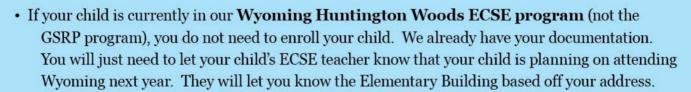
Click on Parent Access (top bar)

Fill in your **User Name** and **Password** to your previous ParentVue Account.

If you do not remember your user id and password, email pvue@wyomingps.org to retrieve it.



Start the re-enrollment process.



If you cannot enroll online, you can pick-up a paper registration form from the Wyoming Public Administration Building at 3575 Gladiola Ave SW. There will be a Pick-up Box with paper registration forms available and a Drop-off Box to return the forms.

If you need help with either online enrollment or paper registration, feel free to email pvue@wyomingps.org or call 616-530-7550.

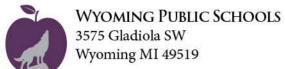
Back to School Registration – *Returning Students* – Opens early August through ParentVue

Look for an email in **early August** to complete your Online "Back to School Registration" through your ParentVue Account. It will not be available to fill out until you have received the email.

If you do not currently have a ParentVue account, email pvue@wyomingps.org to obtain one now so you are prepared in August for Back to School Registration.

First Day of the NEXT School is Tuesday, August 23rd, 2022

(1/2 day for all students)







Shall Wyoming Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Twenty-Four Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$24,900,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, for the purpose of:

--- \$24.9 MILLION BOND

The District would sell bonds totaling \$24.9 million

- purchasing, erecting, completing, remodeling, and equipping and reequipping, school buildings, including school security improvements and secure entrances, structures, athletic fields, playgrounds, and other facilities, and parts of and additions to those facilities;
- furnishing and refurnishing new and remodeled school buildings;
- acquiring, preparing, developing, and improving sites, and parts of and additions to sites, for school buildings, including structures, athletic fields, play fields, playgrounds, and other facilities; and
- acquiring, installing, and equipping and reequipping school buildings for instructional technology.

- PROPOSED
 PROJECT SCOPE
- Renovating and partially reconstructing the Junior High
- Furnishing and equipping the school, including technology
- Improving the site and athletic facilities
- Visit the website for the list of proposed improvements

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2023, is 0.94 (\$0.94 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a <u>0 mill net increase</u> over the prior year's levy. The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is twenty-five (25) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 1.28 mills (\$1.28 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)

--- NO TAX RATE INCREASE

It is estimated that the debt millage rate would not increase over the current rate, which has remained at 5.65 mills since 2016.

Election Day:

May 3, 2022