



Dear Mukwonago Community Members:

This is an exciting time for the Mukwonago Area School District (MASD) as our students continue to demonstrate academic excellence. Based on the most recent Department of Public Instruction accountability report cards, our District's schools rank in the top 8% of Wisconsin and nearly 95% of our graduates are pursuing two- or four-year college or technical school degrees. While our focus remains on student learning, we have also worked diligently to control our costs. Our District:

- ✓ ranks in the lowest 10% in the state in cost-per-student spending.
- ✓ has one of the lowest property tax mill rates in the region.

We are proud of this rare combination of top academic performance coupled with responsible spending.

This spring, a *Community Steering Committee* was formed by the School Board to help develop a plan to update Mukwonago High School (MHS). The school was built in 1972 to serve 915 students. Although there have been additions and renovations over the past four decades, major parts of the facility are too small, outdated, and unable to meet the needs of the current MHS population of 1,600 students.

Prior to completing a plan, we are looking for input from our community members. **The School Board is committed to finalizing a Master Plan for Mukwonago High School that reflects the priorities of the taxpayers and meets the needs of our students.** To help us accomplish this task, please take a few minutes to complete this survey.

To save on expenses, we encourage you to take the survey online before October 5th:

1. Simply go to the website: **www.survey2000.com**
2. Enter the Survey Access Number: <<Survey Access Numbers>>
3. Take the survey!

To collect this feedback, the District is working with School Perceptions LLC, an independent Wisconsin firm with expertise in conducting community surveys. All survey responses will be collected and analyzed by School Perceptions and your feedback will be confidential.

To receive a survey for other adults in your household, please call the District Office at (262) 363-6300. If you do not have internet access and/or prefer to complete the paper survey, please drop it off at any MASD school or the district office. You may also mail your survey directly to:

School Perceptions
317 East Washington Street
Slinger, WI 53086

Final survey results will be reported at a fall School Board meeting and will also be available on the District website at www.masd.k12.wi.us. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this survey.

Sincerely,

Shawn McNulty

Mary D'Amour
Joanne Newberry
Cheri Winchowky

Tim Agoudemos
Jeff Voelkel
Erika Conner

Art Schneider
Todd Clemens
Don Cox

District Superintendent and Mukwonago Area School Board

With the help of MASD staff, architects, and a construction manager, the **Community Steering Committee** has identified the most pressing high school facility needs and developed potential solutions. The feedback gathered through this survey will help finalize their recommendation to the School Board.

Cafeteria

The high school cafeteria is too small to serve the current student population. Consequently, students are served lunch over five periods, starting at 10:20 a.m. This creates a scheduling challenge and limits the number of classes students can take. In addition to creating enough seating space for students to eat lunch in two periods, the cafeteria’s sound and presentation systems would be improved, creating a large group space for school and community use. Most importantly, a larger cafeteria will allow the needed flexibility for a new master schedule, permitting students to take more courses.

Estimated cost: \$3.6 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to expand the high school cafeteria?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Library/Academic Resource Center

Today’s school libraries are utilized differently than in previous generations. These learning spaces are now used for research and student collaboration. Academic assistance in math, reading, and writing is also provided in this area. As a result, libraries now need flexible furniture, small group study rooms, and access to technology. The size of the high school library is adequate, but the space requires updates to meet current needs.

Estimated cost: \$1.4 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to update the high school library?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Safety and Security

The safety of our students and staff is our top priority. Currently, the high school main office is located in the center of the school. This project would move the high school offices and school resource officer to the main entrance to better monitor and control visitor access.

Estimated cost: \$2.38 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to improve high school safety and security?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Comments/suggestions regarding the items on this page:

Building Infrastructure

Although the high school has been well maintained, some building infrastructure is more than 40 years old and has reached the end of its useful life. The cost of these projects, such as replacing major heating systems, roof-top air handling units, and roofs, is too large to cover in the annual operating budget.

Estimated cost: \$2.25 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to address high school infrastructure needs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Technical Education/STEM Expansion

There is a growing demand for skilled trades and professionals in manufacturing, engineering, and design in our region. Our goal is to integrate more STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education into our traditional technical education program. However, our classrooms are too small and limit our ability to incorporate the latest technology, equipment, and hands-on learning opportunities. The project creates:

- Flexible learning spaces that can be modified based on course offerings and employer needs
- Updated Manufacturing and Building Construction classrooms, technology, and equipment
- Classrooms for Project Lead the Way (Engineering and Design courses)
- Build/test prototype lab

Estimated cost: \$2.33 million

How likely would you be to support a plan that expands the high school technical education and STEM programs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Classroom Improvements

Mukwonago High School's second floor contains several classrooms that are less than 650 square feet. Today's modern classroom averages 1,000 square feet and provides space for small group collaboration. The high school performing arts classrooms (band, choir, orchestra, and theater) also need updating. Each area is too small to meet current student demand and lacks proper lighting and acoustics. The project includes:

- Updated general education classrooms, improved technology access, and lighting
- New band/orchestra and choir classrooms
- Collaboration areas for small groups
- Increased natural light and larger hallways on the second floor

Estimated cost: \$8.7 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to renovate the high school general education and fine arts classrooms?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Comments/suggestions regarding the items on this page:

Auditorium

The current high school auditorium is small for a school of 1,600, seating only 386 people. This space cannot fit even a single grade level of our students. The stage and lighting are outdated and performers do not have dressing rooms, causing students to change costumes in the hallways. A new auditorium would have seating for 800, providing needed space for school and community concerts, musicals, and meetings. It would also be used for assemblies and large lectures.

Estimated cost: \$13.6 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to build an auditorium at the high school?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Three Court Gym and Locker Room

The high school has two gyms which no longer meet school and community needs. The larger gym seats 1,200 which is not big enough for seating the entire student body, holding graduation ceremonies, or hosting major athletic events. Youth sports and other community group usage (Robotics, Special Olympics, adult fitness, etc.) have dramatically increased over the past decade. As a result of limited gym space, practices are being held early in the morning and late in the evening throughout the school year. This project includes:

- A three court gym, providing space for practices, athletic events, large school/community events, and graduation
- A lobby, new restrooms, and storage space
- Expanded locker rooms

Estimated cost: \$15.3 million

How likely would you be to support a plan to add a high school gym and locker rooms?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Option: Four Court Gym with Indoor Track

The above project could be expanded to include a fourth court and indoor track. This would allow the high school to remain competitive with other districts in the region and provide additional space for community programs (i.e. senior walking, evening basketball, volleyball, etc.)

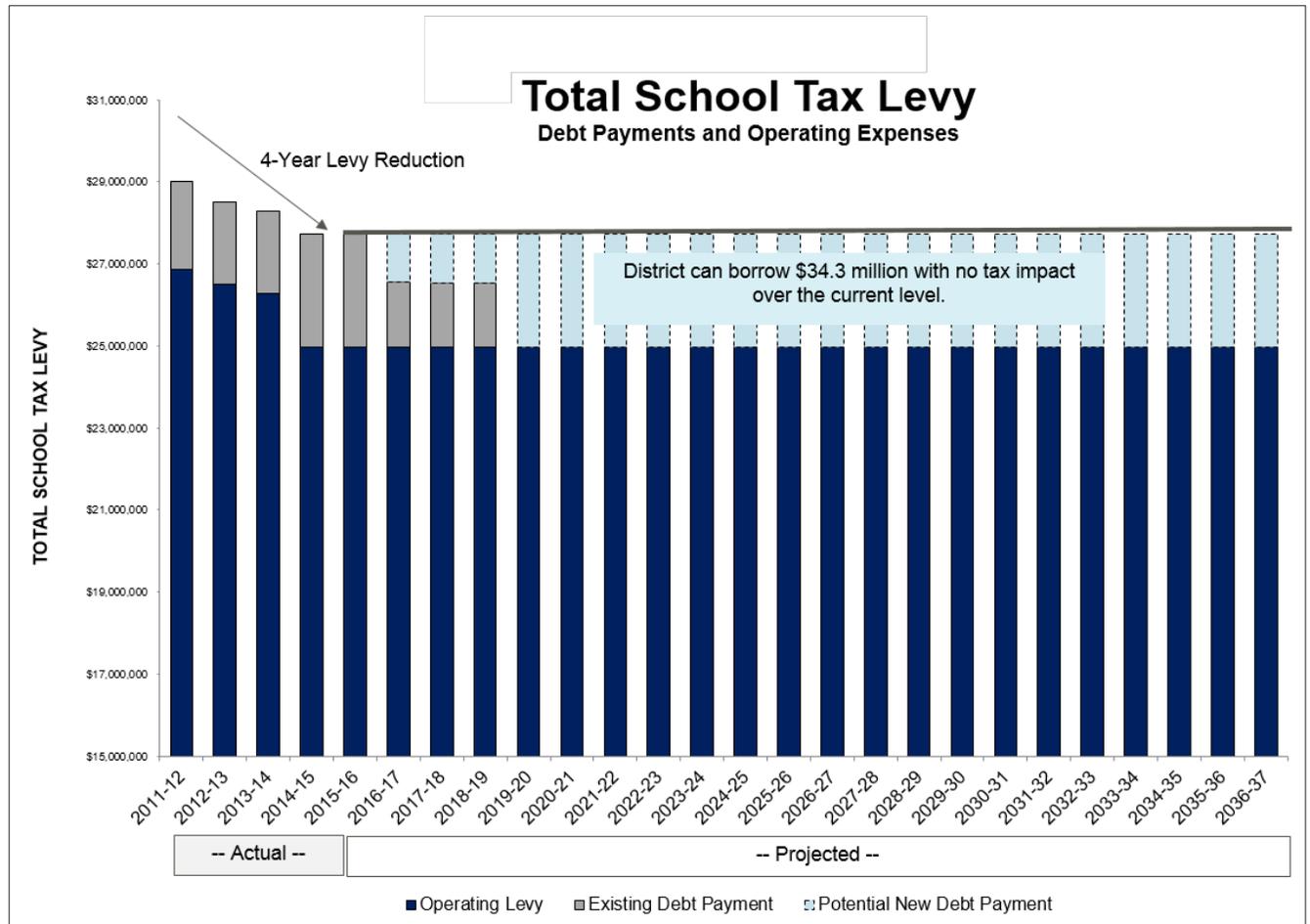
Estimated additional cost: \$6.2 million, bringing the total cost to \$21.5 million.

How likely would you be to support a plan to <u>expand the high school gym project</u> to include an indoor track and fourth court?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very likely <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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Comments/suggestions regarding the items on this page:

Financial Background

The District is about to pay off a loan that funded past building projects. As a result, beginning in 2017, local property taxes will drop. This reduction of loan payments could give the community an opportunity to invest up to \$34.3 million in facility upgrades with no tax impact over the current level. The chart also shows that the operating levy has gone down for the past 4 years.



Note: This example assumes no change in the operating levy for future years.

Using a homeowner analogy, we are about to pay off our home mortgage. The School Board believes this is a good time to consider our options because of the reduction in taxes and historically low interest rates.

<p>What advice would you give the School Board?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pursue a referendum to update the high school</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do nothing at this time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/no opinion</p>
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Comments/suggestions:

Conceptual Plan

The image below is a conceptual plan developed by the *Community Steering Committee*. The projected reduction in tax rates, as explained on the previous page, is reflected in the calculations below.



KEY

- 1 CAFETERIA RENOVATION
 - 2 PERIOD LUNCH / 800 SEATED CAFETERIA
- 2 OFFICE ADDITION & RENOVATION
 - SECURE ENTRY
- 3 AUDITORIUM ADDITION & RENOVATION
 - 800 SEAT AUDITORIUM
 - DRAMA CLASSROOM
 - CONCESSIONS
 - SET / SCENERY CONSTRUCTION / STORAGE
 - RESTROOMS

- 4 MUSIC ADDITION
 - BAND / ORCHESTRA ROOM
 - CHOIR ROOM
 - PRACTICE & ENSEMBLE ROOMS
- 5 MULTIPURPOSE GYMNASIUM ADDITION
 - THREE COURT GYMNASIUM
 - LOCKER ROOMS
 - RESTROOMS

- 6 LIBRARY RENOVATION
 - TECHNOLOGY / COMPUTERS
 - COLLABORATION & SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION SPACE
- 7 STUDENT SERVICES RENOVATION
 - CAREER CENTER
 - HEALTH OFFICES

- 8 TECH. ED. / S.T.E.M. RENOVATION
 - S.T.E.M. CLASSROOMS & LABORATORY
 - WOOD SHOP
 - METALS SHOP
 - AUTO CLASSROOM & SHOP
 - I.T. ACADEMY
- 9 SOUTH ENTRANCE ADDITION
 - BUS DROP-OFF ENTRY
 - CONNECTIVE CORRIDOR

- 10 PARENT / EVENT DROP-OFF & PARKING
- 11 BUS DROP-OFF & PARKING
- 12 EXPANDED PARKING
- *** SECOND FLOOR RENOVATION
 - CLASSROOM IMPROVEMENTS
 - ART
 - SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
 - WIDENED CORRIDORS

Would you support a \$49.5 million referendum for the *Conceptual Plan* as described above?

Representing an estimated annual tax increase of approximately \$38 for each \$100,000 of property value.

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Undecided
- Probably no
- Definitely no

Would you support a \$55.7 million referendum for the *Conceptual Plan* as described above with the addition of a four court gym and indoor track?

Representing an estimated annual tax increase of approximately \$53 for each \$100,000 of property value.

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Undecided
- Probably no
- Definitely no

Comments/questions/suggestions regarding the items on this page:

Funding Support to Operate New Facilities

If the high school is expanded, the District will need to secure additional operational funding for maintenance and utilities. Depending on projects approved, this amount could range up to **\$350,000** annually (representing a tax impact up to \$12 on a \$100,000 home).

If voters support a referendum to upgrade the facilities, would you also support a referendum to operate and staff those facilities?

- Yes
 No
 Undecided

Comments/questions/suggestions regarding the items on this page:

Respondent Information *Please check your response to each of the following:*

What is your age? Under 18 18-25 26-34 35-54 55-64 65 and over

Do you live in the Mukwonago Area School District? Yes No

Are you an employee of the Mukwonago Area School District? Yes No

Do you have child(ren) attending the District? Yes No

If you have school-aged children, what school(s) do they attend? (Mark all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mukwonago High School | <input type="checkbox"/> Park View Middle School | <input type="checkbox"/> Big Bend Elementary School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prairie View Elementary | <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling Hills Elementary | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarendon Avenue Elementary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Section Elementary | <input type="checkbox"/> Eagleville Elementary | <input type="checkbox"/> Private/Parochial School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homeschool | <input type="checkbox"/> Public school outside of District | <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual/Online school |

In which city or township do you reside?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Muskego | <input type="checkbox"/> Town of East Troy | <input type="checkbox"/> Village of Mukwonago |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Genesee | <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Mukwonago |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Ottawa | <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Vernon | <input type="checkbox"/> Village of Big Bend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Village of Eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> Village of North Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not live in the District |

How often have you attended a District-sponsored event (athletics, performances etc.) in the past year?

- 0 1-5 6-10 More than 10

Communication

Good communication is critical to our mission.

How would you like to receive school/District information? (Mark all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> School and District websites | <input type="checkbox"/> Mukwonago Chief | <input type="checkbox"/> Waukesha Freeman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mukwonago Times | <input type="checkbox"/> Automated phone notification | <input type="checkbox"/> District mailings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meetings at school | <input type="checkbox"/> School board meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> School newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cable Channel | <input type="checkbox"/> Email | <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Text Messaging | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook | |

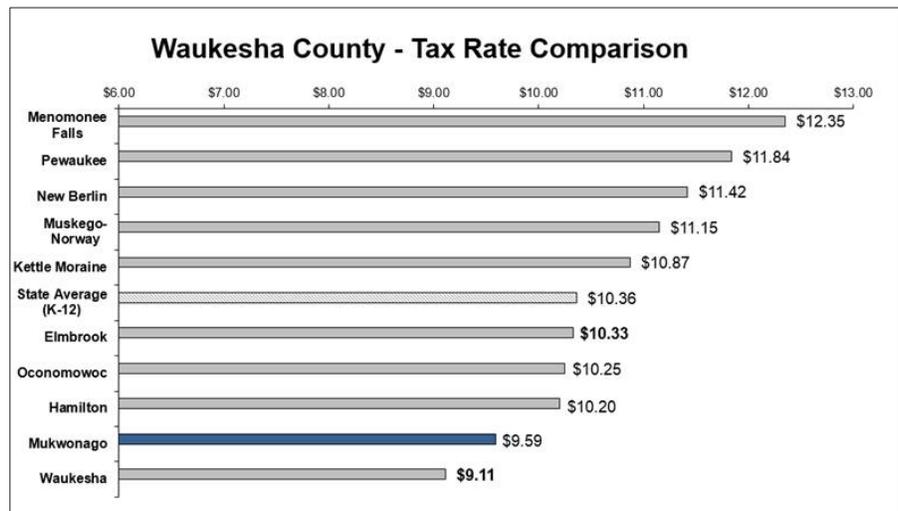
Comments/suggestions to improve communication:

Thank you for your participation. We sincerely value your time and input.

Mukwonago Area School District
385 County Road NN E
Mukwonago, WI 53149



Mukwonago’s tax mill rate, which is used to calculate property taxes, is among the lowest in this region of Wisconsin and projected to drop even further in 2017.



Source: 2014 Wisconsin Department of Instruction Data Warehouse

Please complete the survey before October 5th.

This publication was produced for the residents of the Mukwonago Area School District. Due to the overlap of postal routes, residents from neighboring school districts may receive this publication. Given the limitations of bulk mailing, this overlap was difficult to eliminate without significant cost. Thank you for your understanding.