



ELKHORN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



EPS BOND RESOLUTION



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When will boundaries change?

With the addition of new school buildings, we know that boundary changes are imminent.

In a typical timeline, proposed boundary changes are considered by the EPS Board of Education the fall prior to the building opening.



What happens if the bond resolution does not pass?

There are two main issues that arise should the bond resolution fail:

- 1) Class sizes throughout the District will increase as more students are required to be placed in current buildings.
- 2) To accommodate the growing student populations at buildings with capacity concerns, portables will have to be purchased. The average cost of purchasing a used portable, transferring it to the building, and connecting electrical and sewer hookups runs \$150,000 per portable. The funds used to purchase portables are taken from the General fund, which then puts a strain on funds for staffing and teacher resources.



Where will the land being purchased for new schools be located?

Building site purchases will be made to fill the need for additional classroom space throughout the District as land allows. Specifically, sites for one (1) middle school and one (1) elementary school will be purchased on the south side; and one (1) middle school and two (2) elementary school sites will be purchased on the north side of the District.



Why is this being brought before voters now instead of during the general election?

Bringing this resolution before voters now allows construction to begin earlier and ensures building projects are completed in the time frame in which the space they are providing is needed.



What is the voting timeline?

Ballots will be mailed to registered voters residing within EPS boundaries beginning on February 20, 2018. They must be received by the office of the Election Commissioner (or delivered to an Election drop box) no later than March 13, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Of note - a postmarked date of March 13 is not considered received and will therefore be deemed ineligible from being counted.



How does this bond resolution affect my taxes?

At its maximum (2020-2021), the bond levy could result in an additional annual cost of \$150 (\$12.50/month) to the owner of a home valued at \$150,000.



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Additional
\$150/year or \$12.50/month



When will the new schools open?

Estimated completion dates for schools that would be constructed using funds from this bond resolution are:

- **High School #3:** August 2020
- **Elementary School #12:** August 2020
- **Middle School #5:** August 2021



How will you determine who goes to the new high school?

Boundary change proposals are made based on the capacities of affected buildings and predicted growth.

At this time, due to the faster rate of growth on the north side of the District, Elkhorn High School (EHS) will be over capacity within the next two years. Elkhorn South High School (ESHS) also continues to grow, but has capacity for planned growth.

Using that knowledge, District Administration's main goal in its boundaries proposal will be to address the overcrowding concern and alleviate the strain on EHS with high school #3.



Will students be 'grandfathered' in?

Historically, when boundary changes occur, EPS requires that all K-4th and 6th-7th grade students attend the school they are assigned to. 5th and 8th grade students are generally given the choice of which school they would like to attend to complete their final year.

With a high school boundary change, 9-11th graders would be required to attend the building they are assigned to, while 12th grade students would stay at their current building to complete their final year.



What are the benefits to families not directly affected by new buildings?

It is important to remember that all students are directly affected by the construction of new schools, independent of the location in which those buildings are constructed.

New buildings create additional classroom space and allow EPS to maintain reasonable class sizes, while accommodating the exponential growth we are experiencing. Without new buildings, the District would need to maximize use of existing facilities. This could result in boundary modifications and increased class sizes.

In addition, it could be necessary to purchase temporary space (portables) in large quantities. These costs would result in reduced funding to hire new teachers to keep up with growth.



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Email questions to info@epsne.org.

