

# Understanding the April 7<sup>th</sup> Referendum

## BALLOT-AT-A-GLANCE FACT SHEET

### What are we voting on?

Each question must be voted on separately

#### Why now?

- Our elementary and middle schools are overcrowded **today**. Despite the economy, we need more space for our students right now. Population studies show continued growth. Even if we do not meet these projections, we are still overcrowded today.
- Building and borrowing right now make this an opportune time to maximize taxpayers' dollars. The construction market is very competitive and interest rates remain near historic lows.
- Building a new elementary school right now will relieve overcrowding in Grades K-5 throughout the district.
- Building new classrooms at Glacier Creek Middle will address our immediate middle school space crunch.
- New gyms at both Park Elementary and Glacier Creek Middle will provide the necessary physical education space, improve scheduling flexibility, and offer the community additional recreational areas.
- Expanding and rebuilding Kromrey Middle school will also provide the necessary relief of overcrowding at the middle school level. New construction will incorporate sustainable design that will make the building more energy efficient and less costly to operate.

#### Question 1 - \$34,750,000 (Debt)

- Build new K-5 elementary school on Pope Farm site
- Add on to Park Elementary (gym) and Glacier Creek Middle (gym and ten classrooms\*)
- Enhance safety & security in all schools

#### Question 2 - \$1,975, 000 annually (Exceed Revenue Limit)

- Additional funds are required to operate and maintain the new elementary school proposed in Question 1.
- Add annual operating funds for instructional materials and technology throughout the district

#### Question 3 - \$33,980,000 (Debt)

- Expand and rebuild Kromrey Middle School to accommodate 900 students and improve operating efficiencies\*

*\*If both Question 1 and Question 3 are approved, it is the commitment of the School Board to eliminate nine new classrooms at Glacier Creek Middle School, which would reduce the overall cost. With expansion of Kromrey approved, the additional middle school classrooms at Glacier Creek will not be needed at this time.*



### What is the cost to taxpayers?

Property Value	Question #1 (\$0.46 per thousand)		Question #2 (\$0.30 per thousand)		Question #3 (\$0.45 per thousand)	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
\$200,000	\$92	\$7.67	\$60	\$5	\$90	\$7.50
\$400,000	\$184	\$15.33	\$120	\$10	\$180	\$15
\$600,000	\$276	\$23	\$180	\$15	\$270	\$22.50

*Note: Financing is based on a multiple phase borrowing structure, assuming conservative municipal bond interest rates at 5.25% with an estimated average 4% growth in the local tax base. Tax impact estimates are based on the average yearly cost over the life of the debt payments (20 years). Residents will note the increase beginning in the 2009-2010 school year.*

For more information please visit [www.mcpsd.k12.wi.us/referendum](http://www.mcpsd.k12.wi.us/referendum)



## Why do we need these proposals?

### We must provide more space at our elementary and middle schools.

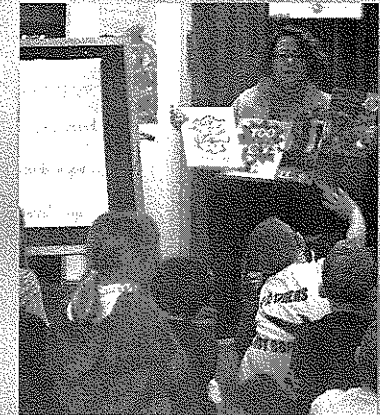
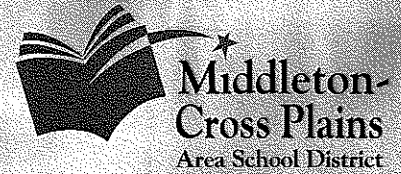
- Our schools are overcrowded **right now**; eight of ten schools are currently over building capacity. The most significant growth is at the elementary and middle school levels.
- An aging and outdated Kromrey Middle School will soon reach the end of its useful life and require extensive capital maintenance. It is more cost effective to demolish and rebuild the majority of the building on the current site now, while keeping the 1990 addition (gym, locker rooms, office space and one tech ed classroom). This also allows us to expand capacity, easing middle school overcrowding.

### We must provide safe and secure facilities.

- Critical school safety and security concerns that compromise student wellbeing must be corrected to provide for the ongoing safety of our students, staff and visitors.
- Additional funds will be used to:
  - Create secure entries
  - Provide emergency power and communications systems.
  - Improve student drop off areas and pedestrian safety.

### We must update instructional materials and technology for the 21st Century on an annual basis.

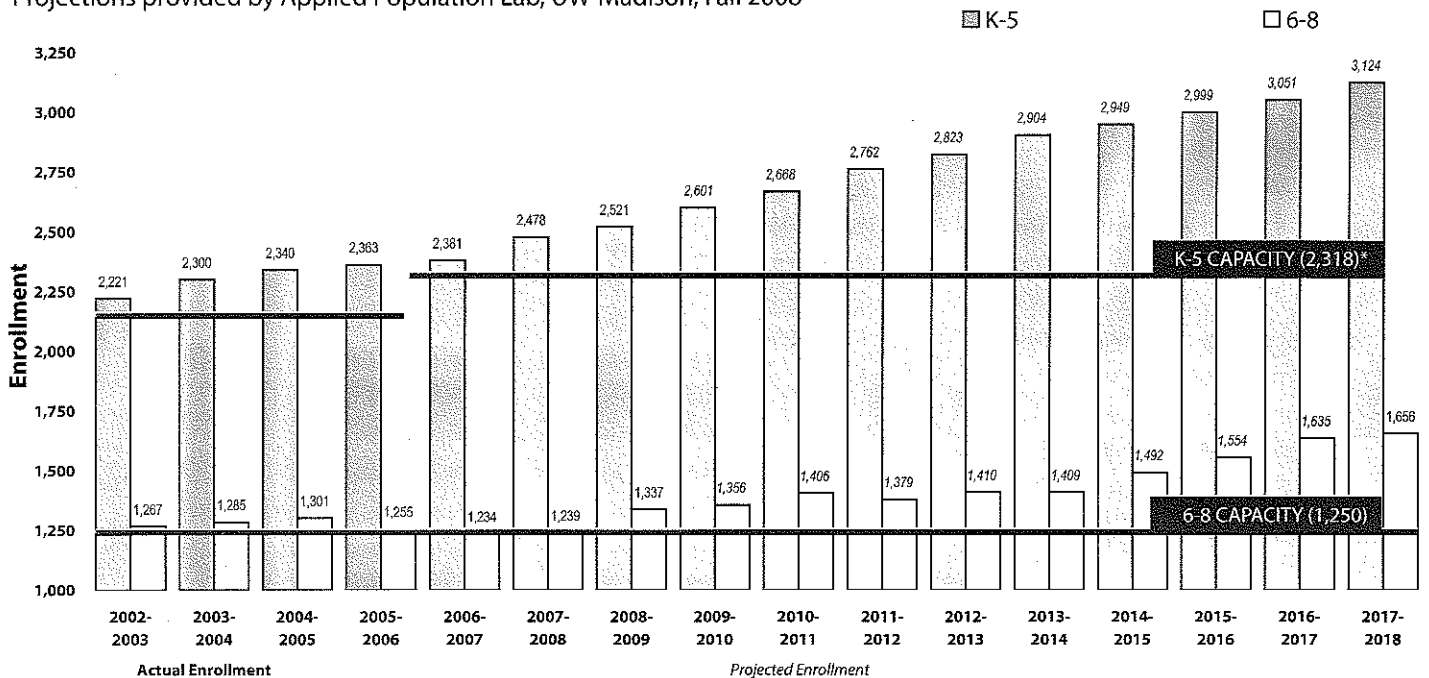
- State and Federal funding limitations have affected our ability to consistently update instructional materials including textbooks, science equipment, and instructional software. Due to our expanding student population, students are required to share books and other materials.
- The district has fallen behind in providing adequate student access to technology. The district computer to student ratio is the lowest in Dane County.
- Additional funds will be used to:
  - Add and update student lab computers.
  - Improve technology network infrastructure.
  - Add instructional technology such as interactive white boards and data projectors.



For more information please visit  
[www.mcpsd.k12.wi.us/referendum](http://www.mcpsd.k12.wi.us/referendum)

## Current and projected enrollment vs. capacity

Projections provided by Applied Population Lab, UW-Madison, Fall 2008



\*K-5 capacity increased in 2006 due to the addition of classrooms approved in the 2005 referendum.

\*\*Numbers do not include open enrollment.