



Planning for our students and schools

Referenda 2010: Keeping Our Schools Strong

Referenda address district's facility and operating needs

Excellent schools are the heart of dynamic, growing, desirable communities, and we are proud that Noblesville Schools' reputation lives up to that standard!

It is our goal to maintain the excellence that has marked Noblesville Schools for generations. However, in light of significantly increasing student enrollment and state imposed financial challenges, the Noblesville Board of School Trustees has instituted many program and staff cuts. We are now turning to our community for the support needed to expand our facilities in order to accommodate growing enrollment and continue to operate our schools. Both are necessary steps to keep our schools strong.

It was my pleasure during the 2009-10 school year to meet many community members at more than 15 public forums and other community meetings in which we shared information about the challenges and needs of our outstanding school district. We welcomed and listened to questions, comments, and suggestions regarding the proposed solutions. We adjusted the construction plans accordingly and were able to reduce the costs by more than \$10 million.

On January 19, 2010, the school board



**A Message from
Dr. Libbie Conner
Superintendent**

held a preliminary determination hearing to add classrooms at existing elementary schools, to add space to the intermediate school and the high school, and to replace one elementary school at a total cost of \$63.6 million.

Prior to and since that meeting the school board also addressed the impact of significant state imposed funding reductions by making plans for reductions in excess of \$2.1 million in operational costs with additional cuts of \$3.4 million under consideration. Knowing that any measurable additional cuts in the midst of such significant growth in student enrollment were not possible without severely damaging student programs, the board also took action at the January 19 meeting to pass a resolution to request taxpayer approval of a \$5 million per year operating fund in-

crease for the next seven years through the referendum process. Both referenda will be questions for the taxpayers on the May 4th election ballot.

The proposed building project includes:

- Additional classrooms at Hinkle Creek, Hazel Dell, Stony Creek, North, and White River elementary schools to gain equity in educational opportunities among our elementary schools, offer all-day kindergarten, allow fifth-grade students to remain in their elementary schools beginning in 2012, and provide the quality space needed for Forest Hill students when Forest Hill closes. Total cost for all buildings: \$22.6 million.

- A new elementary school on Promise Road north of 146th Street. The south half of our district is the most rapidly growing area and has the greatest potential for future growth. This facility will replace the Forest Hill School and is deemed by the Board to be a more prudent long-term investment than attempting to renovate, upgrade, and make additions to the present facility. The cost: \$22 million.

- At the secondary level the plan includes establishing a second middle school composed of grades six, seven, and eight at the current intermediate school on Hague

Road by the fall of 2012. That will include remodeling eight rooms to create science labs, adding locker rooms for physical education, adding a gymnasium for physical education and athletic space, and adding athletic practice fields.

Improvements needed at the current middle school on 17th Street, which also will house grades six, seven, and eight involve the student drop-off and pick up areas and a more secure front entrance.

At Noblesville High School, there is need to add four science labs, classroom space for health and physical education classes, and additional PE lockers. Total cost at the three buildings: Maximum \$19 million.

More detailed information on both referenda is offered throughout this publication and is available on our Noblesville Schools website, www.noblesvilleschools.org. You also can stay up-to-date by joining our fan page at www.facebook.com/noblesvilleschools.

Thank you so much for your support and interest in the education of our Noblesville students, both now and in the future, as we continue our quest to maintain our schools' strengths on behalf of our students.

Changes in funding source, declining sales tax revenue force Noblesville Schools to make deep budget cuts

In school districts throughout Indiana, program cuts are under way as a result of significant reductions in school funding caused by declining sales tax revenues. The State of Indiana recently moved the school general fund from a stable property tax base to a sales tax revenue base. Due to the declining economy, sales tax revenues have fallen and that has resulted in cuts in state funding to schools.

Similar to actions being taken by school corporations across the state and in order to balance the budget of Noblesville Schools, Dr. Libbie Conner, superintendent of Noblesville Schools, recommended a list of cost-saving measures totaling more than \$3.9 million to the Noblesville Board of School Trustees on March 16. The list included reductions in staff and operational costs and program adjustments. All measures impact the district's general fund.

The recommendations came after intensive study by the district's Budget Review Committee. That committee, formed in August 2008, is made up of teachers, classified staff, school and district administrators, and school board members.

The reductions help move the school district toward a total general fund adjustment of \$9 million over four years.

Noblesville Schools' reductions started in 2009 when \$2.1 million was cut from expenses. That round of cuts included 13 teachers, two Central Office administrators, and support staff. Energy use was curtailed, and the allowance for supplies and travel was reduced.

Since then, an additional unanticipated reduction in state funding - announced in December - cost Noblesville another \$2.3 million. In response to that reduction, all administrative and support staff salaries

were frozen, and travel and field trips were eliminated.

The board's actions on March 16 complete the \$2.3 million reduction forced by December's state budget cuts and begin curtailing additional expenses so that rising instructional costs incurred by a growing school system can be funded in 2011 and 2012.

"Our revenue from the state continues to decrease. At the same time, we are a growing school corporation and our costs continue to increase as we serve our additional students," Dr. Conner said.

Looking ahead, the school corporation knows it will lose a \$1.1 million restoration grant from the state in 2012. At the same time, the district expects increases in uncontrollable operating expenses of

Budget Per Student ADM

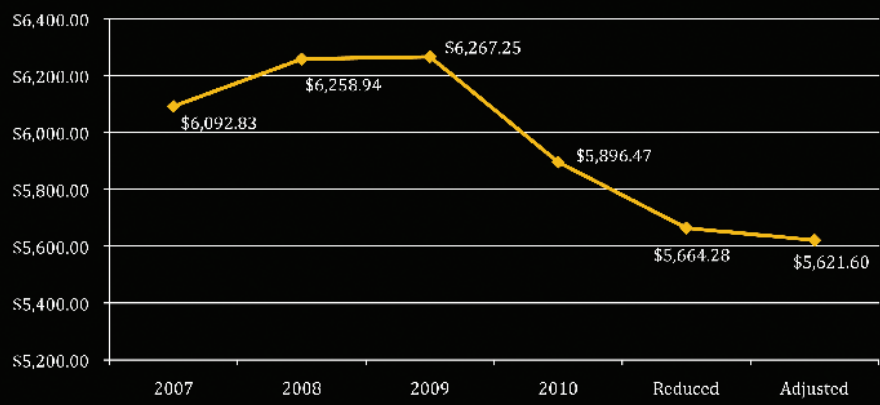


Chart A

Budget Analysis:

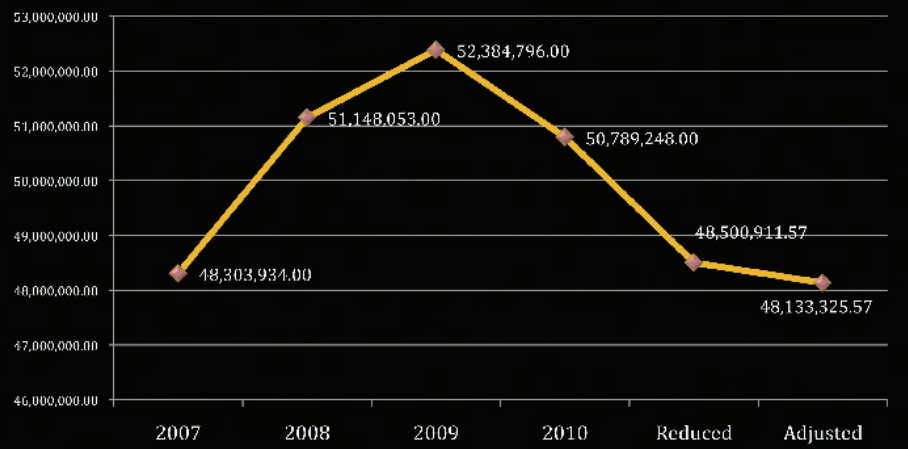


Chart B

Student Enrollment (ADM):

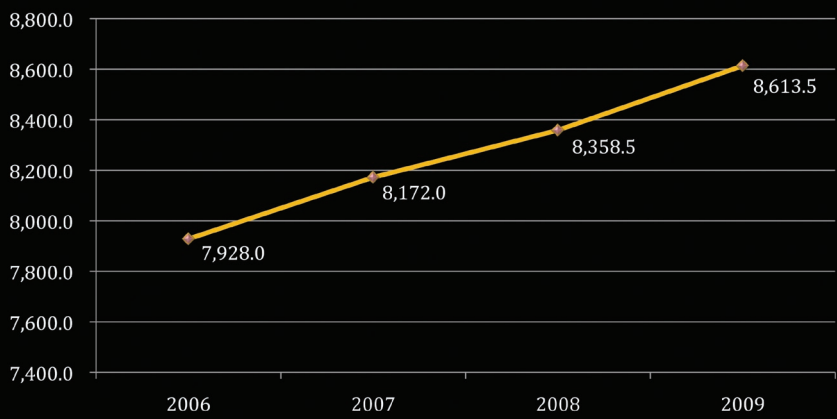


Chart C

Why are budget cuts necessary?

The State of Indiana changed the school funding formula in 2009 to take effect in 2010. The change reduces over the next two years the basic amount Noblesville Schools will receive per student in the future. (Funding is based on ADM, Average Daily Membership, which counts kindergarten students as half because they attend school a half day.)

Chart A shows the planned reductions from 2009 to 2010. The reduction in the per student funding has had a negative impact on the total operating budget of \$1.6 million from 2009 to 2010 and will reduce it by another \$1.2 million in 2012. (Chart B)

As the budget is decreasing (Chart B), Noblesville Schools' student enrollment is increasing (Chart C). The district has grown by nearly 700 students since the 2006/07 school year.

Changes in funding, declining sales tax force deep cuts

Continued from page 1

\$821,740, teacher incremental salary increases of \$1.5 million, and increasing insurance costs of \$1.25 million. Additional funding cuts by the state also are a possibility.

"We are facing a total impact on our general fund of a negative \$9 million from 2009 to 2012 plus any additional cuts made by the state. Because our General Fund is now funded entirely by the state through its sales tax revenues, unless and until the economy turns around, we will see no increase in general funds from the state," Dr. Conner said.

"That's why we are asking our community to restore \$5 million through an operating referendum in May. The \$5 million will restore part of the lost revenue and will offset a portion of rising costs that will accompany additional increases in student enrollment. Since our largest classes are in the elementary and middle grades now, the growth we have experienced in total student enrollment since 2006 will continue as these larger classes move through our school system."

If approved, the operating referendum would restore \$5 million of lost revenue each year for seven years.

With \$2.1 million of the \$9 million reduction goal already in place entering 2010, Noblesville Schools had \$6.9 million left to cut from its expenditures. The recommendations Dr. Conner presented to the school board total \$3,912,324. These cuts will permanently increase class sizes and reduce program offerings if revenue is not raised through the referendum process to restore some of the lost revenue.

What are we doing to adjust for the declining revenue?

Dr. Conner has recommended reductions in three categories as outlined in the Citizens' Checklist developed by the Indiana State Board of Education. The total impact on the general fund is \$3,912,324.

Category 1 - Monetary - \$2,425,000

- \$1.5 million - Reduce the district's cost of health insurance for employees by \$1 million or reduce 20 teaching positions.
- \$400,000 - Reduce the district's contributions to 403(b), 401(a), 457(b), and VEBA accounts for administrators, classified staff, and teachers or reduce six teaching positions. The teacher portion of the district's contribution is equal to six teaching positions.
- \$525,000 - Freeze the salary of all certified teaching staff at present levels and suspend incremental salary increases or reduce 10 teaching positions. (Salaries and benefits of administrators and all other staff already have been frozen.)

Changes in health insurance, district contributions to the accounts listed, and teachers' salaries are subject to negotiations between the administration and the Noblesville Teachers Forum.

Category 2 - Program Adjustments - \$613,650

- \$300,000 - NIS: Change the daily schedules for grades 5-6. This reduces six elective teaching positions in technology, health, and FOCUS.
- \$150,000 - NMS: Change daily schedule for grades 7-8. This eliminates a second language arts class for most students and reduces three teaching positions.
- \$121,500 - NHS Extracurricular: Eliminate transportation costs for athletics and performing arts, reduce cost of clubs and academic teams by 25 percent, reduce cost of athletic programs by 25 percent.

- \$25,750 - NMS Extracurricular: Eliminate transportation costs for athletics and performing arts, eliminate middle school swimming, eliminate sixth-grade basketball, reduce cost of clubs and academic teams by 25 percent.
- \$6,650 - NIS Extracurricular: Reduce cost of clubs and academic teams by 25 percent.
- \$9,750 - Elementary Extracurricular: Reduce cost of clubs and academic teams by 25 percent.
- Increase revenue \$100,000 - Charge all non-school groups to use facilities.

Category 3 - Non-Instructional - \$873,674

- \$365,000 - Move salaries of skilled craftsmen from general fund to capital projects fund.
- \$125,000 - Reallocate administrative costs by moving supervision of Title I program to the Central Administration Office.
- \$170,000 - Close the pool at freshman campus (savings in energy costs).
- \$125,000 - Change Teacher Sick Bank to Chronic Illness Bank (this item has to be negotiated).
- \$36,174 - Discontinue participation in Township Recreation program.
- \$13,000 - Close Conner Learning Center (savings in energy costs; closing also eliminates cost for a new roof and HVAC system.)
- \$5,000 - Transfer fee for participation in Section 125 from district to employee.
- \$4,500 - Eliminate retirement contribution to substitute teachers.
- \$30,000 - Freeze field trips (already in effect).

What will happen if the operating levy increase does not pass?

The necessity of further reductions will depend upon the outcome of the operating referendum on May 4. If the referendum does not pass the following measures can be expected.

- Though administrative cuts have already been made to achieve reductions in costs, further possible reductions will be reviewed with the understanding that our priority of student safety and security will not be compromised.
- Elimination or reduction of art, music and technology teachers in grades K-6, counselors at all grade levels, library media specialists, media technical assistants, nurses, athletics ground staff, transportation office staff, clerical staff. A 50 percent reduction in these positions would reduce expenditures by \$2.4 million (\$1.8 million in certified staff; \$600,000 in classified staff).
- Reduction in the number of classroom teachers and increased class sizes. The savings would be an average of \$52,000

(salary and benefits) per teacher eliminated. If 40 teachers are eliminated, at a savings of \$2 million, class size ranges would increase from 20-31 to 25-44 in the elementary schools, and from 27-29 to 34-38 in grades 5-12.

- Elimination of all extracurricular program expenses. The impact of this step would be \$640,000, including \$465,000 at the high school, \$150,000 at the middle school, and \$31,000 at the intermediate school. Students wishing to participate in extracurricular programs, such as band or athletics, would need to pay for the cost of those activities.
- Consider outsourcing custodial and transportation services and take action if there is a financial advantage. Impact still to be determined.
- Reduction of the length of the teacher contract from 184 days to 183 days. The savings would be \$170,000. This step most likely would eliminate the parent-teacher conference day.

Building projects address growth throughout school district

Following a dozen public forums and numerous additional meetings throughout the Noblesville community, the Noblesville Board of School Trustees will seek voter approval of the \$63.6 million facility addition and renovation plan in the May 4 primary election.

Prior to establishing the final budget for the facility construction plan, the school board made reductions totaling approximately \$10 million from the initial plan that was proposed in November 2009.

If the referendum is approved, fifth-grade students will be returned to the elementary schools through expansion of five elementary schools and the construction of one new elementary school to replace Forest Hill Elementary School at a location in the southeast quadrant of Noblesville Township.

This project also will allow creation of two middle schools for grades 6-8, one at the current Noblesville Middle School building and one at the current Noblesville Intermediate School, and provide for additional science labs and physical education and health space at Noblesville High School.

The project includes construction of a new elementary school on Promise Road north of 146th Street. Although the school board had considered building the school on Hague Road adjacent to NIS, the Promise Road site was chosen to allow the school district to accommodate the rapid residential growth in the southeast quadrant of the township.

This plan allows Noblesville Schools to expand facilities to accommodate an increasing enrollment at all grade levels. It also allows a reduction in the number of transitions students make as they move from elementary school through high school.

Enrollment

Noblesville Schools now enrolls 8,964 students, 2,535 more than were enrolled in 2000. Even with the downturn in the economy, enrollment grew by about 300 students this school year.

Enrollment in kindergarten through grade 4 is 3,783. Noblesville Intermediate School (grades 5-6) and Noblesville Middle School (grades 7-8) are at the edge of

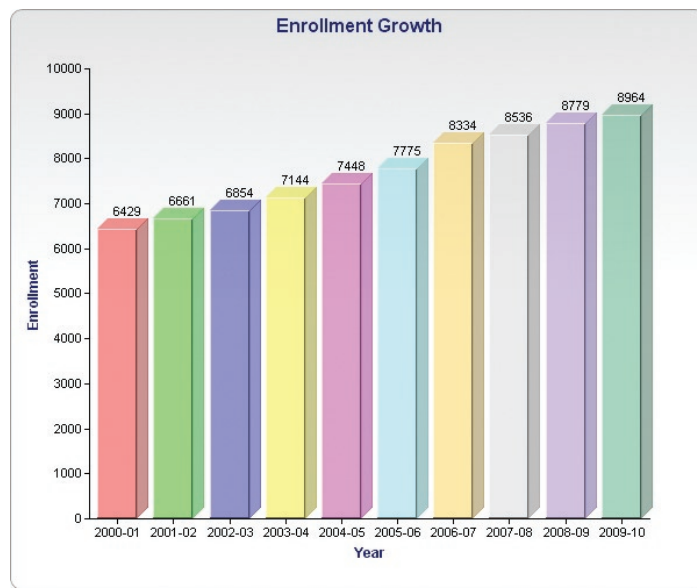


Chart A

Chart A illustrates the growth in Noblesville Schools' enrollment from 6,429 in 2000 to 8,964 in 2010. Chart B shows the size of this year's graduating class on the left and subsequent classes, ending with this year's first-grade class on the right.

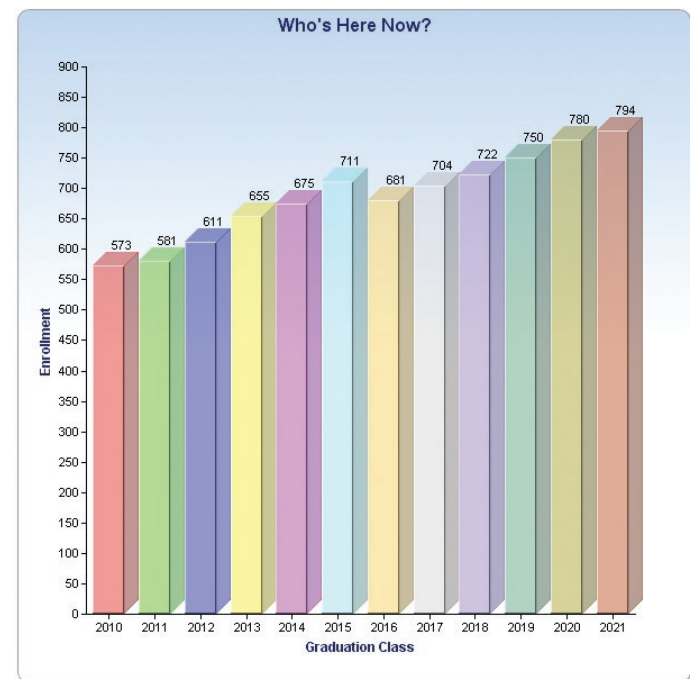


Chart B

It is the goal of the Noblesville Board of School Trustees to provide facilities that support and enhance curricular and extra-curricular programs, accommodate growth, reduce the number of transitions students make, and accomplish this task in a fiscally responsible manner.

their 1,400 student capacity. As of March 11, enrollment at NIS stood at 1,380 and enrollment at NMS was 1,390. Based on this year's enrollment in grades 4-5, the number of students at the intermediate school in the coming school year will exceed the building's capacity.

Based on the number of students at the intermediate and middle schools now, Noblesville High School's main campus will reach its capacity of 2,000 in five years. Currently, NHS enrolls 1,729 sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

The need for additional classrooms will continue as larger classes move through the system. While this year's senior class numbers 514, the first-grade class is at 790. Except for this year's sixth-grade class that has 676 students, each class from kindergarten through seventh grade exceeds 700 students.

Transitions

Currently, children attend elementary school from kindergarten through fourth grade and then move to the intermediate school for fifth and sixth grades, the middle school for seventh and eighth grades, the high school freshman campus for ninth grade and the high school main campus for the final three years of high school.

The proposed plan keeps students in elementary school an additional year and middle school for an additional year and eliminates one transition.

Administrators and the school board see both educational and fiscal benefits to the plan.

The intermediate school concept was introduced in Noblesville in 1996 when the new Noblesville High School opened. The old high school became the middle school and the old middle school became the in-

termediate school.

Fiscally, that move was made to make use of a vacated building and to ease crowding at the elementary schools and the middle school. The plan delayed the need for an elementary school at the time.

Educationally, the belief in the mid 1990s was that a school for fifth and sixth grades provided a good educational environment for students of that age. Noblesville Schools has not seen the benefits expected at that level and believe fifth graders are better served academically and socially in the elementary school setting.

On a fiscal level, moving the fifth graders back to elementary school and dividing into two middle schools for grades 6-8 pushes the need for new buildings to the elementary level where the buildings are about half the price of middle level buildings.

Overview of project to meet the educational needs of Noblesville

New Elementary School

- Location: Promise Road north of 146th Street
- Budget: \$22 million
- Scope of Work: New school; replaces Forest Hill

North Elementary School

- Budget: \$3,425,000
- Scope of Work:
 - Site Work: East circular drive
 - Additions: Restrooms, classrooms, kindergarten rooms
 - Renovations: Media Center, Classroom into small group instruction and corridor

Stony Creek Elementary School

- Budget: \$7,425,000
- Scope of Work:
 - Site Work: South parking lot(s) reconfiguration
 - Additions: Classrooms
 - Renovations: Mechanical systems replacement, electrical systems replacement, main office, new restrooms, special education rooms, kindergarten, toilet rooms for ADA accessibility, technology

Hazel Dell

- Budget: \$2.4 million
- Scope of Work:
 - Additions: Add classroom space; capture exterior space under existing roof for classrooms

- Renovations: toilet rooms, computer labs, special education, Title One, AYS
- Technology upgrades
- West parking lot: Curbs
- Sidewalk on east side of building to baseball complex

White River Elementary School

- Budget: \$1 million
- Scope of Work:
 - Site Work: Kindergarten play area expansion
 - Additions: Classrooms
 - Renovations: Interior classrooms, technology

Hinkle Creek Elementary School

- (includes expansion into Tri-County Education Center)
- Budget: \$8.35 million
- Scope of Work:
 - Site Work: West parking lot (TCEC), Playground (relocate equipment)
 - Additions: Capture exterior space under existing roof for classrooms, new entry
 - Renovations: Kitchen upgrades, toilet rooms, door hardware upgrades for accessibility, computer labs, special education, Title One, AYS, classroom modifications at TCEC to include kindergarten rooms, first-grade rooms, and second-grade rooms, add cubbie and storage casework in classrooms, reseal windows, replace operable walls, interior signage, HVAC replacement, electrical systems replacement, technology upgrades

Noblesville Intermediate School

- Budget: \$8.75 million
- Scope of Work:
 - Site Work: PE/athletic practice fields, parking reconfiguration
 - Additions: gymnasium and locker rooms
 - Renovations: Convert classrooms and project labs into science labs

Noblesville Middle School

- Budget: \$2.5 million
- Scope of Work:
 - Site Work: Northeast parking lot reconfiguration
 - Renovations: Secure main entry

Noblesville High School Main Campus

- Budget: \$7.75 million
- Scope of Work:
 - Additions: Four science labs as programmed in original design, PE/Health Classrooms
 - Renovations: PE locker rooms, swimming locker replacement, athletic training and cardio room, officials' locker room

Total Cost: \$63.6 million

How does this proposal address issues of growth?

Elementary schools

Noblesville Schools' proposal includes additional classrooms at four elementary schools - Hazel Dell, North, Stony Creek, and White River - and a new elementary school to be built on property the corporation owns on Promise Road north of 146th Street. That property is situated in the fastest growing area of Noblesville Township, the southeast side.

In addition, additional classrooms will be available at Hinkle Creek as that school expands into the adjacent Tri-County Opportunity School, a facility that has been gifted to Noblesville Schools by the Hamilton-Boone-Madison Special Services Co-operative. The majority of Forest Hill students will move to Hinkle Creek when Forest Hill closes and the expanded Hinkle Creek is complete.

The new school and the additional classrooms will provide space for fifth-grade students to return to the elementary schools, accommodate for-pay full-day kindergarten along with half-day kindergarten, and allow for growth.

Middle Level

Instead of having a 5/6 building and a 7/8 building, both with enrollment of more than 1,400, moving to two middle schools with grades 6-8 will provide two schools with enrollments of just over 1,000 each. The move allows for growth in the middle grades.

Noblesville Intermediate School was designed with the intent that the building would become a middle school when enrollment necessitated that change.

In an effort to save taxpayer money at the time of construction:

- Rooms were included for future science labs, but the labs were not furnished with lab equipment. Intermediate students do not use science labs as a part of their curriculum; middle school students do.
- Construction of locker rooms and an additional gymnasium for physical education classes were delayed. Intermediate school students do not change into uniforms for physical education; middle

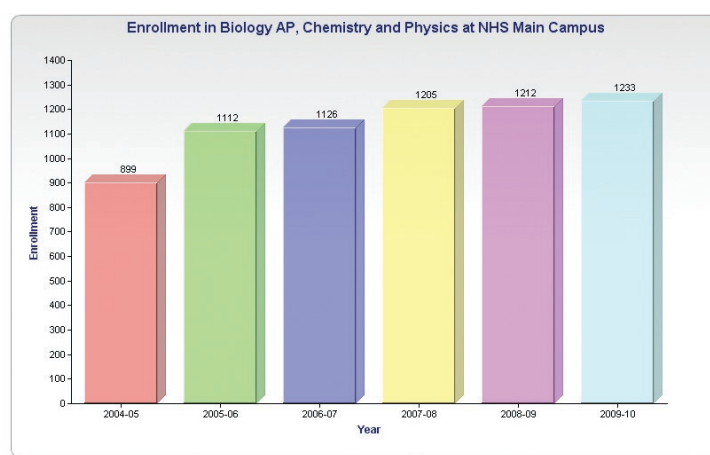


Chart A

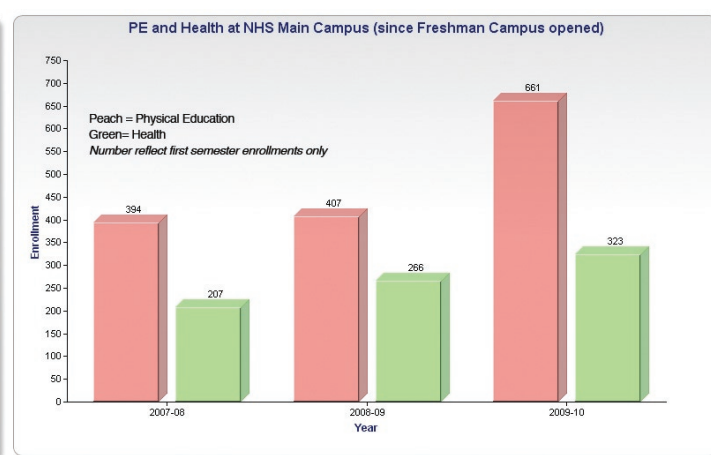


Chart B

As Noblesville High School's enrollment continues to grow, more Noblesville High School students are choosing to take advanced science classes (Chart A) and many of them receive college credit for their work. The increasing enrollment has created a need for additional science labs. At the same time, the number of students are selecting advanced health and physical education classes. That has created a need for additional health classrooms and locker rooms. The numbers shown in Chart B do not include students who take their required PE classes during summer school or at the freshman campus.

school students do. The additional gymnasium will accommodate the middle school physical education curriculum and allow for interscholastic athletic competition. Outdoor athletic fields would be practice fields only.

These additions are necessary if equitable programs are to be provided at two middle schools.

High School

Science labs and physical education and health space is needed at the high school to accommodate growing enrollment in those areas.

Science labs:

Enrollment in science classes - both required courses and particularly in advanced elective courses - is growing and has created a need for additional labs. In the fall of 2009, 1,233 students were enrolled in Biology AP, Chemistry, and Physics classes at the main campus. Five years ago, that number was 899. (See Chart A above.) NHS has four chemistry labs, two physics labs, three biology labs, and one earth science lab at the main campus.

This semester, six physics classes meet in a business classroom. One science teacher meets with her four integrated/physics classes and two chemistry classes in a math classroom.

The need will continue to grow as high school enrollment increases.

When NHS was built in the mid-1990s, an area adjacent to the science department was planned for future expansion. That area, on the second floor on the west side of the building, was not completed in the original building project because the labs were not needed at the time. Delaying construction saved taxpayer money.

PE/Health

Enrollment in physical education and health classes is growing and will continue to grow as larger classes move into high school. (See Chart B above.)

Classroom space is needed for the required and elective health classes, and additional locker space is needed for physical education use. Every physical education locker is being used for basic PE or advanced classes.

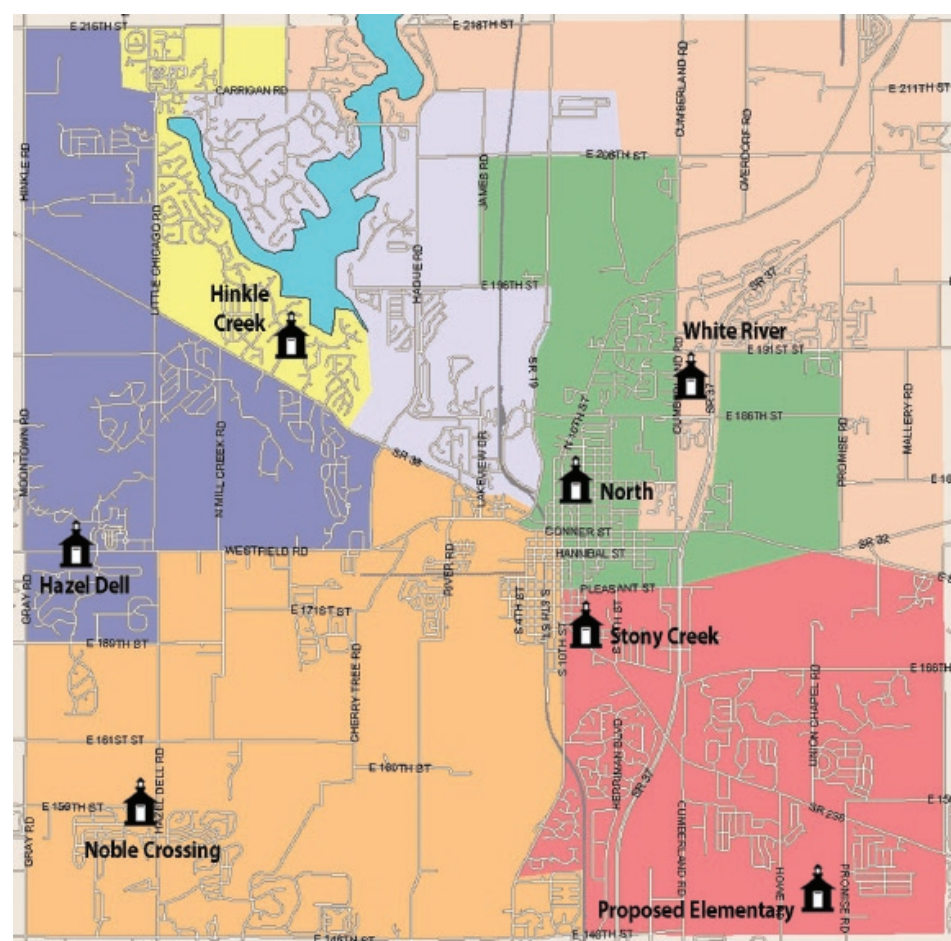
Not everyone takes basic PE in sum-

mer school or as freshmen; a number of students take that course after they move to the main campus. In fact, during the first semester of this school year, nearly 700 students were enrolled in basic or elective PE classes at the main campus and of those, 31.73 percent were in basic PE.

The project also includes replacement of lockers in the swimming area, additional space for weight and conditioning and cardio classes and a locker area for officials. The weight and conditioning classroom is undersized for the number of students enrolled in the weight training class and the athletes who use the space before and after school. The cardio program sometimes takes place in the hallway because of a lack of space.

The size of this area of the high school was scaled back from the original design when the school was built in an effort to save taxpayer money.

Both the size and cost of the project contained in the current proposal are below the proposal that was in the January 2009 referendum. Since January, the cost of this part of the project has been scaled back from \$7.5 million to \$3.75 million.



This map of Noblesville Township shows the locations of Noblesville's elementary schools and their attendance areas. The purple area is Forest Hill's district. Forest Hill is closing in 2011 and most of the students in that area will attend Hinkle Creek which is expanding into the adjacent Tri-County Opportunity School. The new elementary school will be built in the southeast corner of the township, now a part of Stony Creek's district.

Elementary school to be built in fast-growing southeast area of city

The new elementary school will be built on Promise Road north of 146th Street. The site is in the southeast quadrant of Noblesville Township, the fastest growing area of Noblesville Schools' district and the area with the fewest classrooms.

The area currently is served by Stony Creek Elementary School. Stony Creek's enrollment has grown by more than 120 students since the 2006-07 school year and now stands at more than 650.

Although the school board had considered building the new school on Hague Road north of Noblesville Intermediate School, doing so would put a disproportionate number of classrooms on the northwest side of the township.

Forest Hill to close; Hinkle Creek to expand

Forest Hill Elementary School will close in 2011 and Hinkle Creek Elementary will expand into the adjacent Tri-County Opportunity School. Most of the students from Forest Hill will attend the new Hinkle Creek.

Forest Hill, the district's oldest school, is also the smallest school and the most costly to operate. Upgrading the school - without adding classroom space - would cost 80-90 percent as much as building a new school, not including the cost of site work that would be necessary.

The project at Hinkle Creek will cost under 30 percent less than a new school, provide a net gain of 22 classrooms, and extend the life of the original Hinkle Creek building.

The Tri-County facility, owned by the Hamilton-Boone-Madison Special Services Cooperative, is being gifted to Noblesville Schools by the other six districts that make up the co-op because the co-op no longer needs the facility. Special needs students who currently attend Tri-County are being moved to Carmel where the co-op is headquartered.

The "new" Hinkle Creek will include two wings connected by a new centrally located entrance. The west wing will house grades K-2 and the east wing will house grades 3-5. Both wings will have capacity for 450 students.

Construction at Hinkle Creek is the school district's highest priority because the expanded facility will house most of the students relocating from Forest Hill. Work is expected to begin in the fall of 2010 and be completed by the fall of 2011.

The financing of the Hinkle Creek project is planned as a part of the capital projects referendum but the school district also is applying for Qualified School Construction Bonds through federal stimulus money made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

What if the facilities referendum does not pass?

Noblesville Schools will have difficult decisions to make if the referendum does not pass.

Elementary Schools

If the facilities referendum is not approved, students will be redistricted throughout all elementary schools. A significant number of portable classrooms will be necessary and class size will increase because we will not have an adequate number of classrooms in which to place students. The need for additional permanent classroom space will remain and once the needed facilities are constructed, redistricting again will be necessary.

The number of portables needed at the elementary schools will increase even further if we proceed with plans to return the fifth-graders to the elementary schools in order to provide adequate middle school space.

Middle Level

Both Noblesville Intermediate School and Noblesville Middle School will reach an enrollment of 1,600 within three years. That projection is based on the number of students now enrolled in the elementary schools and does not consider additional growth. The capacity at each of those schools is 1,400, thus portable classrooms will be needed.

We either will use portable classrooms at both of those schools in order to continue to accommodate grades 5-6 at NIS and grades 7-8 at NMS, or we will

proceed with plans to keep fifth graders in the elementary schools and create two middle schools for grades 6-8 with enrollment of 1,000 each.

The programs at the two middle schools will not be equitable. Students at the current middle school will use science labs, physical education locker rooms, and interscholastic practice fields; students at the second middle school (the current intermediate school) will not have science labs, physical education locker rooms, or interscholastic fields.

High School

The enrollment capacity in advanced sciences, including AP and ACP science courses, and advanced health, and advanced physical education courses will not be adequate to meet student needs. The AP science classes must be conducted in a laboratory classroom. These courses are essential to high achieving students who wish to pursue university programs in the science, medical, technology, and mathematical fields. The number of students who need to enroll in advanced health and advanced physical education classes continues to exceed our classroom and locker room capacity. These courses are very important to all of our students who wish to take them, but especially so to students who want to pursue careers in these related fields.

If the referendum does not pass, the limits on course enrollments will continue to make it impossible for additional students to be enrolled.

How will this affect my property taxes?

The tax impact is based on the NET assessed value of your property, not the gross assessed value. The net assessed value subtracts the homestead deduction, supplemental deduction of 35 percent, and the mortgage exemption.

You can find your net assessed valuation online by going to the Indiana State Government website, specifically to: <http://www.in.gov/dlgf/4929.htm> and following the prompts.

We have posted a tax calculator estimator on our webpage, www.noblesvilleschools.org. It is a part of the "Referenda 2010: Keeping Our Schools Strong" package at the top of the page.

When you click on "Tax Calculator" you'll be taken to a page with instructions on how to find the net assessed value of your property.

Once you enter that information, the calculator will estimate the annual and monthly impact of each referendum on your property.

The calculator will show the annual and monthly tax impact of the Facilities Referendum (referred to as "Future Projects" on the chart) for the years 2011, 2012, and 2013. It also will show the annual and monthly tax impact on the Operating Referendum (referred to as General Fund Referendum on the chart).

You'll see different amounts listed on the Future Projects chart because the projects will be added to the tax rolls in different years as the buildings are occupied.

In many cases, property owners will pay less in property taxes when these projects are added than they did in 2008 prior to tax caps. The charts on the right illustrate that.

As a taxpayer, what does this mean to me?

Facilities referendum - Maximum tax impact: 19 cents

	Home Gross Assessed Value	Actual Taxes Paid 2008	Actual Taxes Paid 2009	Estimated Taxes Paid 2010	Property Tax Impact 2011 8.88 cents	Property Tax Impact 2012 12.84 cents	Property Tax Impact 2013 19 cents
Gross AV	\$100,000						
(Homestead Ded.)	-\$45,000				\$12.71	\$42.05	\$62.23
(Supplemental Ded @35%)	-\$19,250				Per Yr	Per Yr.	Per Yr.
(Mtg. Ded.)	-\$8,000	\$678.34	\$701.29	\$804.67	\$843.99	\$575.17	\$600.00
Net Assessed Value	\$37,750				Per Mo.	Per Mo.	Per Mo.
Gross AV	\$200,000						
(Homestead Ded.)	-\$45,000				\$37.93	\$125.51	\$185.73
(Supplemental Ded @35%)	-\$64,250				Per Yr	Per Yr.	Per Yr.
(Mtg. Ded.)	-\$8,000	\$2,358.22	\$2,774.04	\$2,000.00	\$2,087.99	\$2,125.51	\$2,135.73
Net Assessed Value	\$87,750				Per Mo.	Per Mo.	Per Mo.
Gross AV	\$300,000						
(Homestead Ded.)	-\$45,000				\$63.15	\$208.97	\$309.23
(Supplemental Ded @35%)	-\$88,250				Per Yr	Per Yr.	Per Yr.
(Mtg. Ded.)	-\$8,000	\$3,956.10	\$3,786.19	\$3,300.00	\$3,063.15	\$3,208.97	\$3,209.23
Net Assessed Value	\$157,750				Per Mo.	Per Mo.	Per Mo.

Operating referendum - Maximum tax impact: 21.15 cents

	Home Gross Assessed Value	Actual Taxes Paid 2008	Actual Taxes Paid 2009	Estimated Taxes Paid 2010	Property Tax Impact 2011 21.15 cents
Gross AV	\$100,000				
(Homestead Ded.)	-\$45,000				\$85.27
(Supplemental Ded @35%)	-\$19,250				Per Year
(Mtg. Ded.)	-\$8,000	\$678.34	\$701.80	\$804.67	Per Month
Net Assessed Value	\$37,750				
Gross AV	\$200,000				
(Homestead Ded.)	-\$45,000				\$206.74
(Supplemental Ded @35%)	-\$64,250				Per Year
(Mtg. Ded.)	-\$8,000	\$2,358.22	\$2,774.04	\$2,000.00	\$17.20
Net Assessed Value	\$87,750				Per Month
Gross AV	\$300,000				
(Homestead Ded.)	-\$45,000				\$344.22
(Supplemental Ded @35%)	-\$88,250				Per Year
(Mtg. Ded.)	-\$8,000	\$3,956.10	\$3,786.19	\$3,300.00	\$28.68
Net Assessed Value	\$162,750				Per Month

Questions & Answers

Facilities Referendum

What are the projects being proposed?

The school board and administration are proposing the following components: additions and renovations to Hazel Dell Elementary School, North Elementary School, Stony Creek Elementary School, and White River Elementary School; renovations to incorporate the former Tri-County Education Center into Hinkle Creek Elementary School; closing Forest Hill Elementary School and building a new seventh elementary school on Promise Road; additions and renovations to Noblesville Intermediate School to convert it to a grade 6-8 middle school; renovations to Noblesville Middle School to improve safety and security; and renovations and additions to Noblesville High School to add science lab rooms, health classrooms, and additional PE locker rooms.

Why is the board proposing these projects?

Noblesville Schools and the City of Noblesville have experienced considerable growth over the last decade. In the fall of 2000, there were 6,429 students enrolled in Noblesville Schools. In September 2009, that number had grown to 8,964. Our two middle level buildings - Noblesville Intermediate School and Noblesville Middle School - each have a capacity of 1,400 students and both will exceed capacity in the next two years. That number does not include further growth but is based on the number of students enrolled in the lower grade levels now who will be moving into those buildings. The board has proposed the projects to create adequate space in our elementary schools to allow 5th graders to stay in our elementary schools. We would then divide students in grades 6-8 into two middle schools. The renovations at Noblesville High School are included to create space for increased enrollment in classes that have specific space requirements (laboratories and PE).

How does the plan now under consideration address the increase in enrollment we have already experienced and how will it address likely future increases?

The plan calls for expansions at most elementary schools to include space for fifth graders and potentially full day kindergarten. If the plan is approved by the voters, all elementary schools will be nearly equal in their capacity for students and will facilitate similar program and support offerings in each school. An advantage to keeping the same number (seven) of elementary schools as we now have is that we will avoid the additional administrative and operational costs that would be required by an additional school. It should be noted that if enrollment increases continue, however, an additional elementary school would be needed at some point in time.

Keeping the fifth grade in our elementary schools will enable fifth graders to have one more year to mature academically and socially in the elementary setting. Maximum mastery of the basic skills in reading, arithmetic and writing is essential for success in the middle school program. Further, additional time to mature socially before moving to a larger school with a whole new set and mix of students will be beneficial to all.

This plan also provides the opportunity to create a three-year middle school setting with an enrollment of 900 to 1,000 students in each of two schools. With the movement of students already enrolled in our elementary schools into middle school over the next several years, the plan calls for grades 6-8 schools with enrollments that are moderate in size.

At the high school, growth in enrollment along with increases in student course selections in advanced science courses and advanced health and physical education classes have created the need for additional space in each of these areas. With these changes, the high school facility should be fully equipped to meet the course selections of up to 2,000 students which is its designed capacity. It should be noted that concern exists about the high school's ability to house additional students should any significant growth occur within classes in the lower grades.

How does this project differ from the project on last January's referendum ballot?

The January 2009 project included a new elementary, renovations/additions at North Elementary, Noblesville Intermediate School, Noblesville Middle School, the PE renovations at Noblesville High School, and money for the potential purchase of land. We have removed the money for land, decreased the size of the project at Noblesville Middle School, as well as the size of the PE renovation at Noblesville High School, and added science labs at the high school. We have added the additions/renovations at Hazel Dell, Hinkle Creek/Tri-County, Stony Creek and White River.

How is this cost funded?

When the Indiana legislature implemented property tax reform in 2008, it changed the way that public building projects, including schools, are funded and it changed how much property tax is paid. For elementary projects over \$10 million or secondary school projects over \$20 million, the voters in the district must approve the project in a referendum. Once approved, the corporation can then issue 20-year bonds to pay for the project. The money to repay the bonds is taxed to property owners in the district on top of the property tax cap (if the cap impacts the property).

Will the cost remain at highest impact the entire 20 years?

No. Beginning in 2014, other debts incurred by the school corporation, including Noblesville Middle School renovations, the building of White River Elementary School and Noblesville High School, will be fully paid and will reduce the total amount of taxes needed to support the school's debt service fund.

Are there other sources of funding available to the school corporation?

Indiana law divides the school budget into several funds. The general operating fund, which pays salaries, benefits and utilities, is now funded entirely from the state on a per

pupil basis. The debt service fund, the capital projects fund, the transportation operating fund, and the bus replacement fund are funded through local property tax collection, which is now capped through the property tax reform. The cap specifically impacts our capital projects fund, which would be used for maintenance and technology upgrades. In 2010, we anticipate that the cap will reduce the expected \$10 million capital projects fund by almost \$3 million. Indiana law does not permit schools to collect impact fees, such as those the city collects for parks or sewers, on new construction. The law permitting referenda on new building projects to be taxed outside the cap is the primary vehicle for funding the project. Private donors will be sought for those parts of the project which are amenable to sponsorship, but it is unlikely that significant amounts of the total cost will be funded through donation.

What if the project ends up costing less than the amount of the bonds?

Any funds not expended on the project go immediately to pay bonds, reducing the long term tax impact of the project.

How much did it cost to acquire the Tri-County Educational Center?

Zero dollars. The building, which was owned jointly by the seven school corporations in the Hamilton-Boone-Madison Special Education Cooperative, is being gifted to Noblesville Schools by the other six corporations as they have no need for a building in Noblesville and do not wish to spend the money to tear it down.

How does all of this impact the general operating fund? Will there be money to staff additional classrooms?

The building project referendum can only fund the building project - it has no impact on the general operating fund. We already employ the 5th grade teachers who will staff the added rooms in the elementary buildings. As we continue to see growth in enrollment, we will receive some additional money on a per pupil basis from the state.

It is important to note that we are proposing to expand the size of the elementary schools to make them more economically efficient. Adding an eighth elementary at this time (which will eventually be necessary if enrollment growth continues) would add almost a half million dollars in additional fixed staff costs beyond classroom teachers (including administrators, clerical staff, maintenance staff, and food services staff).

Why can't the capital projects fund be used to do the maintenance aspects of several of the elementary school projects?

The capital projects fund (CPF) is funded by local property tax and is used to pay for building maintenance and technology needs. The board chose to reduce the CPF levy at the time Noblesville High School was built to offset the increase in the debt service fund and has not raised the levy to keep pace with the needs of the corporation. With the new property tax caps, Noblesville Schools will receive only \$7 million of the \$10 million anticipated revenue in 2010 in our CPF. Of that \$7 million, almost 35 percent is used to fund technology needs across the district, including the computers used by students and teachers on a daily basis. Of the remainder, a portion has been transferred into a rainy day fund to support our transportation operating fund, which is operating in a deficit. Thus, we do not have adequate revenue to accomplish all of the mechanical renovations needed in our buildings.

Will the renovations bring all schools up to the same level of technology?

Yes. One of the goals of the work on the buildings will be to improve the technology in the older buildings to create equity within the system. Many buildings require additional electrical wiring as well as HVAC work, not to mention technological tools, to bring them up to par with Noble Crossing or White River.

Will you try to use local builders/contractors to keep tax money in the local economy?

We are required to bid out the project and award the contracts to the lowest qualified bidder, but we certainly hope that local builders/contractors will bid on the project.

Will the work be done at all the schools at the same time? How will noise and dust be contained if work is done during the school year?

Once the project is approved by the voters, the architects and contractors will develop the schedule of work. It is the board's desire that the work be scheduled to have the least possible impact on our students and staff (i.e., over the summer). Noise and dust reduction will be important considerations for work done during the school year.

Will there be increased energy efficiency by replacing the HVAC systems at Hinkle Creek and Stony Creek?

Absolutely. Both Stony Creek (built in 1968) and Hinkle Creek (built in 1980) are running on their original systems, and both will see significant improvements in efficiency with newer systems.

With current economic conditions/concerns, is this a good time for such massive expansion?

While the current economy is not good, the students who create the need for the middle level shift already have enrolled in Noblesville Schools. We believe that the changes in this project will set up the system to meet facility needs in K-8 for some time, certainly in grades 6-8, and will allow the district to address future enrollment needs with new elementary schools, which are less expensive than new middle level schools. Given the challenged economy, we expect very favorable bids on the projects.

Has the board considered doing the project in multiple phases?

The board has considered spreading out the project. Unfortunately, the needs for the space at the intermediate and middle schools are significant, as are the needs for mechanical and HVAC work at several of the elementary schools, requiring all of that work to be incorporated into the project. The enrollment in our science and PE/health classes is already being deterred by the limited space in which to hold those classes.

How long will this plan hold us before another elementary is necessary?

Using the demographic study as our best estimate, we hope that we can hold off building the eighth elementary for at least five years. If the Noblesville economy recovers more quickly, it might be sooner.

What other options were considered and why were they rejected?

The board considered building two new elementary schools, but given the gift of Tri County and the additional operating costs which would come with a completely new building, that option was rejected. Alternatively, the board could choose to accommodate growth through the use of portable classrooms at all buildings that can host portables. (Stony Creek cannot have portables, as they must be placed within 200 feet of an interior bathroom, and there is no way to do that at Stony Creek). Portables have been used and will likely be used again, but they are not a long-term solution to our growth needs. Portable classrooms cost approximately \$50,000 each and it costs an additional \$10,000 or so to place them and connect them to electricity. In addition to the monetary cost, portable classrooms have an intangible cost in lack of security.

What about adding the eighth graders to the freshman campus and dividing the two schools into 5-7 buildings?

The freshman campus, which has previously been used as the intermediate school, and before that the junior high school, has a student capacity of approximately 1,000 students. With our graduating classes regularly exceeding 700 students starting with our current seventh grade class, that building cannot accommodate more than one graduating class.

Why are we adding to current elementary schools instead of building a new one?

Adding to our current buildings costs less than building an additional building (\$16.4 million v \$24.5 million). Also, creating additional space in our current buildings does not require adding the fixed staffing costs (principal, counselor, nurse, secretaries, maintenance, food services) or the additional utilities of a new building.

On what do you base the claim that Noblesville should expect growth of 2.3 percent?

Noblesville Schools has utilized the services of Dr. Robert Boyd of Indiana State University for several years in determining our demographic growth. He updated his study of our community for the board in October 2009. Additionally, the city of Noblesville has done regular demographic studies that have found similar results. The study is available on the Noblesville Schools' website, www.noblesvilleschools.org. Click on the "More Information" link under Facilities on the "Referenda 2010" graphic.

What weight was given to the recession and reversals in growth? What weight was given to transfers to charter schools and home school?

Dr. Boyd's study incorporates information on the current economic climate and the slowing of growth in Noblesville Township. The study does not specifically address private school, charter school or home school students, but the percentage of students using those options is significantly less than 10 percent of the student population. It is important to note that Noblesville Schools grew by almost 300 students from September 2008 to September 2009 and that the city of Noblesville had more than 200 new homes during 2009. While the state of the overall economy has been negative, the impact in Noblesville has been to slow growth, but not stop it or start a decline.

Operating Referendum

Why ask for \$5 million through an operating referendum?

We cut \$2.1 million from the budget in 2009 in the areas of staff, energy, supplies, and travel. Those cuts are felt in the higher class sizes we see this year. The governor cut an additional \$2.3 million, effective January 2010, for which we are currently in the process of neutralizing by making more cuts. That's a total reduction of \$4.4 million in two years of budget cuts.

By 2012, we will lose additional \$1.1 million in state funding (the restoration grant). If the building project referendum is passed, we will have an additional \$850,000 cost in utilities for additional the new space; teachers will move up the salary schedule (state law requires us to have a schedule), adding \$525,000 each year; and health insurance premiums are projected to increase 20% per year. That's an additional \$4.6 million of additional cost by 2012. So between 2009-2012 we need to make a minimum of \$9 million in adjustments to the operating budget.

Asking our taxpayers to approve a referendum to raise property taxes is the only option the state allows for school districts to raise additional revenue. Five million dollars will not restore all we are losing from the state and cover rising costs, but we are making additional cuts in our budget to make up the difference. However, \$5 million prevents the cuts from destroying all the programs except basic classroom instruction, and it will prevent class sizes from soaring to 30-40 students per class.

How much will taxes increase?

A person whose home has a gross assessed value of \$200,000 paid \$2,274 in property taxes in 2008. In 2010, they will pay \$2,000. From 2011-2018, they will pay an extra \$206 a year for the operating fund. On the building project, they will pay \$38 in 2011, \$125 in 2012, and \$185 in 2013 and after (through 2030). However, as total assessed valuation grows in Noblesville Township, the tax rate for each homeowner (and thus, the amount of tax paid) will decrease.

In 2013, the total tax increase - for both the operating fund and the building project - for the person whose home's gross assessed value is \$200,000 will be almost \$400, or

How many classrooms will be added by the renovations, additions, inclusion of Tri-County, and the new elementary?

Tri-County will add 22 new classrooms. The additions at Hazel Dell, North, Stony Creek and White River total 23 new classrooms. A new elementary building will have at least seven more classrooms than Forest Hill currently provides. The total number of new classrooms in the elementary level will thus be 52. We will need 28 classrooms for 5th graders in 2012 and 14 additional classrooms for full day kindergarten, or 42 classrooms minimum. The renovations etc. will provide a small amount of room for additional growth before an eighth elementary becomes necessary.

Do the buildings being renovated/expanded have enough cafeteria space, restrooms, etc. to accommodate additional students?

Yes. The number of classrooms added to each building is dependent on their cafeteria and media center space. North Elementary will not be expanded as much as other buildings due to the size of its cafeteria.

Can you build more classrooms now to push off the day of building No. 8?

For Hazel Dell, North, Stony Creek and White River, we are expanding to the limit of the cafeteria, so we would not add more rooms to those buildings. We could build the new building with more rooms, but that would come at an additional cost.

What is the approximate number of students per room for the new rooms?

We base the additional capacity numbers on a planned 22 students per kindergarten through 2nd grade room, and 25 students per room in grades 3 and higher.

What impact will this project have on student-teacher ratio?

Student-teacher ratio, or class size, is dependent on two variables - having rooms in which to teach the students and having teachers in the rooms. This project increases the numbers of rooms available for teachers to use. We will realign the elementary school districts to balance the number of students per room. We will have some additional money with additional students to hire additional teachers.

Why is the district changing back to 6-8 middle schools? Is it an educational issue or a cost issue? Will it shift back again in another decade?

In 1996, when the new Noblesville High School was opened, it left the old NHS empty. Rather than close that building, it was used to create the 7th-8th grade Noblesville Middle School, and the former middle school became the 5th-6th grade Noblesville Intermediate School. This was done for both fiscal savings and the belief at the time that a school for 5-6th grade provided a good educational environment for students of that age. On an educational level, Noblesville Schools has not seen the benefits we had hoped for in the tests scores of our 5th and 6th graders. On a fiscal level, moving the 5th graders back to elementary school and dividing into two 6th-8th grade middle schools pushes the need for new buildings to the elementary level, where the buildings are about half the price of middle level buildings. So the change has both education and fiscal benefits.

Why are you asking for space for full-day kindergarten?

To the extent we don't need the space as full-day kindergarten rooms, those rooms help push off the day we need to build the next elementary school. Those parents who choose to pay for the second half of the day will fund the cost of the teacher and the utilities. The principal and the nurse would be there whether those kids stay half the day or all. When the space becomes available - in the fall of 2011 or 2012 depending on construction timing - we will be able to offer full day kindergarten for pay. When the state's economic condition improves, we anticipate state funding for full day kindergarten.

about \$33 a month. Compared to taxes paid in 2009, it's \$125 more, less than \$10.50 a month.

Everyone else is down 10-15 percent. Why shouldn't the schools have to cut too?

We understand that state revenue is down. We will have cut our expenses by 9 percent by spring 2010, and by 2012 we will have to adjust another 10 percent. That's a reduction of 19 percent over three years.

Why now, when people are unemployed and can't afford it?

We understand that the economy is not good. However, people are continuing to move to Noblesville. We had 300 new housing starts in Noblesville in 2009. Noblesville Schools' enrollment grew by almost 300 children this school year. People moved, and continue to move, to Noblesville because of the quality of our schools, among other things, and if we don't shore up the operating fund, we will not be able to provide the quality that people expect.

Why is the school corporation asking for both operating and building needs?

We need to expand our facilities in order to accommodate the growing number of students that are enrolled in our schools. The State of Indiana moved school funding from property tax, a stable source of income, to sales tax. Local property tax stayed in the local community; only a percentage of sales tax collected within our district stays here. Revenue from sales tax has fallen far short of the state's projections and the state has cut our funding. We had to know the full extent of state cuts before determining the amount of monies that would be necessary from a referendum. We noted the possibility of an operating referendum in almost every forum and in the FAQs posted on the website in December. The timing and amount of the requested operated fund increase, along with the cuts already in place and those already approved, should provide a sound fiscal basis for the school corporation and permit it to meet students' needs in the years ahead.

What's on the ballot?

Noblesville Schools will have two questions on the May 4 primary ballot. Voters will select "Yes" or "No" on each question.

"Shall Noblesville Schools enter into a lease to finance the Keeping Our Schools Strong Project which includes a new elementary school; the renovation of and construction of additions to the current Noblesville Intermediate School, including site improvements; the renovation of the current Noblesville Middle School, the renovation of Hinkle Creek Elementary and the former Tri-County Opportunity School, and the renovation of and construction of additions to Noblesville High School, North Elementary School, Hazel Dell Elementary School, White River Elementary School, and Stony Creek Elementary School (the "Project"), which Project is estimated to cost not more than \$63,600,000 and is estimated to increase the property tax rate for debt service by a maximum of \$.19."

"For the next seven calendar years immediately following the holding of the referendum pursuant to Indiana Code 20-46-1-8 (a)(1), shall the Noblesville Schools impose a property tax rate that does not exceed 21.15 cents (\$0.2115) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and that is in addition to the school corporation's normal tuition support tax rate?"

Frequently asked questions about Forest Hill

Why does Forest Hill need to be closed?

Forest Hill Elementary School is almost 50 years old, with the oldest parts having been built in 1961. Some of the mechanical systems, which are failing, are built into the concrete ceiling and cannot be repaired without tearing into the ceiling. Other systems require replacement as well. The cafeteria and gym are at capacity now and cannot support additional classrooms of students. Forest Hill is the smallest and least efficient building in the system.

What is the difference in cost for repairing vs. replacing Forest Hill?

The cost to repair (more accurately to tear down parts of and rebuild) Forest Hill is close to \$18 million. The cost of a new elementary building is approximately \$22 million, so the cost of repairing Forest Hill is about 85 percent of the cost of building new. The industry standard for repair vs. replace is to replace when the cost of repair equals 60 percent of the cost of replacement.

What will happen to the staff of Forest Hill?

Assuming the building closes in May 2012 and the new building opens in August 2012, the staff would have priority status to move to the new building. Classrooms also will need staffing in the new Hinkle Creek and staff could choose to fill those positions as well.

What will be done with the Forest Hill building?

The board is in discussions with the City of Noblesville. Because the Forest Hill property backs up to Forest Park, the city has expressed an interest in utilizing Forest Hill as a community center where the current parks department classes could be taught in a larger, more appropriate space. The parks department would develop additional programming for that space.

Planning for our students and schools



This publication is published by Noblesville Schools as part of our efforts to inform our community about our challenges and our plans to address those challenges. Thank you for taking your time to learn about our students' needs. We welcome your questions. Please forward your questions to Sharon Trisler, director of public relations, and she will forward them to any administrator or school board member you wish to reach. You may contact Mrs. Trisler by e-mail at sharon_trisler@mail.nobl.k12.in.us or noblesvilleschools@gmail.com, by postal mail at 1775 Field Drive, Noblesville, 46060, or by phone at 773-3171.



School board hosts public meetings to answer questions

The Noblesville Board of School Trustees will host public meetings to discuss the projects and answer questions on the following dates:

- Wednesday, April 14
- Wednesday, April 28

Each of these meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be in the Council Chambers at Noblesville City Hall, 19 S. 10th St.



Online resources

Stayed informed:

- Visit our website at www.noblesvilleschools.org
- Join our Fan Page at www.facebook.com/NoblesvilleSchools
- Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/NobSchools
- To schedule Dr. Conner or a school board member to speak to your group or organization, send an e-mail with contact information to noblesvilleschools@gmail.com.

Voting information



Only voters registered at addresses within the Noblesville Schools' district may vote on the referendum questions. The yes-or-no questions will be at the end of the primary ballot on May 4.

Dates to note:

- Voter registration deadline is April 5.
- Absentee and early voting begins April 5 and ends at noon, May 3. Specific hours are:
 - * Monday through Friday, April 5-April 30: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
 - * Saturday, April 24 and May 1: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
 - * Monday, May 3: 8 a.m.-noon.
- Polls are open from 6 a.m.-6 p.m. on primary election day, May 4.

Voter registration forms and applications for an absentee ballot are available on the Hamilton County website, <http://www.co.hamilton.in.us>, and also on Noblesville Schools' website, <http://www.noblesvilleschools.org>.