

# » MARCH 2026 REFERENDUM PUBLIC PRESENTATION

*Strong School, Strong Community!*

 **SOLUTIONS**  
ARCHITECTURE  
FRANK A. MESSINEO • AIA



## FACTS & FAQs



# » SOME FACTS...



- » We are awaiting DOE Project Approval and the Debt Service Aid projection is \$1,475,479, because the largest parts of the project (the addition and the drop off lane) are ineligible for funding.
- » The District and their finance team have conservatively carried a 4.1% interest rate for all tax impact calculations - and the goal was originally to maintain a net neutral or zero increase tax impact - the project actually results in a reduction.
- » There have been significant increases in the construction industry due to material cost increases, shipping increases, material shortages, and expanded schedules – **we still need to work within the original budget numbers and will need to adjust accordingly.**



# » MORE FACTS...



- » The designs shown within this presentation are conceptual only. We are simply providing an “idea” of what these spaces can look like at this time.
- » If and when the referendum passes, we will be conducting numerous meetings with the staff and administration to work on the detailed design of all of the individual spaces. Looking at needs, finishes, furniture, and overall “feel” of these rooms.



# » CAN MORE BE SPENT? | F.A.Q.



**Q:** Can more money be spent than the amount approved in the question?

**A:** No. The Cost of the Referendum Projects cannot exceed the amount approved by the voters. The amount approved by the voters includes a reasonable budget under which to complete the work as well as required contingencies to address unforeseen conditions and construction issues.





**Q:** What will happen to the children before, during and after construction work?

**A:** Safety, Security and superior education are just three of the variables we take into consideration when planning District operations. In most cases, construction and renovations will be scheduled to be completed during the summer months or at other times when students are not in the schools. When school is in session, students will be separated from work at all times, this way, students can attend classes with minimal disruption.



# » WHY WASN'T THIS WORK DONE BEFORE? | F.A.Q.



**Q:** Why hasn't the Board of Education done any of this work over the past 20 years?

**A:** It must be noted that this Board of Education and those that came before it, use Capital & Maintenance Reserve monies to conduct repairs and upgrades on an annual basis and have done so since the last Referendum in 2006.

It should be noted, however, that because of the District's 2% cap, it is impossible to complete the amount of work necessary out of the capital account. While some work has been completed, other work has been deferred and unfortunately that work continues to build up.

It's been nearly 20 years since the last referendum and the amount of work necessary to improve programs is significant - at least through the Referendum - \$1,475,479 in state aid is available for approval.



# » POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE



**Q:** When would the work begin and when will it be completed?

- A:**
- » The schedule for implementation of the projects will be carefully reviewed & crafted into a detailed timeline that works best for the School District.
  - » While some projects could begin construction as early as summer of 2026, given the timing of a March Referendum, we would determine our ability to strategically bid projects at appropriate times.
  - » Projects that require more time to design & develop will begin later in the 2026 year or the summers of 2027 thru 2028.
  - » Allowing for flexibility of scheduling allows us to bid at the most appropriate times resulting in the best pricing for projects.





For further information and to keep updated on the District-wide Facilities Renovation Program Referendum, please scan the QR Code to the left or visit the district website:

**[www.wearenorwood.org/page/referendum](http://www.wearenorwood.org/page/referendum)**

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**SOLUTIONS ARCHITECTURE | FRANK MESSINEO, AIA**

**fm@solutions-arch.com | [www.solutions-arch.com](http://www.solutions-arch.com)**

**973-484-4800 (OFFICE) | 201-618-0606 (CELL)**