

# VOTER INFORMATION APRIL 4, 2023 REFERENDUM



JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 86 420 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL 60435-6097

# VOTER INFORMATION APRIL 4, 2023 REFERENDUM

## **FOCUSED ON DISTRICTWIDE IMPROVEMENTS**

#### If approved, District 86's 2023 Referendum would fund:

- Safety and security upgrades
- Replacement of outdated roofing, plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements
- Technology infrastructure upgrades

- Energy efficiency enhancements
- Replacement of Gompers and Hufford Junior High Schools, both built in the 1950s, on their existing sites
- Addition to Jefferson Elementary School



### NO DEBT SERVICE TAX RATE INCREASE.

- Voter approval of the 2023 Referendum would <u>not</u> result in a tax rate increase.
- The tax rate does not need to be increase because District 86 is paying off existing debt.



## JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 86



# VOTER INFORMATION APRIL 4, 2023 REFERENDUM

## **TO OUR DISTRICT 86 COMMUNITY:**

The Board of Inspectors of Joliet Public Schools District 86 has unanimously adopted a resolution to place a bond referendum on the April 4, 2023, election ballot.

District 86 seeks to protect and improve its 21 school buildings. The improvements would help address the District's highest priority facility needs to create safer, healthier, and more functional learning spaces, alleviate overcrowding at certain schools, and extend the useful life of existing facilities.

Because the District has debt expiring, the proposed improvements can be addressed without increasing the current tax rate.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about this plan and referendum. Please visit the District's website at www.joliet86.org or scan the QR code for further details.

Respectfully,

#### **JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 86**

Erick Deshaun Dorris Board of School Inspectors President **Dr. Theresa R. Rouse** Superintendent of Schools



### **ON THE BALLOT:**

District 86's bond referendum will appear on the April 4, 2023 Ballot as a question.

Shall the Board of School Inspectors of Joliet School District Number 86. Will County, Illinois, alter, repair and equip existing school buildings, including but not limited to improving safety and security, replacing roofs, plumbing, electrical and HVAC systems, renovating science labs, classrooms and other instructional spaces, installing certain Americans with **Disabilities Act compliance measures** and updating technology infrastructure; build and equip two school buildings to replace the Hufford Junior High School and Gompers Junior High School Buildings; build and equip an addition to the Jefferson Elementary School Building; improve sites; and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$99,500,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

#### NO DEBT SERVICE TAX RATE INCREASE.

Because District 86 has debt expiring, voter approval of the 2023 Referendum would not result in a tax rate increase.

### **VOTING INFORMATION**

Election Day: April 4, 2023

Vote by Mail & Other Voter Information: Visit www.willcountyclerk.gov for more information on voting by mail as well as voting locations, dates, times, and requirements.

#### **Early Voting:**

Will County Clerk's Office: February 23 to April 3, 2023 Countywide: March 20 to April 3, 2023

#### Grace Period Voting/Registration:

Will County Clerk's Office: February 23 to April 4, 2023 Countywide: March 20 to April 4, 2023

## For additional information regarding the 2023 Referendum go to www.joliet86.org.

## JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 86



## FAST FACTS

- The District's 21 schools are 11 to 111 years old, with the majority between 50 and 99 years old.
- Certain schools within the District face overcrowding and space-related challenges.
- It's been 20 years since voters approved funding for building improvements.
- The District has worked hard to maintain its facilities, but many critical repairs and building updates fall outside the scope of yearly maintenance and require additional funding.
- With debt expiring, the current tax rate does not need to be increased.

### DISTRICTWIDE FACILITY UPGRADES WOULD BE ADDRESSED



## **TWO NEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

- The referendum includes the construction of two new junior high schools on their existing sites.
- Hufford and Gompers Junior High Schools, both more than 60 years old, face many facility challenges. Given the extent of the needs, replacing the buildings is more cost-effective than restoration.
- The new schools would be built across from their current locations before the existing schools would be demolished, minimizing disruptions to classroom operation.
- The plan calls for "twin" junior high school buildings. One on the east side and one on the west side of District 86.



Conceptual Rendering of New Junior High School

## ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

#### There are many anticipated benefits of the proposed facility improvements:



Improving safety and security



Extending the useful life of existing facilities



Improving indoor air quality and comfort level



Enhancing instructional technology



Improving accessibility for students, staff, and visitors



Addressing overcrowding and improving educational outcomes



Enhancing energy efficiency



Attracting and retaining quality teachers



Protecting property values

ALL 21 DISTRICT 86 SCHOOLS WOULD BENEFIT. **NO DEBT SERVICE TAX RATE INCREASE.** 



JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 86

## **PROPOSED DISTRICTWIDE IMPROVEMENTS**

ACCESSIBILITY/ADA ENHANCEMENTS	1925 Culbertson Elementary	<b>1937</b> Cunningham Elementary	1970 Dirksen Junior High	<b>1964</b> Eisenhower Academy	<b>1915</b> Farragut Elementary	<b>1911</b> Forest Park Individual Education	1958 Gompers Junior High	1956 Hufford Junior High & I.E. Program	1968 Jefferson Elementary	<b>1955</b> Keith Elementary	1924 Marshall Elementary	1956 Marycrest Early Childhood Center	1949 Pershing Elementary	2003 Sanchez Elementary	<b>1964</b> Sandburg Elementary	2011 Singleton Elementary	1930 Taft Elementary	2003 Thigpen Elementary	<b>1937</b> Thompson Instructional Center		1969 Woodland Elementary
Doors & Hardware	•																				
Restroom Renovations & Accessibility Improvements	•		•	•		•	•	•			•				•					•	
SAFETY & SECURITY UPGRADES								1						1	1	1					
Access Controls	•			٠		٠					٠		٠					٠			
Fire Alarms																					
PA/Intercoms	•			٠		٠							•	•	•			•	•	٠	
BUILDING ENVELOPE					1																
Roofing Replacement/Repairs				٠			٠				٠									•	
Window Repairs/Replacement	•		•	٠	•	•	•	•		•	٠	•			•		٠		•	•	
INDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS																					
HVAC			•				٠			•			٠		٠					•	
Lighting	•		•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•			•		•			•	
Flooring, Railings & Hardware	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•				•	•	
Furniture & Storage	•		•	•		•	•	•	•		٠				•		•		•	•	
TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE																					
Electrical	•		•	•		•	•													•	
Plumbing	•		•	•		•														•	
Mechanical Systems	•			•		•		•			٠	•			•					•	
Technology Infrastructure	•																				
SITE IMPROVEMENTS																					
Parking Lots	•		•	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	٠	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Sidewalks/Masonry	•			٠		٠														•	
Playgrounds	•			•		•				•	٠										
Sports Fields/Track																					
UPDATED LEARNING SPACES																					
Add and/or Reconfigure Classrooms					•	٠	•	•	•	•			٠	•		•	•	•		•	
Add or Update Gymnasium																					
Make Resource Center/Library Improvements			•				٠	٠												٠	
Replacement of School on Same Site																					
New Building & Ballfields								٠													
PARTIAL ADDITIONS																					
Four Classrooms & Multipurpose Room																					
Proposed Improvements to be Addressed by 2023 Referendum			Work	Alread	y Com	pletec	1														