

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS

April 3, 2018 Referendum



Identifying the Need

River Falls has seven school buildings of which several are over 45 years in age. These buildings require periodic investments to ensure they are safe and effective educational spaces. Although the District invests annually in maintenance improvements, we do not have the financial strength to address all facility needs. In 2011, voters approved a referendum question allowing for some maintenance, safety, security, and front entrance improvements in all schools. Still, there remain lingering needs from the two referendum questions that did not pass in 2011. These needs have intensified in our aging buildings. Additionally, enrollment growth and educational advancements cause capacity challenges and require new and different spaces for educating students.

Notably, our timing is such that our district is retiring some existing debt (basically, eliminating an existing mortgage) -- this would allow for significant and much needed facility improvements to occur while minimizing the tax impact.