

Stanwood-Camano Bond Facts★



IMPORTANT INFORMATION
ABOUT THE 2017 BOND PROPOSAL



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Stanwood-Camano Community:

Stanwood-Camano has a long history of generosity when it comes to supporting schools. I want to thank each of you for working with us to ensure a healthy, productive, and safe learning environment where students can thrive.

As you may know, a committee of parents, community members, the school board, staff, students and an architectural consultant have spent the past two years studying and prioritizing a plan to replace the 45 year-old Stanwood High School. Based on information gathered through discussions, research and community feedback, the committee has recommended replacing the high school on its existing site and providing new Lincoln Hill High /Lincoln Academy and Saratoga school facilities. This can be accomplished without a tax increase to the community. On February 14, 2017, voters will consider a bond measure to fund these projects. The district waited to run a bond until all long term debt was paid off in 2013, allowing us to build a new school without increasing taxes for property owners.

The existing school has served the community far beyond its intended life. Security and safety needs have changed dramatically in the last 45 years. The bond proposal would eliminate 80 exterior entrances to the school and reduce our traffic challenges. The learning needs of today's students have also changed significantly since the original school was built. Students need up-to-date science and computer labs, technology resources and state-of-the-art classrooms to help them move toward 21st century skills.

This publication provides detailed information about the bond measure. The Board believes the proposal reflects a thorough planning process that represents a conservative, fiscally responsible approach. We have listened to feedback from our patrons and are confident that investing in a new high school at this time will meet school and community needs far into the future.

As we prepare for the February bond election, we remain focused on providing the best learning environment for our students, who continue to excel in academic performance, creative arts, athletics and citizenship. The support offered by our community members, business representatives and parents remains critical to our mission.

Thank you for the privilege to serve as your superintendent for the last 15 years. I'm proud of all that we've accomplished together and look forward to the future of Stanwood-Camano schools. Please let me know if you have any questions. My door is always open.

Jean Shumate, Ed.D.
Superintendent
jshumate@stanwood.wednet.edu

Your [★]SCHOOL BOARD



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Architect's rendering of the front of the proposed new Stanwood High School

Your★ PROPOSED NEW HIGH SCHOOL

THE SCOPE

- The bond will provide a new 241,449 sq. ft. high school serving 1,200 students and new 43,580 sq. ft. instructional space for 260 Lincoln Hill High School/Lincoln Academy (LHHS/LA) and Saratoga School (SAR) students.
- Both spaces will be designed to meet the learning needs of students and our community well into the future.

SAFETY AND SECURITY FEATURES

- Secure limited points of entry, current campus has 80 exterior doors
- Campus-wide building lock-down capability and communications systems
- One contiguous, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant building with interior corridors

21ST CENTURY LEARNING SPACES

- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs: Agriculture Education, American Sign Language, Business Education, Culinary Arts, Health Occupations & Athletic Training, Technology Education (woodworking, construction, engineering, architecture, manufacturing), Visual Communications (graphic arts & photography) and Work Based Learning
- Dedicated art, drama, music, physical education and special education spaces
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) classrooms and state-of-the-art laboratories

SUSTAINABLE FEATURES

- Abundant natural light from Low-E glass, large windows and expansive skylights
- Durable materials designed to last at least 50 years

ATHLETIC VENUES

- New gym, fitness center, wrestling room, weight room and locker rooms
- Sports fields with two softball fields, two soccer fields, two baseball fields, four new tennis courts and field house improvements

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

- 600 seat performing arts center
- Auxiliary spaces include drama, band and choir classrooms, storage/set room, light/sound control room and lobby area

Your★ BOND QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q. Did the committee consider remodeling the current high school rather than building new?

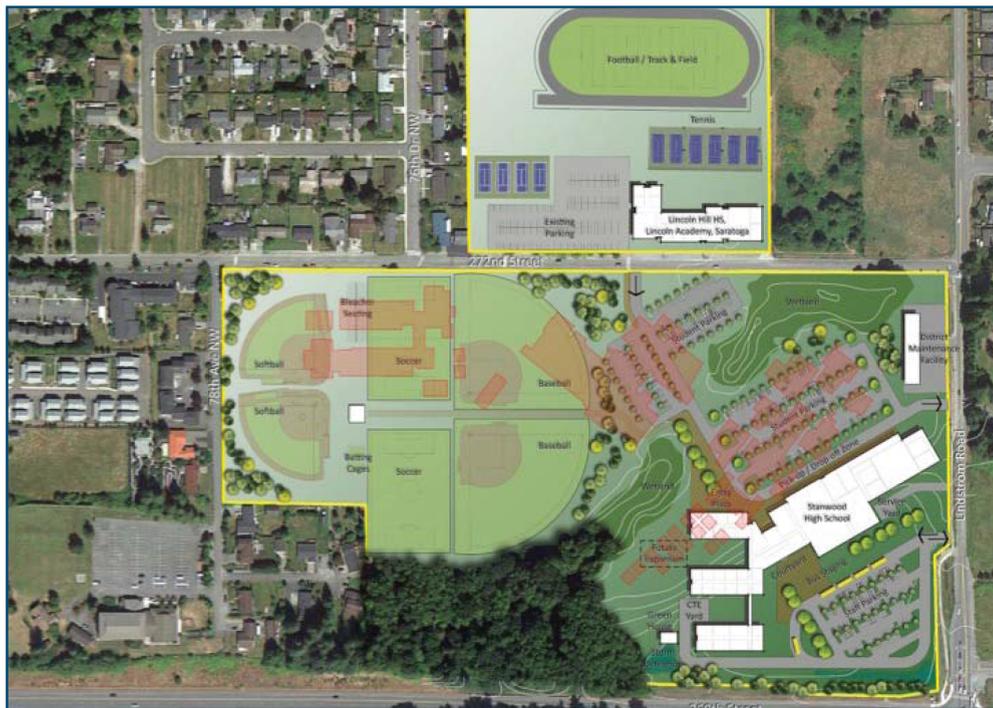
After a comprehensive planning process that included considerable research and community feedback, the committee determined it would be more cost effective to build a new high school on the district owned existing site rather than remodel the old school. The high school does not meet current standards for safety, technology and energy efficiency. Many of the school's building systems including plumbing, electrical and heating systems are approaching the end of their useful life. These issues will be addressed by building a new facility.

Q. Will the new school improve safety and security for our students?

Building a new high school will reduce the footprint of the existing school, eliminating nearly 80 exterior doors and 16 temporary portable classrooms, creating easily controlled entrances into the building. Student passing time between classes will be reduced.

Q. Did the committee consider keeping the Performing Arts Center (PAC) and Gym and rebuilding just the high school?

The committee determined after extensive review of the existing buildings that it would not be advantageous to keep the existing PAC and gymnasium because of the following:



New Stanwood High School site plan with the existing high school buildings overlaid in red



- Water supply, sewer, and storm drains are rusting-out and failing.
- If saved, the buildings would require a stand-alone heating system.
- Rebuilding the PAC and gym reduces the number of outside access points, creating one contiguous building and increasing safety.
- The PAC is undersized. The PAC music and drama classrooms are undersized and cannot be expanded without removing the existing classrooms and practice areas. The PAC auditorium needs additional seating capacity. There is no feasible option to expand the seating without incurring significant costs or without removing the gym.
- The gym needs major renovation to meet current codes and to replace underlying infrastructure. This work would likely result in the loss of use by team sports and PE for one year.
- In their present locations the gym and PAC would displace the proposed athletic/PE fields and complicate phasing of the construction project.

Q. Will the long-term needs of Lincoln Hill High School/Lincoln Academy (LHHS/LA) and Saratoga School (SAR) be addressed?

LHHS/LA provides opportunities to learn in a non-traditional, more personalized environment for students. The current LHHS/LA was originally designed for elementary students and remodeled in the 1990's for secondary students. The Saratoga School, a parent-partner program that provides assistance to home school students, is located in two regular classrooms and two portable classrooms at Stanwood Middle School.

The proposed bond plan includes constructing a new LHHS/LA/SAR building on the existing maintenance building site (south side of the stadium). This will allow the district to design a facility to meet the program needs of all three programs in one location.

BOND SCHEDULE & PROJECT TIMELINE

- 
NOW - JANUARY 2017
 District presentations to the community
Visit www.stanwood.wednet.edu to see schedule of presentations.
- 
FEBRUARY 14, 2017
 Bond election
- 
FEB. 2017 - SEPT. 2018
 Project design & bidding
- 
OCTOBER 2018
 Construction begins
- 
JULY 2020
 Building construction complete*
- 
SEPTEMBER 2020
 Anticipated occupancy of SHS & LHHS/LA/SAR

*Construction of the fields and parking will be completed in March 2021.

Your★

BOND ANSWERS CONTINUED

Q. Will current traffic challenges be addressed?

The bond funds would improve traffic around the high school by creating new entry points and traffic flow patterns for drivers. The proposed plan provides a clear separation between buses and cars.

Q. Will construction improve athletic fields?

The new sports fields will be built with modern drainage technology to eliminate all current drainage issues. Mike Chandler Field will be relocated to the NW corner of the campus. Improvements will be made to the Field House.

Q. Will students, classes and sports be impacted by the construction?

The proposed plan and placement of the new high school will have minimal impacts on students and classes. Students will remain in the existing Stanwood

High School (SHS) throughout construction of the new building. The new LHHS/LA/SAR building will be constructed simultaneously with the new SHS building. This timing would allow for the existing LHHS building to be demolished and for the athletic fields to begin construction, thus reducing the loss of use of the fields to two seasons. (Note the image on page 4 exhibiting the existing school and placement of the new high school.)

Q. What is the estimated total cost of the proposed construction project?

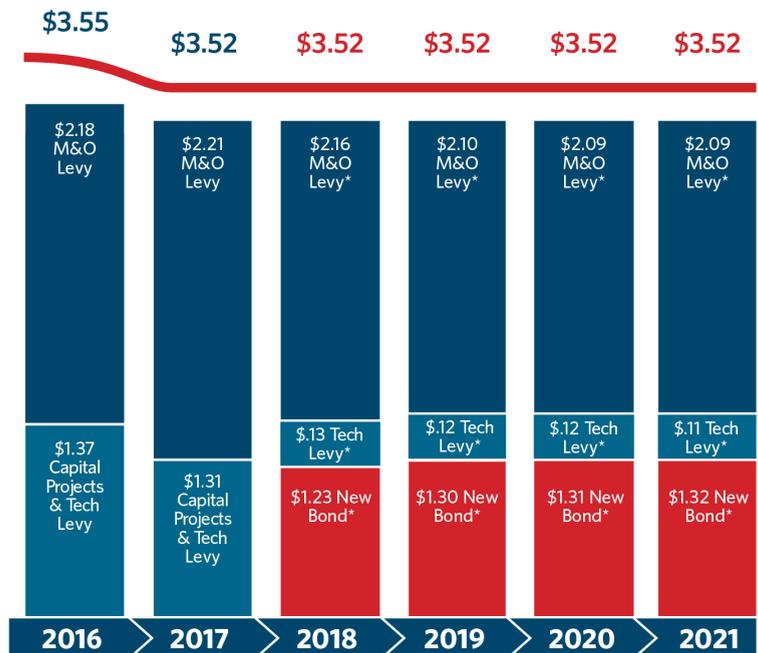
The cost to replace Stanwood High School, Lincoln Hill High School/Lincoln Academy and Saratoga School is estimated to be \$147,535,743, and the total requested bond amount is \$147,500,000.

Q. Will the state provide any matching funds for these projects?

The district currently qualifies for state construction

A STABLE TOTAL TAX RATE

School taxes in Stanwood-Camano are currently the fourth lowest in Snohomish and Island Counties combined. Tax rates will not increase even after the passage of the bond because the bond will replace the expiring Capital Projects and Technology Levy. The chart illustrates the recent ballot measures and the impact of the proposed bond through 2039.





assistance program funds totaling approximately \$8,200,000.

Q. How much will the bond affect my tax rate?

The tax rate will remain at its current level. The current Facility and Technology Levy will be reduced by nearly 90% in 2018. The new bond will replace the expiring Facility and Technology Levy without a tax rate increase.

Q. Is there a tax exemption for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons?

In 2016, persons at least 61 years of age who earn less than \$40,000 annually may qualify for an exemption from these taxes. Your household income and your age or disability determine your eligibility for both programs. For additional information about eligibility or to apply for an exemption, contact the Snohomish County Assessor’s Office at (425) 388-3433, or the Island County Assessor’s Office at (360) 387-3443.

LEVIES VS. BONDS

Schools across Washington rely on local funding to pay for programs, student services and facility needs that are not covered by the state. Following are the different kinds of funding resources:

Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Levy

Pays for costs not fully funded by the state such as reduced class sizes, staff salaries, student food service, building maintenance and pupil transportation. Stanwood-Camano voters approved the recent 2016 M&O levy by 65%.

Facilities and Technology Levy

Pays for facilities and technology equipment and infrastructure such as computers, wiring, software, licensing, staff training and other learning needs related to technology.

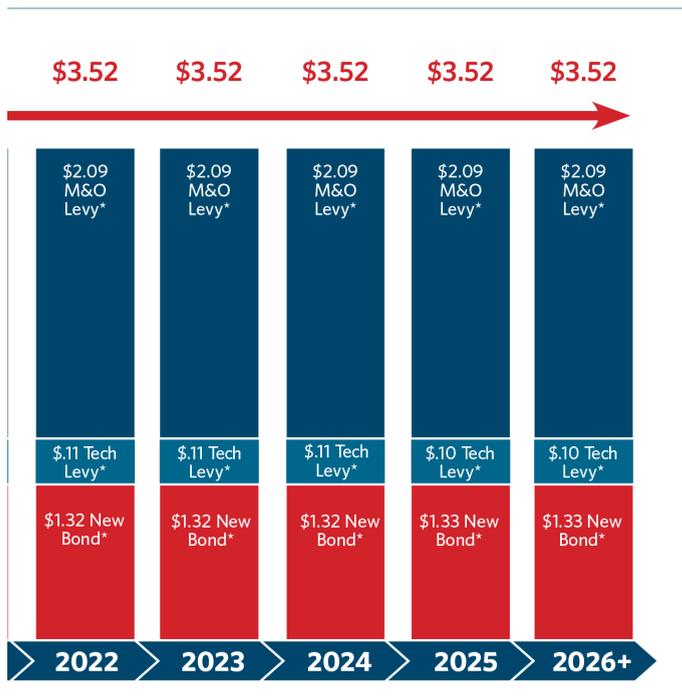
Pays for smaller facility improvements such as flooring, roofing, safety upgrades, painting, heating/ventilation updates and other similar needs.

The current facilities and technology levy decreases from \$1.37 to 0.13 in 2018.

Construction Bond

Pays for all costs of designing and constructing new facilities.

The last construction bond, paid off in 2013, funded two elementary schools on Camano Island, a future site in Warm Beach, the PAC, bus garage and district office.



* Future tax rates are estimates



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To the Citizens of
Stanwood-Camano School District

"One community dedicated to the success of every student."

Your [★] VOTE COUNTS

Ballots are due
February 14, 2017.

For more info

Visit www.stanwood.wednet.edu to find details about all aspects of the bond proposal.

Or email Superintendent
Jean Shumate at
jshumate@stanwood.wednet.edu



INSIDE Important details about the proposed bond measure.

The Stanwood-Camano School District does not discriminate in employment, programs, or activities on the basis of age, creed, religion, race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability or use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX/Affirmative Action Officer and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, Maurene Stanton, or the Section 504/American Disabilities Act Coordinator, Pam Gentz, Stanwood-Camano School District, 26920 Pioneer Hwy, Stanwood, WA 98292. Telephone: (360) 629-1200.