



# If Not Now, When?

2019 BOND INFORMATION MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 2019

# Why are we here?



- ▶ We want to give you all of the information we can so that you can make an informed decision on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ▶ We want you to meet and talk with the architect, the financial advisor, the construction management team, and the Personnel and Property Committee members directly so you get first hand information.
- ▶ We want you to look around, so you can see the conditions we have spoken about.
- ▶ We want you to ask questions.

# How was the decision made to ask for a bond?



- ▶ Last year, the school district worked with the Oklahoma State School Board Association and the K20 Center to develop and implement a 5-year strategic plan. From that plan came the Personnel and Property (P&P) Committee, made up of teachers, community members, parents and administrators.
- ▶ Starting in August 2018 the P&P Committee began working on implementing the strategic plan in terms of facilities. At that time the valuation of the district had risen over \$11 million, allowing for a possible bond proposal to occur. A survey was done asking the community to rank the needs for facilities. A new high school and new gym were number one and two. The new secure entry to the elementary was number 3 and a new fieldhouse with a new concession stand was ranked number 4.
- ▶ The committee then began to work with a financial advisor and with an architect to discuss options. The committee met several times, often weekly, to hash things out and to ultimately come up with the bond proposal.

# Why do we need to do this?



- ▶ The current high school is 63 years old and has only been partially updated in those 63 years. There is extensive mold throughout the building due to multiple years of roof damage and drainage issues in the space between the high school and the gym. The fire alarm pulls do not work, classrooms are small and cramped, and the plumbing is crumbling beneath the foundation, all things that will take more money to fix than to build a new, better building.
- ▶ The current gym is 66 years old and never been updated. The plumbing is crumbling, there is mold and mildew on the south side locker rooms, there are at least three colonies of termites that have caused extreme damage, and it does not meet ADA compliance which keeps many of our Badger fans from being able to watch their children or grandchildren play basketball, perform in band concerts, or attend any other school functions that take place in the gym.
- ▶ The current fieldhouse was constructed in the 1960's and is in complete disrepair, needing a complete new roof and plumbing, nor is it ADA compliant, keeping our Badger fans from fully enjoying the Friday night lights.
- ▶ Construction costs have risen an average of 7.5% each year over the last 30 years. Waiting to build will cost us more and be able to do less.

# How does this bond compare to others that have been passed?



- ▶ This bond would cost add an additional 13.5% in yearly property taxes. The average citizen in Garvin County pays \$397 per year in property taxes. This bond would increase those taxes an additional \$57 per year. Garvin county is the second lowest property tax basis in the surrounding five counties.
- ▶ In 2004, a bond passed for \$1.95million with a 15.66% tax increase to construct the elementary school.
- ▶ In 2014 a bond was passed for \$2.275million with an 8% tax increase for the new middle school.
- ▶ The 2019 bond proposal calls for a 13.%% increase to build a new high school, a new gym, a new fieldhouse/concession/weight room, new, more adequate football stadium seating, improvements to the Ag Show Barn and Shop, and a secure entrance to the elementary school (6 projects).
- ▶ This bond is only 8% more than what was paid in property taxes in 2017.

# What do we get for our money?



- ▶ We will construct a new, secure entrance to the elementary school.
- ▶ We will make improvements to the Ag Show Barn and Ag Shop, in order to enhance and expand our program.
- ▶ We will build new bleachers to seat 800+ Badger fans on the west side of the football stadium to have better access to the new fieldhouse, concession stand, and ADA compliant restrooms.
- ▶ We will complete 6 projects with this bond!



We will get a new high school



We will get a new gymnasium.





We will get a new fieldhouse with a weight room and concession stand.



# Why not renovate what we already have?



- ▶ Renovations of older buildings tend to open up more problems than what appear on the surface. Once we start any kind of renovation, we have to completely update everything and meet ADA compliance. To only add sprinklers to the gym would cost over \$1million. We would then have to bring everything else up to code, costing as much or more than new construction.
- ▶ In 2013 a bond was proposed to build a new gym and renovate the current high school, but failed at the polls. Many no voter cited not wanting to renovate the high school as the reason for the no vote. Six years later, the issues are worse and the cost of construction and renovation have increased, making renovating the high school cost prohibitive.

# Final thoughts



- ▶ Remember polls are open on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 7pm in your regular polling place.
- ▶ We have copies of the absentee ballot request form, should you need one.
- ▶ Early voting takes place at the Garvin County Courthouse on February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 5<sup>th</sup> during regular business hours.
- ▶ All registered voters can vote in this election.
- ▶ Thank you for coming to get the information needed to make an informed decision!

## Your turn



- At this time, please make your way to the individual tables so that you can ask specific questions of the groups who are represented here.