

MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOND ISSUE

Actual Wording	Explanation
<p>Shall Douglas County School District 0017 in the State of Nebraska (a/k/a Millard Public Schools) issue the bonds of said District in the principal amount of not to exceed Seventy-Nine Million Nine Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$79,965,000) for the purpose of paying the costs of: constructing additions and/or making repairs and renovations to existing school buildings; and providing the necessary furnishings, equipment, including security and related technology, and apparatus for such school buildings and school building additions; said bonds to be issued at such time or times, to bear interest at such rate or rates, to become due at such time or times and to have such other terms and provisions, all as may be fixed by the Board of Education; and</p> <p>Shall the District cause to be levied and collected annually a special levy of taxes against all the taxable property in the District sufficient in rate and amount to pay the interest, principal and premium on said Bonds as the same become due?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> FOR said bonds and tax.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> AGAINST said bonds and tax.</p>	<p>At the Millard Public School website www.mpsomaha.org, more information is available.</p> <p>Summarized, many of the plans include security issues, including doors with buzzers, connecting cameras, card readers, closing in the “open concept” elementary schools, classroom door security locks, etc.</p> <p>Some renovation would include redesigning the congested front hall at Millard North, building a new lecture hall there, and industrial technology additions and renovation at Millard West and Millard South</p> <p>Repairs would include replacement of deteriorating and failing infrastructure throughout the district</p> <p>These activities are expected to cost \$36.85 million for security and renovations, \$10.5 million for additions and \$33 million for capital projects including roofs, flooring, heating and air conditioning</p> <p>The school board says that if the bond issue is not passed, the solution would have to be to meet current funding needs with larger cuts to the general fund, busing students east to open schools and large scale realignment of boundaries.</p> <p>The expected tax impact is estimated to be \$35/year for a \$100,000 house. This of course will add to the other bond issues still being paid for from previous elections.</p> <p>In the fall of 2011, the public rejected a \$140.8 million bond issue. Some of those who opposed the 2011 bond issue are supporting the current one because the requests of the district appear to be “needs” instead of “wants.” Some feel there may be a way to cut even more of the expenses with the potential of paying off previous bonds more quickly.</p> <p>Expense for summer projects (while students are not in session) has been below expected amounts which may create a savings, also.</p> <p>Some have suggested that the security issues are “overdone.”</p> <p>Voting “for” the bond and tax allows the School Board to increase the tax levy to acquire the means to pay off borrowing the money.</p> <p>Voting “against” the bond and tax means the District would have to realign and find other solutions.</p>