



# New High School Referendum

The School District of Prescott

## REFERENDUM FACT SHEET

**Referendum Date:  
April 1, 2014**

The ballot will include three questions:

### Question 1

Question 1 would authorize the district to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$27,980,000 for the public purpose of constructing and equipping a new energy efficient high school on land owned by the District and completing related site improvements.

### Question 2

Question 2 would authorize the district to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$4,260,000 for the public purpose of constructing and equipping an auditorium onto the new high school.

### Question 3

Question 3 would authorize the district to exceed the revenue limit by \$110,000 a year for the 2016-2017 school year through the 2019-2020 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of new high school operating expenses.

### What Is The Recommendation?

Based on the research of past referendum recommendations, a thorough review of current buildings, and consideration of future space needs, the 2013 community-based facilities committee provided the following recommendation to the school board:

- Consider a referendum question to build a new, approximately 136,300 square-foot high school on the northern portion of the 90-acre property owned by the District.
- Consider a second referendum question to construct a 500-seat auditorium at the new high school.
- Include a geothermal system in the new high school if it is financially feasible in the final design process.
- Address maintenance items, including safety and security issues at the existing schools, through the annual budget process.
- Reallocate grade levels (see chart below) to allow the District to eliminate the portable classrooms at Malone Elementary.

School / Location	Current Grade Configuration	Proposed Grade Configuration
Malone Elementary	Kindergarten-5th Grade	Early Childhood Special Education and Kindergarten-3rd Grade
Community Partner Locations	4 Year Old Kindergarten	4 Year Old Kindergarten
Prescott Middle	6th-8th Grade	4th-5th Grade
Prescott High	9th-12th Grade and District Office	6th-8th Grade and District Office
90 Acre Site	None	9th-12th Grade and Alternative High School
Joy Lutheran	Early Childhood Special Education and Alternative High School	None

### Can We Make Space Improvements Without Building?

The District has already implemented initiatives to 'create' additional needed space:

- Eliminated the SAGE program (which required reduced class size) in order to increase class sizes.
- Renting portable classrooms at Malone Elementary to house over 100 third graders.
- Using former storage areas and hallways for instruction at all schools.
- Beginning lunch service at 10:50 a.m. at Malone to serve all students.
- Renting space outside of the District facilities for other required school programming, including alternative high school and early childhood special education.
- Explored additions to existing buildings (expensive without long term improvement).

### ? Where Can We Get More Information?

The school board is committed to transparent communication about the research and recommendation for this solution. The community is encouraged to review past recommendations, evaluate the research and planning on this recommendation and developed an informed position so together we can provide the best opportunities for the future of Prescott students.

- All past and current planning documents are available on the district website: [www.prescott.k12.wi.us](http://www.prescott.k12.wi.us).
- Contact Superintendent, Roger Hulne at 715-262-5782, [rhulne@prescott.k12.wi.us](mailto:rhulne@prescott.k12.wi.us), or any school board member.



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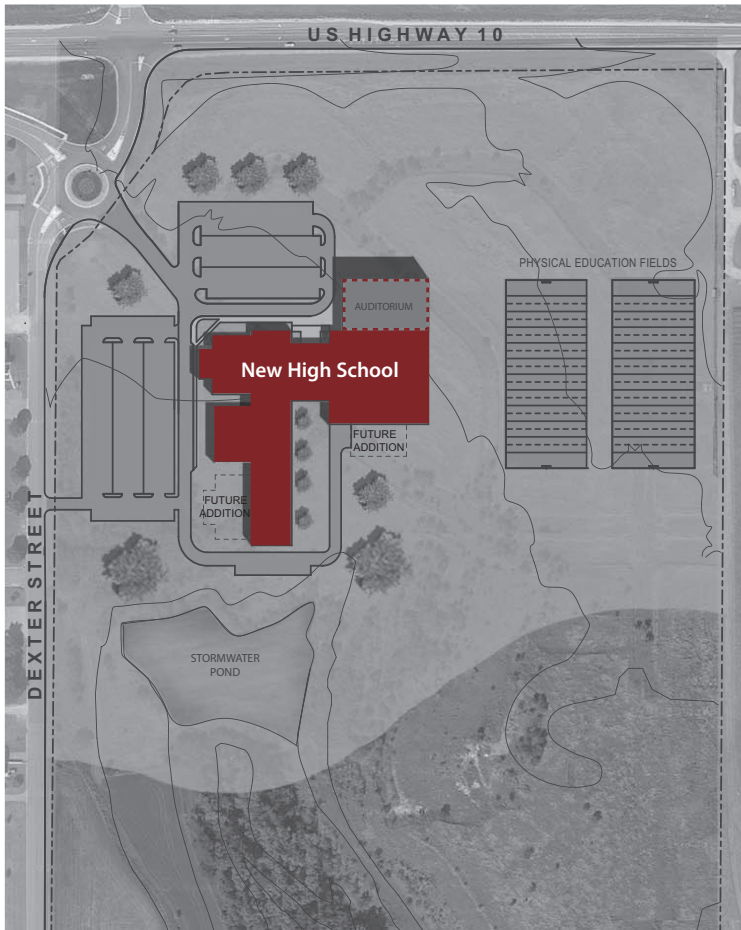
The School District of Prescott

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### Where Will The High School Be Located?

The District owns 90 acres of land (just east of Dexter Street) that is very viable for a high school, including parking, access, and potential physical education and athletic practice fields. The property is in the city limits with access to public utilities.

### Proposed Site Plan



### What Will A New High School Cost?

The Tax Impact means the estimated mill rate increase over the 2013-14 mill rate. It is estimated that there will be no further increase in the mill rate for the District's future debt payments after 2014-15.

Question	Question 1	Question 2	Question 3
Description	New High School	Auditorium Addition	Revenue Cap (4 Years)
Borrowing Amount	\$27,980,000	\$4,260,000	\$110,000
Max Mill Rate Impact <i>(per \$1,000 valuation)</i>	\$1.71 <i>(2014-15)</i>	\$0.35 <i>(2014-15)</i>	\$0.16 <i>(2016-17)</i>
<b>Estimated Tax Impact on Property with Fair Market Value:</b>			
<b>\$100,000 Home</b>			
Annual Impact	\$171.00	\$35.00	\$16.00
Monthly Impact	\$14.25	\$2.92	\$1.33
<b>\$200,000 Home</b>			
Annual Impact	\$342.00	\$70.00	\$32.00
Monthly Impact	\$28.50	\$5.83	\$2.67
<b>\$300,000 Home</b>			
Annual Impact	\$513.00	\$105.00	\$48.00
Monthly Impact	\$42.75	\$8.75	\$4.00

*Assumptions:*

- 20-Year Borrowings Phased In, 4.00-4.75% Interest Rate
- State Aid Applied: 13.83%
- Mill rate based on 2013 Equalized Valuation (TID-OUT) of \$644,152,767 with 0.00% annual growth for 1 year and 2.00% thereafter.

The mill rates of \$1.71 and \$0.35 would be added to the current debt mill rate for the first 11 years of the bond until the existing debt is paid off in 2025. The final nine years of the bond would remain at the same level as the combined debt, resulting in an even debt mill rate for the 20-year bond repayment period.

### How Will A New High School Improve Prescott?

- Addresses space constraints at all current buildings.
- Considers projected enrollment increases.
- Provides possibility for dedicated performing arts space for students.
- Upgrades classrooms to meet current standards at high school level.
- Eliminates portable classrooms at Malone Elementary.
- Eliminates off site rental for alternative high school and early childhood special education.
- Provides opportunities for community space, including community education and seniors.
- Increases practice field space for community recreation.
- Provides a long-term strategic solution at a reasonable cost to tax payers.
- Includes energy efficient building options to reduce ongoing operating costs.