



Recommended Projects

A Facilities Task Force has been meeting since June 2023 to recommend much needed facility improvements in Meridian School District. The task force, comprised of staff, families and community members, met monthly to learn more about the facilities needs of the district. After careful consideration, the task force is recommending the following projects.

Build a New Meridian Middle School

The task force unanimously recommends that a new Meridian Middle School be built.

Quick facts:

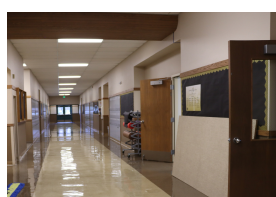
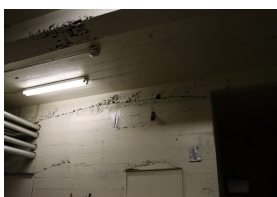
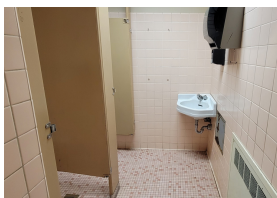
- Built in 1938
- Exterior walls constructed with non-reinforced concrete
- Not to current seismic code
- Consists of several unconnected buildings with outdoor entries and walkways
- Lacks accessible entries and restrooms
- Building condition scores:
 - Cafeteria 54.27
 - Library 61.70
 - Band building 61.86
 - Main building 71.17



Addressing Overcrowding at IRE

Our community is growing. Irene Reither Elementary School (IRE) was designed for 506 students and the Ten Mile building has a capacity of 220. Between the two buildings this year, there are 750 students. Based on enrollment projects, by 2030, over 1,000 students could attend IRE. Since it would be beyond our bond capacity to also build a new elementary school, or expand Ten Mile, the task recommends building the new middle school for grades 5-8. This is a possible solution to overcrowding at IRE. The task force recommends a new elementary school as part of long-term planning for the district to be added to a future bond (10+ years).

Estimated cost: \$76.6 million



Meridian High School Safety Improvements and Repairs

Performing Arts Center

- Built in 1991
- Needs a new roof
- Masonry in need of repointing in several areas, then needs to be resealed
- Move band/choir room to PAC to create closed campus
- PAC is used by all schools and community

Estimated cost: \$2.03 million

New Generator

- Provide emergency power and heat to prevent freezing pipes
- Emergency power for the office, library, main building, CTE building, north gym and locker rooms
- Separate from generator for district's main network and server room that voters approved in 2020

Estimated cost: \$367,000



Stadium Repairs and Lighting Replacement

- Lighting installed in 1987
- Beyond useful life expectancy
- Some light fixtures are not functional
- Poles are leaning and rotting
- Existing stadium structure in need of repair due to rotting beams

Estimated cost: \$1.4 million

Additional projects for consideration:

- Four tennis courts (estimated cost \$326,000)
- Synthetic turf field (estimated cost \$4.3 million)

Financial Impact and Next Steps

The approximate total cost of the projects included in this draft recommendation is \$80.5 million. If presented as a future bond measure it would be an increase tax rate of \$1.69 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The tax rate for our community would increase by \$70.42/month or \$845/year in 2025 for a median homeowner (\$500,000 home) in our community. The district is eligible for up to \$10.2 million in state match funding. This could potentially bring the tax rate down.

The task force will review all feedback received and use that information to finalize their recommendation to the School Board which they will present on Nov. 29. This recommendation may be presented to the community as a bond measure in the future.

More Information

The Facilities Task Force meeting minutes, documents and presentations can be viewed on our website at www.meridian.wednet.edu/facilities-task-force/ or use the QR code.



Watch on YouTube

Watch video:

