Central Lee Community School District
2642 Highway 218
Donnellson, IA 52625

**BOND ISSUE VOTE**

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

On Tuesday, September 10, residents of the Central Lee Community School District will have an opportunity to vote on a bond question. The school board decided to approve a question for the ballot after an exhaustive process involving the input of parents, staff and community members.

The district and board are proposing a solution that would allow us to expand 21st century learning opportunities and further enhance safety and security in our schools. We also seek to make the most efficient use possible of the money taxpayers have invested in our district. The board believes the time has come to address these needs now to ensure students continue to receive the high-quality educational experience for which CLCSD has become known.

This guide offers more information on our facilities needs, the board’s work to address those needs and the question on the September 10 ballot. More information is also available at www.centralleeabond.org.

Thank you for taking part in this important conversation about the future of Central Lee’s schools.

**QUESTION ON THE BALLOT**

SHALL THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL LEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, in Lee County, State of Iowa, be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds in an amount not exceeding $12,900,000 for the purposes of furnishing, equipping, constructing, improving, repairing, and renovating school buildings and improving the sites thereof at the school district's existing school buildings, including:

(a) the expansion of the high school building to include a new competition/performance gymnasium addition with new locker rooms,
(b) an addition of a new commons area in the high school building to resolve space and functional needs,  
(c) new office space and entryway areas in the K-8 and high school buildings to improve security, 
(d) renovations of the K-8 building for a new early childhood center and  
(e) parking and site improvements for the school district campus to improve access and safety?
Facilities needs in Central Lee Schools

While the Central Lee Community School District is known throughout our region for its exceptional academic and extracurricular opportunities, the district has pressing facilities needs throughout its schools—and especially at the high school.

Specifically, we must continue to enhance security to ensure students and staff have access to safe and positive learning environments. We also must update our facilities to provide more relevant instruction that prepares students for the ever-evolving jobs and opportunities of the future. This means providing more flexible spaces that allow for project-based learning and collaboration.

In addition, the district needs to update some areas to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations, as well as to expand fine arts, events and performance spaces.

Proposed Projects

If passed, the bond would provide the district with $12.9 million in additional funds to be used for the following:

- New classrooms for band, vocal and fine arts
- New preschool classrooms, freeing up two additional classrooms to meet space needs at the elementary level
- A new competition and performance gym for elementary, middle and high school events
- New ADA-accessible locker rooms
- An expanded commons area for better student collaboration and improved building flow
- Increased parking on our K-12 campus and improved traffic flow

- Renovated and improved Career Technical Education (CTE) classrooms including two renovated Agriculture/FFA classrooms and a Family Consumer Science (FCS) classroom.

NOTE: These improvements are happening this summer. The district is moving forward on the project now using the district's sales tax fund balance rather than the bond.

Enhancing Safety & Security

A key component of the proposed projects includes ensuring a safe, positive and healthy educational environment for every child attending our schools.

The district would incorporate a new office at the main entrance of Central Lee High School and Central Lee K-8 that would improve security and allow staff to better monitor visitors entering and exiting the building. This would add to measures already taken to enhance safety through the addition of secured front doors and a school resource officer.

Supporting 21st Century Learning

District leadership and board members believe we must continue to prepare students for the jobs and opportunities of the future. This means offering facilities conducive to 21st century learning, with safe, secure and flexible spaces and technology that empower students to learn in a variety of ways.

The proposed project would support an expanded commons area for better student collaboration and improved building flow, along with renovated space to create a new culinary arts classroom. The project would provide new ADA-accessible locker rooms, new classrooms for band, vocal and fine arts and a new competition and performance gym for elementary, middle and high school events.

Projected Tax Impact

The board has presented a bond question that would NOT increase local property taxes. If passed, the tax rate in the Central Lee Community School District would be $12.19 per $1,000 of assessed property value.