



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **August 20, 2024**

CPU School Board Approves Bond Measure for November 5 Ballot

CENTER POINT, IA — The Center Point-Urbana School Board has approved a \$20.61 million bond referendum that will appear on the ballot Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

Petitions formally requesting that the board place a bond measure on the ballot circulated throughout the district in recent weeks. After the required number of signatures was collected from eligible voters, the petition was filed with the board for consideration and approval on August 19.

“The board’s action is the next step toward allowing the residents of our district to have the opportunity to consider a bond referendum in the fall,” said Superintendent John Elkin. “We look forward to providing more information about our facility needs and the resources and opportunities these proposed projects would provide to our students.”

Bond referendums require at least 60% approval from voters to pass.

The November 5 referendum is the culmination of a facility exploration effort that dates back to the 2021-22 school year. This process included the creation of a Master Facilities Task Force that studied the district’s facility challenges and engaged with community members, along with a partnership with INVISION Architecture that yielded professional facility assessments and project development.

A [Master Facilities Plan](#) was created by the task force and approved by the School Board in 2022, serving as a guide for future development at CPU.

If the referendum is approved on November 5, the district would leverage general obligation bond funds and revenue it receives from the voter-approved Physical Plant and Equipment Levy ([PPEL](#)) and the statewide one-cent sales tax fund, known as Secure an Advanced Vision for Education ([SAVE](#)), to move forward with a multiphase improvement plan.

The first phase of work would coincide with CPU’s ongoing maintenance plan and system replacements, using PPEL and SAVE funds. This includes planned roof repairs and replacements at the primary school and middle school, HVAC and updates to the prekindergarten rooms at the intermediate school, and HVAC improvements at both the high school and middle school.

General obligation bonds would be used in the second phase for the construction of a 600-seat auditorium at the high school. A new weight room and multipurpose space would be built at the high school, and improvements to the athletic fields would also occur. Additionally, security and safety system improvements would take place at both the primary school and middle school.

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