



Community Survey
October 2024

Community Survey 2024 Responses Listing

This document contains the full listing of all of the responses to the open-ended questions in the 2024 Community Survey. Responses within this document from survey respondents are displayed in *italic*. Responses are presented as submitted and have not been edited to allow you to reach your own conclusion as to the meaning and intent of the survey respondent.

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Grading Mason Consolidated Schools

Question: Overall, what grade would you give Mason Consolidated Schools – an A, B, C, D, or F?

Respondents who stated that they would give Mason Consolidated Schools a grade of D or F were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

Education Quality

Consistently terrible scores according to mischooldata.org, overpaid teachers doing the bare minimum, kids unprepared for the next level. I cannot tell you how many kids transfer to another school like Bedford and are immediately at least a year behind as compared to the Bedford kids. There's no reason that our kids should be so far behind in any capacity. The same goes for kids starting college. Two of my kids who were A students at Mason had to take remedial classes before they could start the actual curriculum.

Does not manage with education as a priority.

Erie Mason does not have the funding, school services community, student engagement, or technology access to be rated any higher. I love our small community and our teachers, but that is not in itself enough to vouch for the school as a whole. A "Grade A" school has competitive (in-person) language classes, innovative technology, diverse student programs, and a long-standing track record of academic and ethical success. Mason is old fashioned, out of date, and behind the times.

I have a child on an IEP and I question whether or not his educational needs are a focus or priority. I have a daughter in high school that excels, but I fear that she doesn't have the same opportunities as other students in the county do.

I think technology is great, but some teachers are using it to our children's disadvantage. Oftentimes my child has to redo Study Island or Noredink assignments for hours just to get credit for an assignment because it makes you redo questions over and over and over again but doesn't explain WHY you actually got the problem wrong. Another area of concern is communication district wide, which is very poor. I often find that if you aren't a Facebook user, an employee of the school, or PTA member you miss out on a lot. I often receive phone calls with references to emails I never received despite being signed up in infinity campus.

Lack of competitive curriculum, lack of opportunities for students to develop into trades vs college, the drop in proficiency in the core subjects upon graduating, the lackluster college partnerships available to students as far as dual enrollment goes.

Lack of long-term ability to manage fiscal/facility outcomes. Long-term declining enrollment, graduates, scores, and low success rates for college/trade enrollment or students simply being prepped for world success.

Leaders are a poor example for students, they do not prioritize business properly. Scores at large are terrible, enrollment and graduates are declining, college preparedness/engagement and success is very low. Board decisions are led with school passion and not professional experience and higher level education.

Education Quality – Continued

Most of the teachers are absolutely amazing, but are we graduating students that are world/college ready? I feel at most, it's just a push to get them graduated instead of pushing them academically and to their fullest potential. Where are the honors courses? More building, construction, and/or trades? Personal financial planning? Just options in general. A great question to ask: beyond our amazing community (which is the best), would your staff be happy with their children in our school system, only based on academics/offers? I know some have their kids in district (who live in district), but I think most would say no. Sadly! We have to do better! Beyond that, the elementary school building is disgusting! The high school is a money pit. The middle school is the best, but still has issues.

Over many years of having 3 children go through this school since 2009, I believe the school has failed and disappointed our family in so many ways. The elementary was great while the kids were there, and the junior high was okay however the high school doesn't prepare the kids for the next steps academically. I would have given the school an F if it hadn't been for some great teachers through the years who challenged, listened, and taught my children. Besides academics, the school is falling apart and not sure our hired help through the years has helped. During 2020 I helped with latchkey and I will say I reported many times the cleaning after hours wasn't done. For weeks the same crumbs and ants would be in the gym. Back to academics, once my daughter went to college she realized along with her fellow friends how much Mason didn't teach them and they struggled even though these kids I speak of, including my daughter, were top of their class at Mason. The school 100% lacked communication pretty much the entire 13 years my kids attended, lack of communication and accountability. I eventually gave up contacting through the proper steps realizing no changes would be made. I am sure I could notate more but I am at work.

Poor scores, poor communication, poor safety especially with regard to busing.

The facilities are falling apart. It's actually kind of embarrassing. Also the way that special education is handled in the middle school is not in the best interest of the kids. Kids should have options other than being fully included or fully excluded. There should be a resource room class for math and ELA. Gifted kids are also looked over. If the parents don't fight for their kids to be in higher classes, it isn't offered at the middle school level. The poor conditions of the building, lack of AP/Honors classes, lack of college prep. The staff are very kind and good people.

They do not offer much help in academic acceleration. AP classes have just started, and they don't receive much help in pursuing college classes, etc.

Poor Building Conditions

Building conditions are in poor shape, lack of resources for students, and minimal updates to facilities.

Building falling apart. Superintendent is incompetent.

Elementary school needs significant physical work to the building for safety of children and all staff. No offering for advanced education opportunities for elementary students who could benefit from additional challenge. Concerns have been brought to multiple staff members with no recommendation or solutions. Any concerns brought forth always just feel placated.

Facilities are extremely outdated and in major need of improvements.

Poor Building Conditions – Continued

Falling apart. Needs repairs. Junior high does not have a lunchroom and has to walk across a huge field for lunch in high-school building.

I have had children attend this school for over 20 years and it has turned into a very dirty school that needs to do some serious repair on septic systems, building remodeling, and maybe some air conditioning wouldn't hurt.

I recently graduated from this school and through my enrollment I noticed how dirty and out of shape the facilities were.

It's falling apart.

My daughter was bullied so bad last year I had to homeschool her after she completed an outpatient mental health program. Middle schoolers walking to the high school every day for lunch puts the safety of those kids in jeopardy. How can you ensure their safety? It also jeopardizes the safety of the high schoolers because the doors are unlocked. The buildings are old and smell bad, probably mold and asbestos throughout. No AC? How do you expect kids to learn when they are so hot they can't think? Communication could be better. I don't have time for another virtual platform to check.

No reason every surrounding area has brand new schools and we don't. My great grandmother graduated from the same high school standing.

Outdated

Outdated building, poor administration.

Outdated building, poor heating/cooling, swimming pool issues.

Overall, Mason Consolidated Schools needs a lot of improvement, and I feel it needs to be updated.

Poor conditions. The curriculum is amazing, it's a shame the buildings are in such rough shape.

School is in desperate need of repair. Also, concerned with how we are spending our money. No AC for students but we redo the track and install a sidewalk leading to the bleachers.

Unsure if money is earmarked and can only be spent in certain ways but at face value it appears that we are focusing on the wrong needs.

School needs a lot of improvements.

The bathrooms alone are outdated. The buildings show their age. No major updates have been done, especially at the elementary and middle school. The pool and roof were done at the high school but that's it.

The building is old, falling apart, unsafe, and outdated.

The buildings are falling apart, the kitchen needs an upgrade with air conditioning, along with the rest of the building. The ceilings need upgraded with new tiles. Playground needs new equipment, and all schools should have metal detectors, new cameras inside and outside the building.

The buildings are falling apart, there are always plumbing issues at the elementary school, there seems to be very little funding for clubs or sports or music and too many funding needs fall on the parents' shoulders.

The facilities are old outdated and need modernized. The faculty and staff are fantastic.

The mold in the ceiling and how bad the school is all around.

The poor conditions of all 3 buildings. The communication between the parents, students, and staff. Lack of alternate elective classes. Can't keep teachers.

The school is falling apart, and no one seems to care.

Their buildings need so many improvements. My kids have been without heat at times. There have been water issues, the list goes on.

Poor Building Conditions – Continued

*We need new facilities and the classrooms are crumbling.
When I was in the school, the building was poorly cleaned.*

Miscellaneous

Administration and staff not doing their job, survey about the upcoming bond issue for the school. Because it was a C 35 years ago. Also due to how the school has prioritized past projects. Honestly a D is being generous.

Because overall there are double standards at our school. It's this group of people/kids that are allowed to do things and any other kid would get in trouble. In fact the Jr. High Principal contacted a person I know and told them that they had to have papers filled out in order for the kids to stay at Mason.

Cause they misused the money they did have to fix things. Just put "duct tape" on the important projects or tried short cutting to be cheap (the pool).

During my experience at the high school, teachers only treated a certain group of students nicely. Students who struggled or came from bad homes were judged and not only students, but teachers also made it harder for them. A history teacher once told a student he would end up on the side of the road. I told a counselor and instead of them talking to him, they told US students to speak to him. Many things happened like this throughout the years. My younger siblings go there now, and it seems to be similar. Only the students in sports or "popular" kids are treated nice while the others are targets for bullying by both students and staff. I would not want to send my child here and worry every day for my siblings.

Mason School District is a waste of taxpayers' money. The employees are awful. The school is terrible.

Numerous homeschooled children equates to local parents not trusting the school district. There are a total of 4 school age children (2 of 4 homes on my street) who run around daily doing nothing except playing outdoors.

Poor outcomes for students, small-minded individuals, always aiming for a bond instead of fundraising.

Stop being political. Why would you have boy/girl mixed bathrooms? Do what is right, not what you're told.

Students are not prepared for basic success. Leadership doesn't know how to run it like a business like everything else. This board lacks any experience at large and keeps coming back for money asks this community cannot afford. They cannot be trusted with money and have well-earned that reputation.

*The elementary policy of not allowing the parents in the building.
They certainly aren't the best, but not quite the worst.*

Fiscal Responsibility

Question: Do you feel Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible?

Respondents who stated that they did not feel Mason Consolidated Schools were fiscally responsible were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

Concerns About District Leadership

All funds should be spent on education, not sports or the pool which is a ridiculous cost for our school/community size. Bigger schools and communities (with more funding/tax base/stronger fundraising) do not have pools because they are extremely costly to maintain. This is not where public education funds should be spent. Funds should be spent arming our students with the skills and education needed to succeed in trades, college, or a career after they graduate which is a struggle for most Mason graduates as supported by state statistics. Sports and maintaining pool costs need more formal and serious boosters, fundraising and philanthropic efforts, not the public funding intended for education and facility maintenance. As far as the facilities, which has lacked long-term facility planning, all other previous funding was also lead with fear mongering and then when awarded not spent as the public was told it was needed or would be (on facility needs vs. a new gym, the pool, bleachers, etc.). Then as always, fearmongering from leaders or school officials continues stating the school will close if they do not get more money. Such statements/conditions are merely a reflection of ongoing poor leadership, budget management and inability to plan for the campus needs long-term like every other industry must do. In 2020 we were told everything was end of life, yet when the bond failed, the roof and mechanicals were immediately fixed in affordable measure. Schools at large, not just Mason, have leaned on having their hands out to the taxpayers for far too long, where other industries do not have that option and have had to learn to be fiscally responsible in order to survive and thrive. Furthermore, Mason is continuing to seek enormous amounts of money for grand plans that are completely insolvent for the resident tax base here which is very small, for 20-30 years, all while other community costs will continue to roll in. The money they ask for alone proves they are not fiscally savvy in the slightest, especially when it's known that another large business will be closing in a few years and the taxpayers will have to cover their share for the full state bond payment every year. And word on the street is, this is not the only bond they are seeking to come after in the next few years while the resident tax base is over 50% economically challenged. They have never managed the money or facility properly. The last bond application was not even filled out correctly in terms of the tax base dollars. They are not savvy business people and I do not trust them to manage large dollars and I do not think our tax base should be subjected to an uncapped millage for 3 decades. Taxpayers should be aware that no matter what happens with that school in the years ahead, all bonds will always need paid back in full for the number of years it was voted on without exception whether the school is operating in 25 years or not. State-wide, enrollment volumes drop every year, they need to think differently for the future.

As of lately, I feel like it's been better. Unfortunately, we should have never been in this spot due to bad leadership in previous years.

Concerns About District Leadership – Continued

Audit was not done on time, therefore the district lost state funding and had to take out a loan that cost the district more money. Also, people who are fixing things around the district and they are not properly fixed, it costs the district more money. If it were done properly the first time, this would save money.

Have we done an audit of our administration? Are they all doing the job asked of them or are they just doing enough to earn a paycheck? Can some jobs be combined/eliminated? Are they living up to their potential as overseers of our students or are they “just getting by” as well? Spending money on the wrong things. How many times are we going to “fix” the pool? Gym floors and bleachers. I’m sure so much more. Don’t get me wrong, these things are so nice to have, but so are nice, clean, and modern bathrooms. Priorities.

I think the last millage increase request (not the renewal) was an irresponsible and aggressive mistake highlighting how detached decision makers are from reality.

Money is misspent every single time. This effort is a waste of money. Why does the board keep spending money on bond attempts? Clearly the people do not want it and cannot afford it. The board is very misguided and out of touch with the state of their district. Everyone is sick of having to fight off their hands being out to the taxpayers for tens of millions of dollars when they mismanage everything. Everyone works their butts off, everyone is struggling, everyone needs money - not just the school.

[Redacted] has made so many mistakes beyond the level of basic incompetence that it would be they would have lost their job anywhere else if not for their friendship with the Superintendent.

Things at Mason appear to be fixed only when they are nearly beyond repair, and thusly cost much more. I read the minutes from the board meetings and understand how tight finances are overall, but the persons in charge throughout the last 15 years fail to have creative, proactive solutions to financial issues at the school.

Mismanagement of Funds

For years our school has needed updates that could have been continuously updated, instead of asking for one huge sum all at once. The school, especially elementary and middle school, are falling apart while other schools in the area make improvements. We are finally now starting to. These things should have been done gradually over time.

I feel money is mismanaged and not used where it is most beneficial.

I feel they have not budgeted their money well for years. They should have plans in place for items that need improving or replaced, and not scrapping together last minute.

Last 10 years the money has been spent foolishly, never spend it on what you're supposed to.

Mismanagement

Past spending and priorities.

Poor planning and usage of funds.

The disarray of the facilities was caused by a long line of fiscal irresponsibility. Prioritization of past projects was done irresponsibly also.

Not Properly Maintained

Due to maintenance not done or used money for which it was supposed to be used previously.

Money seems to go to irrelevant things. Things are left in disrepair, or a quick fix thrown on instead of fixing the heart of the problem. Maybe we wouldn't need a new school if fixes would have been happening along the way.

Not Properly Maintained – Continued

The buildings are falling apart, holes in the walls, pest problems, sewers backing up into the buildings. The bare minimum is done to ever fix it. It's embarrassing as a resident in the district. This school is falling apart.

They need to maintain their buildings, continuously. They should not wait until there is a problem then look for money to fix it.

They should have been making repairs to the school every year instead of asking for a huge millage.

Prioritized Wants Instead of Needs

All money usually goes to upkeep on a building that didn't need it or refinished floors that were already done.

Basketball floor, cement work instead of room or roofing repairs.

Building improvements need to be made before sport field improvements.

I don't feel like they budget well on fixing actual issues. Instead they spend money on putting pictures on the walls.

I feel that Mason Consolidated Schools are investing the most money into the middle school and high school for unnecessary improvements, while the elementary school is the oldest and receives the least amount of attention. I feel that money was not needed to be spent on new sidewalks and repaving, when buildings are suffering.

I have heard that the school has spent money on the teachers' lounge and parking lot over improvements to the schools. Also heard that parents and coaches of the baseball team are responsible for the field maintenance if they want a team, but the football field is maintained by others.

I think these answers are obvious. All I see is wasteful spending at every turn. A new gym floor and bleachers, fixing the pool AGAIN. Speaking of the pool, what does it cost to heat and maintain that massive thing each quarter or year? It's absurd that we waste money on sports when supposedly the buildings are falling down. Somehow our kids have remained, "clean, safe and warm" despite the other absurd bond not passing. Asking this community for even 11 million dollars is fiscally irresponsible when you well know that we cannot afford it.

If they were fiscally responsible, why do they keep coming to the taxpayers for wish list items vs. need items.

In previous years there was misspent funds. When there were leaks in the ceiling, they thought air conditioning upgrades were more important.

It is obvious areas of the school buildings have been neglected, necessary repairs have been put off. It appears priority has been given to athletic complexes over classrooms, updating the heating system, and bathrooms.

Leaking ceiling should be priority over new bleachers and things like that.

Often the school receives funding for improvements which are spent on the track/football field or gyms instead of our SERIOUSLY failing buildings.

Our schools are mostly falling apart. This has been evidenced by several small cosmetics to the appearance of the grounds, to water issues with pipes (swimming pool), and even the age of roof and windows. The list is extravagant. The opportunities, when taken, have reported to be things that didn't seem appropriate or were well over bid and accomplished anyway. What is the busing situation like for this year? These are just face value, I'm sure it gets deep.

Prioritized Wants Instead of Needs – Continued

Over the summer the high school received new sidewalks with stamps for football and track. I feel like it was unnecessary seeing as every time it rains the elementary school sidewalks are flooded. The pavement is very uneven, and my kids have fallen more than necessary.

Paid for track voted down.

Priorities

Putting money into the pool rather than heating or air.

Spend money on desires/sport and not the building priorities year after year. Why does the board keep coming back and asking money we cannot afford?

The proposals being surveyed for now have been long past due while the focus has been on the sports and sports field areas. That will look all nice and pretty for the short sports seasons, but the kids are day to day too hot or too cold or worried about the school falling apart. My kids have shared with me about teachers taping up or making up makeshift prop areas for parts of the ceiling and their rooms and then not even having food prep and eating areas in each building. This should have been the top priority long ago. Among other areas of giving the kids a learning facility that is safe, inviting, and comfortable instead of making them go through 12 years of sub-par conditions.

The sinking fund was blown on unnecessary items for sports and other silly things instead of focusing on important items like the facilities as promised. You have burned money like drunken sailors while endlessly crying about needing money. The pool, the gym floor, the bleachers are all great examples of wasteful spending. We are not a sports school, and all of those funds should have come from private fundraising. How much does it cost just to heat and maintain that pool? Yet here we are again, being asked to support academics while we waste money on silly things. I won't even mention the lying.

They have had the pool for example repaired multiple times including not following building code and hoping the pool would be grandfathered into the old code. That was quite the waste of tax dollars. There are also many grants available that Mason does not seem to even be applying for that multiple neighboring school districts seem to be applying for and are awarded. Including security upgrades.

They put a new gym floor under a leaking roof.

Too much spent on admin. Wasted money spent on upgrades/tech/etc. That goes unused and/or not implemented.

Use the money where needed.

We spend too much money on the pool that is always broken and could be used as an auxiliary gym instead.

Why pave or put in new concrete when roofs and windows leak or the heating system is in dire need. Or electrical needs to be updated. If you had a leak in your roof at home would you pave your driveway?

Miscellaneous

Bring books back to schools, why do you not have a better, bigger shop class? Mechanics class? All your classes are designed to tell the kids to sit down, shut up, and listen.

Have you ever walked through their buildings?

I agree that facilities need improvement. But the way to do this is to allow large scale solar to be developed in our area and take the tax burden away from the residents. The monies collected from the developers will be millions of dollars per year in personal and property taxes and take care of Mason Schools for the next 30 years.

Miscellaneous – Continued

I feel there are better solutions than just hanging a bond on the already strapped residence of Erie and La Salle. Schools need to become more creative and look to merge especially since growth in population hasn't really materialized in the area in which Mason serves.

Hanging a bond the size of the last bond on the few businesses that exist in the area and taxpayers like myself who do not have kids in Mason is wrong.

It's a township responsibility.

Money for upkeep on maintenance, transportation, and grounds is not to the best of my tax paid dollars.

My kids have not had heat in their classrooms. There is no back up for them. The elementary lunch menu is straight garbage. What good is free lunch if your kids don't eat it?

See former response.

Supervisors, principals, and teachers are way too overpaid which leaves the rest of the school district needs with nothing.

The ISD should be downsizing based on low enrollment and projected low future enrollment.

The previous bond they asked for had no cap. So when the dump that provides Erie Township with a large percentage of their revenue closes they could just up the millage and charge the homeowners. To my mind that is irresponsible. They were just looking out for themselves and didn't care about the residents. That would have taken my taxes to a point where I would have had to sell my home.

They do all this fundraising, but nothing is put back into the school.

Too many employees.

District is Communicating Well

Question: Do you feel Mason Consolidated Schools are doing a good job communicating with district residents?

Respondents who stated that they did not feel Mason Consolidated Schools were doing a good job communicating with district residents were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

Concerns About District Leadership

Board of Education don't seem to listen to the public.

Just last year students raised concerns for safety in the school and the administration and Superintendent told the residents that it was all a lie. Even though multiple families followed protocol and filled formal reports.

There is no charted plan, they begin everything year after year just like they spend the money. No successful business runs this way.

They don't listen to all of the taxpayers. They focus on what they, as uneducated in administration board members, want. It didn't help that the required live in the district policy for the superintendent and non-profession staff was dropped years ago. When the superintendent has to pay taxes and also finish off paying on a state bond that has to be paid (even in the event of the closing of the district because the bond loan has to be paid no matter what) he/she who is educated in school administration, and by living in the district, knows the vibe of fellow taxpayers they can direct knowledge to the uneducated in state policies board members. We all want a perfect school system; however we have to be realistic and not run ourselves into the ground with unattainable pipe dreams.

When the audit was not done on time, the public did not truly understand what happened. Agenda for the Board of Education meetings are vague. When attending a Board of Education meeting the board often refers to "the packet" in which the public does not know what they are discussing or talking about. Once the minutes of a board meeting come out, it feels as if it is too late to address the Board of Education. When attending a Board of Education meeting or addressing the Board of Education when an issue arises, I do not feel heard or feel as though anyone is listening or considering the public's input. Seems as somewhat of a dictatorship or a Board of Education/Superintendent's way with no consult with the community. Public comment at a Board of Education meeting is before anything is discussed, therefore, public cannot comment on anything after the Board of Education meeting. When agenda items are voted on, the public does not know what is voted on and have not heard a discussion on the voted item. I realize the Board of Education has the vote however, the Board of Education is working for the public, therefore, they should also be communicating with the public and considering the public's input.

District Must Communicate Facility Needs

Asking for more tax money but don't explain anything ahead of time.

I feel that the school could have some earlier engagement, and they communicate needs last minute. I feel that major needs for the district also need to be communicated to the community. The school district should start thinking about doing things incrementally instead of a big bang approach. The millage increase that was to be voted on a few years ago was massive. I think that left folks with sticker shock, that may have been averted with a more incremental approach.

I feel the school, especially the elementary building, is in very bad shape. I believe more could have been done in the past decade to truly let the community know about the state it is in. This could have helped with the last proposal to rebuild.

I remember when the renewal came out and at first there wasn't much info. It was voted down because of the lack of communication.

Need to know more about condition of buildings, lack of staff, etc.

Pictures should be submitted of the damage that is in the school with the proposals.

Residents should see pictures of the disintegration of our schools, so they better understand how they are falling apart.

Seems like the only time you hear from the district is when they need major repairs done. Perhaps they could give an update on the school's buildings needs on a quarterly basis. I35

The buildings need serious updates, if not fully rebuilt/new buildings. People need to know how expensive just updates could be and why it's economically better to build new. You can't just put a levy out and hope people will vote, you need to explain what is needed and why. And what happens as time goes on if the buildings cannot be repaired or rebuilt. Does Mason get absorbed into other districts? Or do we just continue to let the buildings crumble around our students?

The conditions and problems in the buildings need to be addressed to the parents/caregivers. Majority are unaware of what their children deal with on a daily basis.

The public should know exactly what needs to be fixed at the school along with what the amount would cost. A few years back they wanted to merge all the buildings into one, and I feel those in the community who did not go to the school do not understand the upgrades that the school needs.

The school could do a better job of explaining to the public why additional funds are needed. I would recommend using visual imagery to illustrate the multitude of problems.

There is little to no information shared about the financial state and budgets on a routine basis outside of meetings. Not everyone can attend due to other obligations. It would be nice to see how Mason stacks up against other school districts as well as have a better understanding as to the needs of our school system.

There needs to be informational/educational opportunities to show why supporting our school financially is in the community, and their own, best interest.

We need to know what is more important with the cost and performance of how it's doing, more social media presence.

We should have received written communication as residents about this situation to make aware of what is needed. Only school families know what is going on.

Lack of Trust/Transparency

2020 bond, absolute laced with lies and incorrect facts. It's very clear there's more to the big picture and plan here again. Yet you treat the district and people living here disrespectfully with your lack of a long-term plan and transparency.

Better put to say that you share only what you want to. You're not transparent with your plans ever. Either that or you can't live up to them.

Communication should be transparent and timely.

For starters, most people had no idea the last bond was coming and most do not know another one is coming in May of 2025 that the school has to pay for the entire election for because they feel the odds of getting it to pass is better on a non-primary election. Furthermore, the community does not know that whether or not this May 2025 bond passes, the school is already planning for asking for another bond in several years, whether they win this one or not. The last bond and this upcoming bond should be held on primary election dates and the residents should know the long-term strategic plan here but they don't. This is one example of trying to sneak things by residents which evidences they are intentionally communicating only what they want to, not what the taxpayers should be informed of, so imagine this on every level. They do this because typically people only show up to vote yes on non-primary elections. Instead of spending the money to hold a non-primary election for a school bond, perhaps the school should put all the money this election is costing into one of the repair projects while they make a facility plan and perhaps they should have a transparent long-term strategic plan for communicating to the residents.

Half-truths

I don't think they are being honest with the residents.

There is not anything mailed to residents. I feel the school is keeping secrets as to where all the money is going and what it's being spent on.

Only Provide Communications Online

Communication seems to only be done through social media, which is a fine tool, but it doesn't reach everyone. In-person canvassing will better reach the people you want support from. I would even help but there is no system in place.

Everything online. Very few mailings. Lots of elderly who do not use online platforms and don't receive phone calls. Last bond proposal they had no idea what was going on. Wording in proposal is deceiving.

I feel like a lot of things are just put on Facebook or sent via instant alert and some of our older residents do not get info. Also, during the school closing I believe students should have been emailed that it is safe to return not all students have parents that share this info with them.

I feel more communication needs to be sent out via USPS as well as social media, emails, and posted on the website. However, many older residents do not have Facebook or other means of social media to hear about board meetings or other things that are going on in our district.

I only got this survey because my wife sent it to me. I don't have Facebook, so I rely on mailed information, and we rarely receive anything if ever.

Mason relies completely on Facebook to relay information. Facebook should NOT be used as an official form of communication for seniors, sports, and schools. Families without Facebook are always out of the loop. I absolutely abhor Facebook.

Only Provide Communications Online – Continued

Not everyone is on Facebook. And to vote on this proposal in November seems rushed. Just like the last attempt.

The district needs to do more than online and social media to reach constituents. There are many citizens who don't use social media. The district needs to also utilize old school methods such as snail mail and local newspaper to get info out to residents.

The only way I was aware of this survey was through Facebook. Not all district residents have students in the school or Facebook.

The platforms used. There are several senior residents that are not online and social media. More needs to be done to be more inclusive for everyone in the community.

Too reliant on Facebook for spreading information.

Receive No/Minimal Communication

I do not get any communication from them even though I live in the district.

I don't see anything about what is being done.

I feel if the resident doesn't have a child in the district they do not get information.

I have not gotten any recent communication except this survey.

I have personally heard very little from them.

I haven't heard anything about Mason.

I haven't received anything in the mail about anything pertaining to the school.

I never hear anything from or about.

I receive minimal communication.

Living with a temperance address, info is never received.

Luna Pier doesn't see much from the Erie district and honestly they can do better as a whole school.

Many residents have no idea of anything going on at the school.

Not getting enough info or info that is understandable to the elderly in the community.

Not sure of what's going on with the school district.

Other than a monthly newsletter, nothing is communicated.

Residents who do not have school age children do not seem to get the same communication as those in the school.

Since a no vote for a new building a few years ago, I have not heard anything.

The newsletter is vague. This survey is vague. I just don't feel like there is enough communication between the school and the residents.

The only communication I see is an expensive, glossy newsletter that comes out once a quarter with almost zero information in it. I get most of my information from other parents that happen to be in the know or off of the numerous Facebook pages that are associated with the school. This is the FIRST I'm hearing about an upcoming bond. One would have thought that you would have learned your lesson from trying to sneak the last bond past us and would have actually asked the community what improvements we wanted before putting numbers to a survey.

They rely on student to bring home info. Half of our community do not have children or are elderly. They need to get out in the community and go door to door talking with residents.

They're not explaining things to where an older person can understand.

We never hear anything from the schools. We moved into the district after our children were grown. Maybe if you have kids in the schools the communication is good. We just don't know.

Miscellaneous

Because the district has a very unprofessional staff and non-adequate resources.

Board meetings are mostly empty.

"Communicating with parents." There have been no picture day forms sent home for middle school. Apparently pictures were already taken. Don't even know which company did it to find a website. And I don't have a code to look them up.

Communication at this school does not exist aside from messages about late/early buses that my child doesn't ride.

I am getting information from Ida Public Schools - they are doing an excellent job of communicating with the public even if I'm not in their district - makes me want to school of choice.

I went to the website and because I am not a parent of a current student I could not access the site to see why school was closed.

Just my opinion, anything I hear is second hand.

Last bond issue was a disaster, school has good bones. Don't reinvent the wheel. Fix/upgrade necessary items.

Late notice on vital issues.

More communication is better.

More communication needed.

People leave messages and never receive calls returned or accurate updates with regard to busing. It's hit or miss, especially during emergency times.

See previous message. Communication in this district is absolutely terrible and shameful.

Several items that I did not think were communicated properly.

The buses can come 15 minutes early or 15 minutes late each day.

The only communication is receiving stupid [Redacted] in the mail with scan codes that most people won't even look at because it is junk mail.

There have been issues with past students [Redacted].

They keep asking for money but it's not clear what it is for.

They only communicate with those they feel are "beneficial" and could care less about the "non-elite."

This survey is proof of a positive change. I'm working on moving my four children to a different school district. Bad attitude, bad communication, way too much homework, etc.

Too many clicks.

When I was still trying to help Mason pass the last millage most people I spoke to had no idea on many issues and misinformed. Many people feel as I do, that the school has disappointed us in one or many ways and they no longer wanted to support. I am not sure the best way to communicate with all, but I do believe so much support for our school has been lost. I would recommend if it hasn't happened, reaching out to other small districts and communities and see how they reached out to their people for support and communication.

Where is the information coming from?

You guys say you are resolving things with my child but are making it much worse. I wish I could send him to another school but they're out of bus range.

You rely on parents checking the portal all the time. Who has time for that? When you send a message to phones I get it multiple times.

Facilities in Need of Improvement

Question: Do you feel the school facilities in Mason Consolidated Schools need to be improved?

Respondents who stated that they did not feel the school facilities in Mason Consolidated Schools needed to be improved were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

Facilities Are In Good Shape

All 3 schools are in beautiful shape and serve their purpose for our tiny community and ever shrinking child population. No new items will ever hold up like the current items. Improving the facilities will not help our kids get into college, bring people into the community, or make them more ready for life. No new businesses are coming here to help pay for these upgrades.

Being in the school on a regular basis, I feel that the school is in great shape. Everything is always clean and nice. Just because something is "old" doesn't make it bad. Do you really think that if we fix or replace a school that ANY of the new building products will handle the constant wear and tear from all of the kids as well as the current products do? Absolutely not. There should have been a maintenance plan put in place long ago and the school should have been saving its pennies to make sure they had what they needed. What happened to all of the COVID funds that were given to the school? What nonsense did you spend that money on?

Buildings last 100s of years and it hasn't changed much since I went there.

Doing a great job on their own. Look at the athletic fields.

From what I've seen it looks great. Other than the classrooms get hot.

Myself I haven't seen anything that called immediate attention to needing improvement.

Overall, the place looks very comparable to every other school. I'm sure there are things to fix, that's for leaders to get done and not for the taxpayers to pay 30 years on.

Miscellaneous

Because if they would use the ridiculous amount of tax money they already receive to do upkeep on the facility there would be no issues.

Fix like you're supposed to 5 years ago, wasted the money once again.

Fix the basics. Public education is changing drastically every year. That's a fact.

The ISD should be downsizing and think of merging resources versus stand-alone facilities.

There is waste in spending in every business that can be cut out and re-directed. This is done by making hard choices and cutting areas of waste. This is not being done in any of the public schools or public systems. Be better with the money you already receive.

They just need to be maintained. It's stated the buildings are 50 years old, so what. Take care of what WE pay for. Like all of the money spent at North on roof, playground, floors, etc. to just be sold off. Ridiculous and no accountability.

Things need fixed I'm sure but that's on the school. Quit misspending on sports, the gym, the pool, the grounds, and quit expecting the district residents to pay for what you refuse to manage properly. The state of the school is the responsibility of and a reflection of the abilities or lack thereof, of the board and leaders. All your lies from the previous bond saying the school was going to close and then you fixed the major complaints right after. No one believes you.

Who will pay for it? My taxes are too high already.

Option 1: Address Priority Needs

Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs?

Respondents who answered that the proposed plan was not acceptable were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

Band-Aid Solution

A band-aid is no longer a reasonable solution. The school needs rebuilt.

All schools are in need of immediate attention now, beyond just the priorities. This is not a long-term solution. This is just a band-aid!

Asbestos seems to be an important and IMMEDIATE need to tackle and the dates should be moved up. I also feel like these plans are just band-aids where we need to put greater efforts into new buildings for our campus and not just repairing them temporarily to bleed out later.

I don't think we can keep putting band-aids on things. I feel as if we should start with a new building. Start with the elementary.

It's just more "band-aids." Real fixes need to finally be made.

Need more help than just band-aids.

Sounds like a band-aid.

More Upgrades Are Needed

I do not want to put the money into a building that still needs a lot more work.

I feel our schools need more updating.

I think all of the buildings need to be replaced.

I think more needs to be done for our students.

It does not do enough.

More needs to be done. This will help for a few years and then more issues will need addressed.

Not enough for the school. Way more needed for our kids.

"Safety Updates" I don't think are achievable with outside hallways. The entire setup of the elementary school is unsafe in the day and age we live in. A rebuild would be more appropriate to achieve this goal.

The buildings need more.

The buildings need significant updates, especially the elementary school, sooner than later.

The school facilities need way more work.

Upgrades Are Needed Sooner

I feel that the timeline could be tighter - beginning the "priority" projects two calendar years from now seems like it's not a priority at all.

If it needs to be done why isn't it being done sooner?

Needs immediate attention in some cases.

Needs to happen sooner.

Not soon enough and nothing has been addressed about the lack of cafeteria for junior high.

Not soon enough.

Priority needs to be sooner than 2-3 years out.

Some of these safety related items should not be put off for so long.

Some of those should be done sooner than 2027.

The high school ventilation and temperature controls need to be completed sooner than that!

Upgrades Are Needed Sooner – Continued

The improvements need to happen sooner than 2026 and 2027.

This needs addressed sooner than what is stated. Safety and security of the students is top priority and should have been addressed years ago. It seems as though every year we are doing a lot of planning and preparing but not much gets done except parking lots and athletic facilities.

Miscellaneous

I have no vested interest in the school, so I don't want to be taxed. If I invest I want more say about the teachers.

Money has already been paid; you waste it.

No details on what they want to accomplish.

No improvements for central. Why has central exceeded life? But not the middle school? 1 year difference in age?

Repurposing and merging makes fiscal sense based on projected low future enrollment. I live in Luna Pier and outside of the subsidized housing complex, there may be less than a full 32 bus load of children.

The landscape is changing dramatically. You need to think differently.

The school board does not have the experience to make such determinations, or history of trust and transparency. This community cannot afford their delusional planning and is not willing to go broke because board after board and leader after leader has run it into the ground. This small district cannot make or plan for a grand plan to save decades of terrible management. Figure out another plan.

Tired of paying additional money to irresponsible people.

Tired of spending money on things the school doesn't even need.

We cannot take the risk of taking on a state bond loan that has to be paid for in the event of a possible school closure even with the best intentions. Also, the two districts that we would be divided to, Monroe and Bedford public schools, have buildings older than ours. Obviously with a better knowledge on maintenance upkeep of the industrial age building. Windows and doors were just replaced in all buildings, I know it has been under twenty years you cannot tell me we need new ones again already. As the above statement says. Keeping full time knowledgeable maintenance people with a benefit package who live in the district and have an investment in the district would have paid for itself in the long run. You can say the same for the custodial staff that was eliminated years ago. How long does your home last without maintenance and cleaning? It will stand but deteriorate just like our school.

You could have fixed some of these problems but felt AC in the "administration office" aka for the superintendent, was more important.

You've already said the elementary has outlived its structure life.

Your operational funding and budget planning should be paying for these things over the years. If these fixes are not planned for two years, you've got time to make a plan.

Assessing Option 1: Address Priority Needs

Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs?

Respondents who answered that they would not vote for Option 1: Address Priority Needs or were unsure if they would vote for Option 1: Address Priority Needs were asked to explain why. The following responses were provided:

Bond Time Frame is Too Long

30 years, too many years.

30 years!?

Don't wanna be locked into anything for 30 years. You need to let the people know what the total cost of that \$12 million bond is going to be over 30 years.

I feel 30 years is a long time and by the end of the 30 years there will be the things that didn't get done are worse. Also what the bond covered will be old now too. 30 years is too long.

The starting rate might be 2 mills, but everyone knows that it is certainly not where it will end.

Who knows where this community will be in 30 years. Most certainly the dump will be long closed and who is going to pick up all of that tax slack for Erie? Easy answer, EVERY SINGLE TAXPAYER will have to cover that massive loss. I can see this bond easily surpassing 5 or 6 mills before the 30 years is up. And let me guess, then we'll need another 50 million dollars to build a new school.

Too long of a time frame.

Will not approve 30-year bond.

Cost/Taxes

12 million dollars for 30 years? You have to be kidding me, right? That is 1/3 of the last bond and it's far more than this community can afford.

Because, like everyone else, we're all overtaxed and overworked.

Being on a fixed income, I cannot afford a \$300 increase in taxes that will most likely increase as the years go by. It's just not financially responsible.

Can't afford it.

Cannot afford.

Cost and living on a fixed income.

Depending on the economy and what it is like and how money is would depend on if I could afford higher taxes.

Economy is close to a recession.

Financial burden, economy sucks, school fiscally irresponsible.

First, no one can afford this. Which is it, 50% economically challenged or not? More importantly, you're spreading false information about cost and seriously misleading people. You cannot project cost over 30 years with changes in the tax base and annually increasing taxable values. Furthermore, this survey is geared to be deceitful and yield your desired outcome. Clearly this group and the slew of expensive contracts you hired out to assess this helps schools get what they want.

I am retired on a fixed income. My current property tax is over \$300 a month I couldn't afford the additional tax.

I can't afford for any more increases to be made. I can barely afford things now.

Cost/Taxes – Continued

I want to know, is the price increase for the taxes are forever? I don't think I can afford \$100.00 more a year.

I would not vote to approve this because I am already taxed enough for everything else. Including free school lunches for millions of kids that are not mine. I could go further but I think you understand my point. How about we reallocate some financial that we do NOT need (and should not be doing anyway) and let's put that toward things we do need, like building repairs for example.

It would mean even more money out of taxpayers' pockets, absolutely not worth it.

It's a lot of taxes that increase with not as many residents. It's a small community.

No more taxes.

Raising property taxes during inflation is a terrible idea due to many families already struggling.

Sick and tired of taxes going up.

That is a significant increase.

The amount is too high for my family to pay additionally. We are barely getting by as it is. 30 years from now who knows. We need more business support or increased revenue in the area.

We already pay enough in taxes. Everything is taxed to death. You'll have a few who will vote yes but all those living on fixed incomes won't approve this.

You are asking for too much.

More Upgrades Needed

Are these temporary fixes? Do you just need a new school? At least 1 new and fix the other 2?

I don't believe it's a big enough fix.

I feel that the amount that is needed to fix everything wrong with the school, you are better off rebuilding all three schools into one.

I feel this is wasting our tax dollars when more improvements and updates need to be made.

Putting band-aids on buildings that are not structurally sound just to get through a few more years is a waste of money in my opinion.

I want to see all the plans so I can choose the one I feel would be best for the schools' needs. The schools need more than just what was listed.

I will not vote for a band-aid. I will vote yes to rebuild a new school.

Need more information regarding the overall estimated costs as the middle school and elementary buildings are in horrible condition. In my mind, pay this amount to fix the needed issues over a 30 year bond when more issues will arise due to the significant lack of funding throughout the past years. New buildings with central air for staff and students would ultimately be best if it's going to be a 30-year bond. These buildings are falling apart, and you want to put a band-aid on a bigger issue. With minimal work done, it's guaranteed more issues will arise with the old buildings costing in my opinion more over a 30 year span.

Not fixing anything, just prolonging the issue.

Rebuild new school, start over.

Seems to me, the major fixes are geared towards the middle and high school. I think a bigger issue would be to fix the plumbing in the elementary school.

Unfortunately the school needs to be torn down. We cannot keep putting money into these old buildings.

We would just be paying for more band-aids. We're tired of the silly band-aids. Fix it for real.

You would be putting money into an improvement that still needs improvement!

Need More Information

A one page listing on how old the school is and what needs to be done is not enough for me. I would like to ask a few questions. For example, would there be a budget to repair things. Maybe hire more than the one guy to take care of things or someone better. In 30 years from now will we be in the same situation? How much of an increase for non-homestead taxpayers?

I need more facts.

I need to process the information.

I would need more information.

I would need to research this more, but it seems like too high of a tax hike.

I would want more specific information. Last time, the need was absolutely needed but the plan was too big and grand. This community is not wealthy, so the plan needs to be specific to the actual need vs a grand ask.

Need more details regarding what's needed, nobody likes a blank check.

Need more exact figures. And which schools you're fixing. You need to be more transparent. List each school for each proposal and improvements. Central not even addressed until proposal 3. Any improvements to sports facilities in 1?

Need more information and time to review.

Need more information sent to taxpayers to review.

Need more information.

Need more time to read the proposal.

The school cooling system is horrible, my kids have been roasting for two years. I would like to understand more how they would help the students specifically while they are getting an education in the classroom.

What they want to do has not been specified.

Miscellaneous

Again, have they even tried to apply for state offered grants for any of these updates that are being suggested in the bond? Have they put in the work to ease the burden put on taxpayers for a bond?

Because it shouldn't be my money being used. It should be the money that the school receives in funding [Redacted].

Bonds can be variable in cost to residents, would approve sinking fund.

Compared to the last bond and the sinking fund, these numbers already seem incorrect.

Furthermore, you have not tapped into other state/grant funding options for many items listed. You have refused to maintain basic maintenance for years. No amount of money here is going to be enough for what this board is envisioning. Focus on what you need, not what you want.

Didn't we just go through this? Where is all of that continuing to go over the years? How about we fund appropriately and show where it has been going over the last 10 years?

Education will be replaced by AI.

I am not a homeowner at this time, so this would not personally affect me.

I do not feel that Mason Consolidated Schools values the voters of this community.

I do not yet know the other two options.

I don't think the money would be used appropriately.

I feel it's time to consider redistrict.

If the Democrats win elections Harris will impose capital gains taxes.

Miscellaneous – Continued

It's like bailing out flood water over a chain link fence.

Mason and the surrounding communities had every opportunity to support large scale solar projects that would easily pay for the upgrades and repair of their facilities. Instead many have turned to negative attacks against farmers who have signed options for solar. I have tax bills that show the amount of revenue Erie Township makes off of the 100 acre solar farm on the corner of M-125 and Sterns Road and the revenues are significant! Significant enough to pay for many if not all of the improvements listed if this would have been approved in a local ordinance welcoming clean energy. Hanging more expenses on less people without giving real solutions for either cutting costs or improving a revenue stream is immoral and wrong.

Money won't be allocated properly.

My child just started preschool this year. I'm not really familiar with the school district whatsoever. Do I want my taxes going up even more in this economy? No. But I also have no idea how the school has spent money given and I honestly think the government needs to give schools a better budget in general.

No one cares about our kids and their future!

Redundant question!

The district student numbers are not increasing. The district should consider merging with another district, Ida, Bedford, or Monroe. Without an increase in student numbers there is not a reason to spend tax dollars on a losing program. Fiscal responsibility needs to be done.

The risk of paying for a state bond loan through a possible failure/loss of our school district is too high. No matter how high the good intention is.

The school and board should already have enough money to improve these things. They said the same thing when I went to school there and I watched them not use the money they had wisely at all.

They haven't tried to keep the buildings up as the years passed. Fixing things as the years passed would have been better than waiting until all needs repaired.

They wouldn't spend the money properly.

This would be fiscally irresponsible to approve the plan as written, especially considering there are not enough children to justify such a plan.

Too much uncertainty with current government.

Uncapped tax bonds are a high risk and completely insolvent for our tax base. Proposing them at all let alone for decades is a ridiculous ask. Tax values increase EVERY year or significantly when you sell or open a building permit/make any change to your house to improve the value. This will be the amount people pay for year one, but next year and every year, just like your taxable value, it will go up every year. Also the rate will maybe remain 2.0 mills for the first year but will also change every year in flux with the tax base - keep in mind that for all the businesses/people that move out or do not pay their taxes, the millage will raise for the state to capture the full payment due every year and what happens when a business like the dump closes in a few years which is a significant part of the tax base? The answer is this millage rate will rise significantly and be spread to the remaining residents to cover in full. The school cannot be trusted with large sums of money as they have already proven, and state bonds are terrible for communities.

What is the cost per student to maintain these facilities? With declining enrollment, it seems more and more difficult to justify the districts existence in general.

Miscellaneous – Continued

When the schools can get behind large scale solar as mentioned before, this tax burden can reduce the cost to all the property taxpayers. Michigan is losing residence as well and it would be advantageous to look to consolidate the schools again as done in the past. We have lost Consumer's Whiting Plant years ago and we need the solar developers to go forward with the path of clean energy and personal property taxes to keep our residents' taxes low or non-existent. The educators need to realize that this is the only option we have to a better educational system.

Why wait until something is fallen apart to fix, hundreds of thousands of dollars went to fix a pool. Why? Money could have been spent more wisely. Management only put a gum fix on things. Now everything is falling apart and expect the community to bail you out.

Would need to feel more sure that the money would not be wasted and would truly go to the schools' facilities. We just dealt with this same situation in another city in Michigan where we passed a millage, but the plan was not followed through at all.

You waste the money, not a good idea.

Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates

Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs and facility updates?

Respondents who answered that the proposed plan was not acceptable were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

More Upgrades Needed

Again, I feel the buildings are needing more attention due to safety of students and this is not the solution.

Again our district's students need more.

Elementary needs a lot of improvements and elementary kitchen needs a complete overhaul. New tile, dishwasher, etc.

I don't think the elementary school is worth the money to put into it, my tax dollars would be better spent on a new building.

It does not do enough.

Need more than this.

Not enough still. The elementary needs more than this plan.

Our middle school needs a cafeteria. In this day in age, it is not safe for our middle school students to walk to the high school for lunch.

See previous comment. We need to rethink just putting band-aids. I do feel these are priority needs as well and the time frame to begin seems too far off.

We do not need a band-aid, we need to fund a new school.

We need to start building a new building for at least one of the schools.

Upgrades Are Needed Sooner

Needs to be done sooner. (2 respondents)

Again, waiting until 2026 to 2027 is too long.

Improvements need to be made sooner.

Not fast enough.

Not soon enough and the issue of no cafeteria in the junior high has NOT been addressed.

Once again, needs to be addressed sooner than two years from now.

The timeline for critical updates is too far. The children are suffering repercussions now.

Miscellaneous

50% poverty? And you're coming for more taxes?

Again, no details.

Again, you've not attempted to get other state funding/grants for these things. This community can only support basic needs and even then, the leaders need babysat to make sure they spend it as promised.

As previously stated.

As stated previous. Back large scale solar.

Enrollment does not support this plan.

Explained in first option. Need a graph of data comparing costs of fixing issues now and a projection of possible costs to continue maintaining the outdated buildings over the next 30 years.

Miscellaneous – Continued

For the same reasons I stated in the first option. It is not with the risk we will have to pay for the bond either way. My property will be worthless.

I understand the age of the school, however, it seems the school should have addressed/communicated these issues in previous years. Feels like they waited until the building was well beyond repair.

Literally none of this sounds essential in any way.

No increase in student numbers. Merge students.

No mention of "security." What are the plans to protect the children, teachers, and staff in the event of a "shooter."

No one here can afford this.

None of this seems necessary at this moment. Didn't at least 2 of the boilers get completely redone with part of the sinking fund and what not? Why would we suddenly need new HVAC after all of that money was spent? New doors, new ceilings, and lighting? I mean come on. Please explain what is wrong with the current doors, ceilings, and lights.

Redundant question.

Same

Same as previous answer.

Same as previous questions.

See prior answers.

Since these projects won't even start for a few years, plan for this in your operational funding over the next few years, not on the backs of the residents with extra tax.

The funds would not be used appropriately.

The same as the first plan.

Why isn't ventilation for Central a priority need in number 1? It's where the most kids and adults in our district attend! If you didn't pick the proposals apart most wouldn't realize this. Is that the goal?

Assessing Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates

Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs and facility updates?

Respondents who answered that they would not vote for Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates or were unsure if they would vote for Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates were asked to explain why. The following responses were provided:

Bond Time Frame is Too Long

30 years is too long. You would just keep asking for more.

30 years?!

30-year bond too long.

No 30-year bond.

This board does not have the experience to determine 30 years of costs.

Too many years.

Will not approve 30-year bond.

Cost/Taxes

Again, is this increase of my taxes forever? I am not sure if I can afford the increase.

Again, it's an unreasonable amount to ask. We are the poorest district in the county. As well as many families living in mobile homes and lower income housing, they will be contributing little to none. There needs to be money in grants or funds we can apply for to help.

As in my previous statement, would get my taxes more than I could afford.

At this point, a mobile home is worth well over 150k and a basic home is over 300k with reality hitting us around 350k for an average family home in this community. At that point this is \$1,000/year to support the school on top of what we already pay. These are insane numbers for a community that has zero business, zero business coming, and its biggest tax contributor leaving which I've already stated in an earlier answer. And again, I wonder what 2.69 mills will turn into in 20 or 30 years. I'd call it crippling debt that will drive people out of this area because they won't be able to afford the dang taxes.

Can't afford more increases.

Cost of living is high right now. We are struggling as it is, without raising property taxes.

Cost too high for people on a fixed income.

Does this address everything? Are there additional needs not listed? My taxes would rise significantly and are already very high.

Economy is complete crap right now so asking people who are already struggling to pay more, it's hard.

I can hardly afford where I live let alone bail out a school that will not serve me.

Increase in taxes too high.

Like many others in the district, a lot of us are overworked and overtaxed.

More lies being spread. Stop stating what costs would be, you do not and cannot know, it changes every year. No one can afford this. Sorry that the school has been mismanaged for decades, the people now cannot fix it.

My budget is already strained enough.

No new taxes, we pay enough.

Cost/Taxes – Continued

No way people could afford \$500 plus on their taxes. I understand the school needs major updates but that's a huge burden on the community.

Sick and tired of taxes going up.

Significant increase.

This amount of money would crush most occurs community. We already can't afford bread and milk, and we're somehow supposed to afford this?

Too expensive.

We are taxed way too much, same as before. It won't pass.

More Upgrades Needed

Again, I feel rebuilding the schools into one would be a better option.

I don't think the elementary school is worth the money to put into it, my tax dollars would be better spent on a new building.

I still want to see what other plans are available. I feel the schools would still need more than is listed in the first 2 plans.

I will only vote to build a new school.

Just a band-aid to prolong the indefinite.

More improvements need to be made.

Rebuild new rather than patch.

Same as first comment. Replace oldest worst school and fix/repair 2 newest/best repaired schools.

Unfortunately the schools need torn down, especially the elementary.

Need More Information

Need more information. (2 respondents)

Again, need more information. What updates and priority needs exactly are being proposed per each building? Are there grants available through the state of Michigan that would cover certain updates or priority needs.

I do not know why we need to upgrade the kitchen at the high school. It would be nice for a newsletter to be sent out to the public explaining why upgrades are so we know where our tax dollars are going and why.

I need more information about the facility upgrades and if they are really needed at this time. That is a bigger jump in taxes, and I do not have kids that attend those schools.

I need to do more research.

I would need more information to make a decision.

It's a lot of money for a long period of time. I do believe the facilities need updated. I don't have any children attending and it would be a significant tax increase. However, I would need more info - maybe town hall meetings. It's definitely needed - I would just need more details.

Need facts because lost trust when the last plan was proposed.

Need more details.

Need more facts.

Need more information to be sent to taxpayers for review.

Need to hear more details.

Need to read more and ensure the administration handles the funds appropriately.

Same as before. This seems like too high of a tax hike, and I would need to do my research first.

Unsure until more details are given.

Miscellaneous

Again, the same reason as above options.

Again, there is no growth occurring in the district.

As previously stated.

Didn't we just go through this? Where HAS all the money been going if we are in such disarray?

Who is responsible for allocation? What has been spent over the last 10 years and improved upon?

Don't know the third option yet.

I am not "unsure about voting" my vote is a hard no. I will not support this.

I am unsure if this is a separate mill.

I do not feel that Mason Consolidated Schools values its community members.

I don't believe this plan is as necessary as the first one addressed.

I may decide to move south.

I want to read all of the options first.

I would not vote for two bonds back to back, it's too much money on my taxes.

I'm unsure if this would increase my taxes by the first increase added to the second increase.

If it came down to it, I would vote yes, but I think this is not the route to go!

If the Democrats win the presidential election Harris, she's planning on putting in capital gains taxes, more even on unseen values of homes so if the Republicans win I will vote for any leverage for my school district or bond.

Let the state take care of it.

Money won't be allocated correctly.

No bond.

No comment.

Not a homeowner.

Not sure if all costs are included.

Redundant

Same answer as before.

Same as option 1.

Same as previous answer.

Same as prior.

Same as reason listed before, Be better at not wasting our money!

Same reason as the last option.

See previous explanation.

See previous remarks.

See prior.

The guarantee that these would be actually used for updates and who is held accountable for money being used for purposes voted for. Previously money was not spent per approved.

Fiscal responsibility.

The middle school students shouldn't be walking in rain/snow to have lunch. They're lunch time isn't long enough with walking to and from the high school for lunch.

The numbers seem off and no one can predict annual costs since things change every year. You're already misleading people.

The same as the first plan.

There are less than 32 school age children who reside outside of the subsidized housing complex in Luna Pier. Those families in subsidy are statistically transitional. This plan does not have the current or future enrollment numbers to justify the plans as written.

Miscellaneous – Continued

Too much uncertainty with current government.

Transparency

Uncapped tax bonds are a high risk and completely insolvent for our tax base. Proposing them at all let alone for decades is a ridiculous ask. Tax values increase EVERY year or significantly when you sell or open a building permit/make any change to your house to improve the value. This will be the amount people pay for year one, but next year and every year, just like your taxable value, it will go up every year. Also the rate will maybe remain 2.0 Mills for the first year but will also change every year in flux with the tax base - keep in mind that for all the businesses/people that move out or do not pay their taxes, the millage will raise for the state to capture the full payment due every year and what happens when a business like the dump closes in a few years which is a significant part of the tax base? The answer is this millage rate will rise significantly and be spread to the remaining residents to cover in full. The school cannot be trusted with large sums of money as they have already proven, and state bonds are terrible for communities.

You must address SECURITY. This, in our view, is priority #1.

Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements

Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements?

Respondents who answered that the proposed plan was not acceptable were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

More Upgrades Needed

Again, more improvements need to be made.

I don't think the elementary school is worth the money to put into it, my tax dollars would be better spent on a new building.

It does not do enough. Throwing money away into the elementary building.

Need more than that.

Need new school.

Put the money towards 1 new school. Junior high walking across a field for lunch is a huge safety concern. Figure out how to either put a cafeteria in junior high or just rebuild the school and house all levels of education. Elementary, junior, and senior high.

Security plans are not addressed. Better doors are NOT enough.

We don't need new playgrounds. We need a new elementary.

We need a new elementary school.

We need to build a new school, not just put band-aids on problems.

Unnecessary

A lot in there like parking lots that aren't that important.

Elementary does NOT need a whole new playground, apply for a grant. Not our tax money. And the school parking lot does not need to be repaved. What NEEDS to happen is taking care of the elementary school first and foremost! They need working bathrooms, and pest control!

I believe that just the first plan was sufficient enough and we can worry about the more minor issues when ready and more financially viable.

I do not feel as though new playground and furniture are necessary. We have bigger issues that need to be addressed but I do agree that the parking lots and sidewalks need attention!

I don't feel a new playground is a necessary improvement.

Some updates seem unnecessary.

The high school lot does not need to be replaced (yet). The middle school needs more parking options. The playground doesn't need to be replaced, it needs some updates. Very few of these changes are going to promote better education. What's wrong with the bathrooms? Cafeteria does need updating.

Too many unnecessary upgrades.

Too much at once.

Too much, too far. No 30-year bond.

Way too much.

Upgrades Are Needed Sooner

Needs to be done sooner. (3 respondents)

Actions are not happening soon enough.

See previous comments. Too far off and not fixing the root issues.

The delay in time. There is mold, regular bathroom issues, and multiple other critical problems in the elementary school. These updates should not be delayed.

Why the delay?

Miscellaneous

As previously stated.

A lot of work being done at one time. The millage will hurt a lot of people and students. Would be interested to know what kind of preventative maintenance was established. The proposals should have been requested 20-25 years ago in this type of detail.

Beyond the ventilation system, what else is for safety? At this point, keep our schools safe, but at the end of the day we have to quit pouring money into these money pit buildings.

Cost

I don't even know what this will cost me yet and I can already tell that's FAR too much. What is our current enrollment? Based on state numbers, our enrollment continues to plummet because nobody wants their kids going to Mason. Nothing, especially the school, is bringing anyone to this district. Instead, thanks to school of choice, they are leaving in DROVES and this bond will pretty much finish off this school and community and we'll be stuck with it for 30 years.

I don't like how the options are presented. I think priority needs to be given in this order: First priority: asbestos abatement, new fire alarms, upgrade electrical in all buildings, new temperature controls and ventilation units in all buildings, update elementary bathrooms, replace roofing where needed on all buildings. Second priority: doors, ceilings, lighting in all buildings, repaving necessary parking areas, and sidewalks where needed. Third priority: classroom furniture, new playground, cafeteria upgrades at high school.

I will not support this.

Money won't be allocated correctly.

No growth in the district.

No one can afford this.

Same

Same answer.

Same as previously stated.

See previous remarks.

See prior.

Seek other funding first. Stop spending money on anything outside of the building, our kids need education. This is a lot of money for our district. fix the basics.

The same as above.

The same as plan one.

There are less than 32 school age children who reside outside of the subsidized housing complex in Luna Pier. Those families in subsidy are statistically transitional. This plan does not have the current or future enrollment numbers to justify the plans as written.

Miscellaneous – Continued

These projects will not even start for a few years. Just like every other industry has had to figure out, get this done over the next few years with operational funding.

Too expensive.

Why are bathrooms that are awful at central not in 1 or 2? Why is the worst last? I get it is old but so is the middle school. PRIORITIES. Any sports getting improvements yet?

Assessing Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements

Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements?

Respondents who answered that they would not vote for Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements or were unsure if they would vote for Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements were asked to explain why. The following responses were provided:

Bond Time Frame is Too Long

30 years is too long. Start by addressing the needs and safety.

30 years!?

Figure out how to not make me cover the entire cost over 30 years.

No 30-year bond.

Too long.

Too many years.

Cost/Taxes

Cost (2 respondents)

Too expensive. (2 respondents)

\$500+ a year is a lot of money even though I'm sure the option is probably essential.

Any available grants? Taxpayers are getting the brunt of all this. Schools must be repaired or replaced but we can't continue to be taxed throughout the roof. My taxes are already in the \$7,000.00 range and we are retired! To cover this we would begin depleting our 401's quickly! We couldn't afford living here any longer.

Are you kidding me? Our state makes BILLIONS in tax revenue for marijuana and lottery tickets, where does that equate in all this? Our area is not very high income, and any added tax bill is a severe burden to every family in our district. This is a lot better than the 38 million dollar joke last presented to us, but please do better.

Because a \$1,000 tax raise would be a 33% hike in my annual taxes.

Can't afford increases.

Cost and inflation for senior citizens.

Cost and mentioning replacements to areas money was spent on recently (parking areas, sidewalks, playground).

Cost per house is high for some.

Cost too high.

Economic hardship.

Economy is garbage also. Can't afford it.

Expensive

High cost

I cannot afford that much of an increase.

I gave my feedback on 14. Find a way to make the improvements needed that will benefit our kids' educations now and in the future. Safe and comfortable classrooms, working facilities, tools that will help them succeed. Get costs down to a 3 mills increase, and I will advocate as well as support it.

Cost/Taxes – Continued

I just can't afford the increase in my taxes. I am on social security and a fixed income.

I live on a fixed income.

I live paycheck to paycheck. I'm not interested in funding unnecessary projects for the school district. Most crucial is the structure of the school.

I'm not voting to increase my taxes for this district, period.

It would be a hardship for me to pay.

It's a lot of money and I am worried about being able to sell my home in the future with such a large bond. I'm not saying 'no,' I just am unsure at this time.

It's just too much all at once. It's needed but think we need to start with main priorities and go from there. This is too big of an increase to taxes for me.

No new taxes, we pay enough.

No one can afford this.

No one can afford this. More lies and inaccurate information. You cannot predict the costs so please quit misleading people. What's the mill rate going to be in 3-5 years when more businesses leave or in a few more when the biggest one in Erie closes operations. If this board or the leaders or teachers want grand new buildings and spaces, change jobs/districts to a much bigger resident base. Delusional planning and leadership here. Businesses and buildings are empty everywhere and have been for years and no one is going to come when they cost more.

Semi-retired. Too much of a tax increase.

Since I previously stated I couldn't afford \$300 tax increase I definitely can't afford \$550.

Tax increase too high.

That is a lot more to pay on my taxes.

That is more money than I would vote yes for.

The cost is too high for most people in the community.

The cost of this could cause financial hardships for some families.

The country is heading for a recession. Wise up and live with what can be done from state grants.

This is a much bigger cost increase for me and times are already rough. 3 years ago or sooner I would have said yes, but with the price of groceries these days, just can't afford it.

This would be a large increase on property taxes due to the value of my house.

Too high in this economy.

Too large of a tax increase.

Too much money and my children will have graduated and will not benefit from this. I will no longer have children in the district.

Too much of an increase at once.

Too much.

Unaffordable

Cost/Taxes – Continued

Uncapped tax bonds are a high risk and completely insolvent for our tax base. Proposing them at all let alone for decades is a ridiculous ask. Tax values increase EVERY year or significantly when you sell or open a building permit/make any change to your house to improve the value. This will be the amount people pay for year one, but next year and every year, just like your taxable value, it will go up every year. Also the rate will maybe remain 2.0 Mills for the first year but will also change every year in flux with the tax base - keep in mind that for all the businesses/people that move out or do not pay their taxes, the millage will raise for the state to capture the full payment due every year and what happens when a business like the dump closes in a few years which is a significant part of the tax base? The answer is this millage rate will rise significantly and be spread to the remaining residents to cover in full. The school cannot be trusted with large sums of money as they have already proven, and state bonds are terrible for communities.

Unsure we can afford additional taxes.

Way too much money. Sick of taxes going up.

Way too expensive.

We are a fixed incoming, lower class household. This will not be affordable.

We are at retirement age and funds will begin to be tight. Not sure if it fits into our budget.

We will not have that money as a family to pay extra.

Who is it that you think can afford this? You do realize that over 50% of the kids in our district are already on government assistance of some kind. So with that being the case, you clearly know their parents can't afford this either. If this were to pass I feel that it would be devastating to our tiny, poor community. \$1,000 in extra tax on a 250k house is absolute insanity that nobody can afford.

You need to invest in grant writers. This school needs so much and it's a very heavy burden to place on the taxpayers. If the mills were less then I would consider. But I like how it was separated out to seem like it's not that much. Altogether it is a crushing burden.

You're gonna have to come up with a different way for building repairs without increasing taxes, we are taxed to death. People aren't gonna approve it.

Need More Information

Again need more information. What updates and priority needs exactly is being proposed per each building? Are there grants available through the state of Michigan that would cover certain updates or priority needs?

Cost is understandable, however, would take a lot of work to be able to pay my property taxes.

Need more detail on what will be fixed to come on board.

I would have to assess the whole overall proposal in more depth.

I would need more information.

Need facts.

Need more facts.

Need more info.

Need more information to be sent to taxpayers for review.

Need to do more research.

Need to read more and ensure the administration handles the funds appropriately.

Same as before, this seems like too high of a tax hike, and I would need to do my research first.

There would need to be a whole list of itemized expenditures showing why this is necessary. New desks seem to be a want, not a need.

New School Should Be Built

How much would it cost for a new building to be built?

I don't think the elementary school is worth the money to put into it, my tax dollars would be better spent on a new building.

I will only vote yes for a new school being built.

I would love to vote for improvements to our schools. I would like to see the cost of all of the improvements and how many bids on the projects you have received. I feel for the amount being asked for 30 years you could build new schools instead of fixing up the schools we have. Knowing fixing what we have won't last the 30 years that we will still be paying for them.

I would rather my tax dollars go to building 1 large school to house all 3. Elementary, junior, and senior high.

If rebuilding the school is not the next option, this is the best of the four so far.

Tear down and rebuild new.

The cost for improvement is too high. It would be better to replace the buildings.

Unfortunately they need to be torn down.

We don't need new playgrounds. We need new buildings.

Unnecessary

I am not sure all these items are actually necessities.

I said no because I don't agree with the priority list that has been presented.

I'm not sure that all things listed are top priority to be fixed, such as student parking at the high school.

Not sure it's necessary to redo the playground.

Some of the third option expenses seem unnecessary and with funds not being used for earmarked projects in the past, not sure I trust all this money would go to intended purpose.

There are other things that should be done first if asking taxpayers for such a large amount, for instance, a lunchroom at the middle school.

We don't need a new playground. Wasted expense.

Why a new playground? Structural improvements are more important.

Miscellaneous

See prior. (2 respondents)

Absolutely not!

Again, the costs will increase every year so you're already attempting to minimize the costs to our small district. Which way is it, 50% poverty or able to carry these absurd plans for 30 years?

Are all costs included?

Are you kidding me?

As previously stated.

I may move south in the next year after my granddaughter's graduation.

I will not support this.

Like I said in my last two responses, it's the same if Harris wins. No, I will not vote for this because she's going to raise capital gains taxes and all property taxes and taxes on businesses which are going to shut a lot of them down, especially here in the state of Michigan.

More improvements need to be made.

Miscellaneous – Continued

No bond.

No comment.

No growth in the district.

No, money won't be allocated correctly.

Not a homeowner.

Same

Same as option 1.

Same as previous answer.

Same as previous response.

Same reason as before.

Same reason as the other options.

Same reasons as before and Masons board should have been making repairs all along. Maybe the sinking fund money should have been spent better.

School should have been responsible.

Security must be addressed.

See previous comments.

See previous remarks.

Seems as though this should start earlier than this.

The same as above.

The same as plan one.

These are very costly repairs that should be covered by taxes. The amount of taxes that are being legally stolen should cover every repair for the schools. Not just Mason, but all schools.

Michigan has failed everyone and so has the federal government.

This is a poorly developed plan. There is zero consideration for low enrollment, both now and projected.

This is double the cost of the first option. Can the mills be split between summer and winter taxes?

Transparency and priorities.

With the amount of grants given to school districts for improvements and the aesthetics upgrades that were just done at the high school, it seems ridiculous to increase property taxes this significantly. These safety issues and priority concerns should have been addressed before a new football field.

You must be crazy!

Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12

Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12?

Respondents who answered that the proposed plan was not acceptable were asked why they felt that way. The following responses were provided:

Disagree With PK – 6 and 7 – 12 In the Same Buildings

6th graders do not belong in the same building as Preschoolers and 7th graders do not belong in the same building as seniors in high school.

7 and 8th graders don't need to be with high schoolers.

7th grade with 12th graders is not a good idea.

7th graders do not belong in the same building as 9-12th graders. There is a plethora of social differences, safety issues, etc. that are present at a high school that children in middle school are not quite ready for yet. The same applies for PK students being in the same building as middle schoolers.

Current configuration is fine.

Don't feel that grades 7-12 should be together in same building.

I believe it's not safe for 7th and 8th grade students to be in the same building as high school kids.

I would have to hear a plan on how the students would be separated and safety concerns.

I do not appreciate the way the children are being split or the appropriate ages/locations.

I do not like the idea of 7 through 12 and PK through 6 being in the same schools.

I don't like the thought of young kids being with older kids.

I don't like the building's handling that many grades. It takes away from the transitions students make to each building. Increase in behaviors and exposure for younger students.

It is irresponsible to group 7-12 grades and will outspokenly rally against it.

Need little ones with little ones.

Pre-K through 6th grades should NOT be in the same building! Same for 7th and 8th grades being with high school students. This is unacceptable!

This is a TERRIBLE idea to mix these age groups in one building. Check other districts in the area, there are moving away from consolidating so many grades into one building because of problems that arose because of it.

Use the existing configurations.

Who in their right mind would put 7th graders with seniors?

Why would PK-6 be at the middle school?

Dropping Enrollment

Adding rooms with dropping enrollment?

Enrollment is declining, asking for too much.

The school has the lowest numbers in decades, and you want to add space? You want to add operations that will cost more to manage when you cannot manage operations or a budget now? No one trusts you with more and, more importantly, this district cannot afford uncapped bonds. We are too small and it's too risky for 30 years. This is ludicrous thinking. I do not trust your leadership or your ability to execute anything as planned, or worse, to be able to manage it.

Dropping Enrollment – Continued

There are less than 32 school age children who reside outside of the subsidized housing complex in Luna Pier. Those families in subsidy are statistically transitional. This plan does not have the current or future enrollment numbers to justify the plans as written.

This plan is absolutely ridiculous. Volumes are declining every single year, you cannot maintain the buildings you have, and you want to add space?

Upgrades Are Needed Sooner

Needs to be done sooner. (3 respondents)

Timeline again. And put that money towards a new campus and not expanding one that is outdated and unsafe.

Miscellaneous

Too expensive. (2 respondents)

A lunchroom at the middle school should be more of a priority. This is a safety issue.

And then what happens to the elementary school property? Is it sold, repurposed? Where does the money from that go? Did you not listen to the voters last time?

As previously stated.

Buildings are already struggling. It sounds like this would shut the elementary school down and shift grades between middle and high school to accommodate.

Do not need a new cafeteria for junior high. It's good for the kids to walk.

I don't feel there is enough room for everyone to be in 2 schools.

Just leave things how they are.

More kids in one school.

My vote is still a no. I will not ever support this.

Need new school.

No one trusts leadership here.

One of the best assets that we currently have is not having a kitchen in the middle school. Kitchen equipment is terribly expensive to purchase and maintain so sharing the cafeteria in the high school continues to be an ideal solution. Not to mention that if we were to build a kitchen at the middle school, that's a lot more staff that have to be hired in order to maintain that separate kitchen\cafeteria. That does not sound fiscally responsible to me. But then again, none of this does. I have zero issues with having the students walk from the middle school to the high school. Since PE is no longer required, it might be the only exercise they actually get each day.

Same

Security is not addressed. This option is too rich for our district.

See previous remarks.

See prior.

That is more money than I would vote to approve. The school improvements would happen if we had better township representation that would responsibly grow a community. Then the burden would not be only on residents but share it with businesses.

The middle school will need significant updates to accommodate PK and up. I believe this will be another significant delay at the children and staff's expense.

There have been several crews working on just the high school to improve it but what has been done to improve the Elementary? Why?

Miscellaneous – Continued

Too much at once. Better to do it in stages. Once you start opening stuff up, who knows what else will be needed.

Too much.

We do not need a kitchen in the middle school. As a student, a parent of a student, a grandparent of a student, and a great grandparent of a student of Mason Consolidated Schools I enjoyed the outdoor experience and break of walking to the high school for band, lunch, and PE swimming. We were not bused in the rain either. It was a mentally enjoyable experience with your friends and fellow students and teachers/classroom aides and for me.

We don't need this.

Why change this?

Why would anyone want that?

Will not vote for any option.

Assessing Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12

Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12?

Respondents who answered that they would not vote for Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 or were unsure if they would vote for Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 were asked to explain why. The following responses were provided:

Cost/Taxes

Cost (5 respondents)

Too expensive. (2 respondents)

Again, the cost is too high.

Again, too pricey with everybody trying to make ends meet.

At a cost of almost \$600 a year for a \$250,000 home is steep for someone over 65 and retired.

Because I do not trust the abilities here and no one can afford this.

Because it's going to cost a lot of money.

Can't afford increases.

Cost and reliability of work done.

Cost per month for older people.

Cost too high.

Expense

Financially, not doable.

I know there are needs. Very expensive. 30 years is a long time. Some people might not be able to afford this on their tax bill.

It's a lot of money and I am worried about being able to sell my home in the future with such a large bond. I'm not saying "no," I just am unsure at this time.

It's just expensive. Why weren't these issues addressed instead of unnecessary updates that the high school did not need? Just doesn't make sense to me.

Large increase in taxes.

Lol way, way too expensive.

No new taxes, we pay enough.

No new taxes.

No one can afford this. Your numbers are a lie, again. The audacity of you to project costs for 30 years says everything about the lack of concern you have for the district at large. Can you predict what businesses will be here in 5, 15 or 20 years? Those left here will have to pay for those who leave. Can you predict that if the school gets some "fix it" money that it still won't close in 15 years? We still have to pay for it for 30 years.

Nobody can afford this nonsense just for our kids to continuously perform terribly academically.

Once again, taxes and the amount of inflation is hurting everyone right now.

Outrageously expensive and my children will have graduated by then and will not benefit from this.

Security must be addressed. This option is too big an investment for the foreseeable future.

Taxes are too high.

Cost/Taxes – Continued

That is more money than I would vote to approve. The school improvements would happen if we had better township representation that would responsibly grow a community then the burden would not be only on residents but share it with businesses. Furthermore, I would not want to see 7th grade children in the same building as 11th and 12th grade students.

That is quite an increase in taxes for the next thirty years.

This amount added to our existing taxes is too much to handle on a yearly basis. I would love to have the 4th option, but I am retired, and this added expense is more than my monthly increase on social security. Have we exhausted all grants that are available? If not, maybe we need to hire a grant writer to get all the money that is available from the state, which I think a lot of the first option of maintenance items for safety could be covered by grants.

This school must be doing some of the good good because this number is once again insanity. \$30 million dollars! I also suspect that the 4.75 mills is incorrect since the last bond was around 38 million and was almost a full 2 mills more than what is being stated here. Who do you think can afford an additional \$1,200 in taxes? Literally nobody. On top of that, this will hit businesses that lease properties very hard and that most certainly will make rent skyrocket and chase families out of this community thereby making the rest of us pay more. Also, with the dump closing, this number will likely triple. Every apartment building, mobile home park, rented house, etc. will have to jack rent to the hilt just to remain profitable or will be forced to sell IF that is even an option with such a massive bond in place. NO, NO, NO.

This would be a great plan, but it is too expensive financially for the next 30 years.

Too high in this economy.

Too high.

Too much money for somebody who doesn't have excess or discretionary income.

Too much money.

Too much money. See prior response.

Too much tax increase.

Too much.

Unaffordable

Unsure we can afford additional taxes.

Way too much money. No way.

We are at retirement age and not sure if this amount would fit in our budget.

We are retired and on a fixed income. Why are only homeowners responsible?

We do not have a strong enough tax base. This will end up breaking our residents. Once we lose business taxes (which we may lose in the next few years), this cost goes to the residents.

We can't afford that. As much as I'd love to see a new school, it's unaffordable! Sadly, it may be time to start thinking about the future and where our kids will be attending school because Mason may need to close its doors. We cannot keep taxing our community like this and think it will remain affordable.

While extremely valuable and important needs, the price is growing too steep for one family to pay an additional \$600+ for 30 years.

Disagree With The Plan

Do not approve plan.

I am unsure about having 7-12 in one school is the main thing.

I do not agree with this option.

Disagree With The Plan – Continued

I do not believe young kids should be in same school as older children.

I don't understand how you could fit those kids into 2 buildings. I have heard that the class sizes are already large, this doesn't seem like a good fix to me.

I don't like the two building option. I would prefer to build a new elementary and make the necessary upgrades to the other two buildings.

I don't think kids should be in the same school with such a wide range of ages. Leaves too much room for influence, more bullying, unsafe environments for smaller children, younger children to feel uncomfortable.

I don't think there is enough room in the schools.

I would vote yes but I don't think PK - 6 grade should be in same school as 7 through 12 graders. If PK through 6 is separate then yes, wasn't sure on that question.

I'm not sure how I feel about those grades being all in one building.

Not a fan of 7-12. I like the middle school but would love for lunch to be there.

Not an acceptable plan for the safety and welfare of the students!

Not sure I like the idea of 6th graders with Pre-K and 12th graders with 7th graders.

Not sure of the benefits of the reconfiguration.

Point 1 - I don't agree with the students being in just two buildings. It is a terrible idea to have such a big age range in each building. Point 2 - it is too much money.

Prefer 3 separate school levels.

The plan with improvements to the elementary is less than this plan to get rid of it and would still allow for the current divide of K-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

Need More Information

Again, not enough information. Again, need more information on what updates and priority needs exactly are being proposed per each building and the price change for each addition.

Planning for the future what is the pupil count year over year? Are there grants available through the state of Michigan that would cover certain updates or priority needs.

Again, transparency. Wording too vague. Bullet points with all repairs and where. You're asking for a 30-year commitment! We deserve to know where it's going! The most children are at Central. Make them your priority. The high school is in the best shape because it's always been a priority! Gym floors, pools, football fields, why? Oh that's what the community can see. But most of the kids in the community attend Central.

Central Elementary would be demolished? I need more information to approve of this plan.

Cost and need more detail to ensure this is best for the students.

I still feel I need more information than what has been provided. We need improvements and I would most likely vote for any of these but still want more information.

I would need more information on how this is being done. Some potential lay out options and what exactly the new configuration entails. Also, I would like to know where the students would be attending school while the project is taking place.

I'm not sure how I feel about having the middle and high school merge together into one building. I would need more information on that.

I'd have to see the logistics and layout. But the middle school definitely needs a cafeteria.

Just wondering about other options such as a new building. Why has it gotten this bad? Why haven't these things been addressed as they happened?

More info

More info needed.

Need More Information – Continued

Need more facts.

Need more info.

Need more information about how this will look.

Need more information to be sent to taxpayers for review.

Need more information to make decisions.

Need more information.

Need to do more research.

Need to read more and ensure the administration handles the funds appropriately.

Not enough details about building a new school.

Not enough transparency on any other future needs. Will the school need more money for more updates in the next 5-10 years? Some building plans for the expansion option? Which option is the best bang for the buck? Can we get a cost breakdown for each "job"? I need some justification as to why the most expensive option would also be the best option.

Option 4 seems to be more realistic than 3 but I would like more information on this. How much money would be saved annually doing this upgrade? I would assume that you would save on the operating budget for the school but none of those figures are being shown. We need a lot more information on all of these.

Same as before. This seems like too high of a tax hike, and I would need to do my research first. This is the closest to rebuilding and revamping. But one question: if the high school will house 7 - 12, and the middle school PreK - 6, what are the plans with the elementary? Is it being sold and if so, wouldn't that help pay for some of the work being done?

Would need to understand costs by line item.

Miscellaneous

Same (2 respondents)

Same as before. (2 respondents)

See prior. (2 respondents)

30 years!?

Again, no growth in the district.

Again, no one wants this.

As previously stated.

Enrollment is low.

Have the state approve a grant to the school to add a kitchen and cafeteria due to safety concerns with children walking to the high school for lunch.

I have given my reasons already.

If the economy changes and prices are reduced elsewhere then it wouldn't be an issue.

It would help if the mills were split between summer and winter taxes.

It's an older building, we will have to go through this again if the numbers ever increase.

Moving south is sounding like a good idea for sure.

N/A

No

No comment.

Not a homeowner.

Not sure I fully understand.

Once again, I am not unsure about voting. My vote is a NO. I will absolutely NOT support this.

Redundant

Miscellaneous – Continued

Same as above options.

Same as previous response.

Same as previous.

Same reason as other options.

See previous comments.

See previous remarks.

Semi-retired.

So the last attempt at this thing would have cost \$36 million. Now we're at \$30 million and using most of the old school that is almost maxed out on its so called life. This one is going to be difficult. But same as option 1.

Stated in last box.

Tear down and build new schools.

There are less than 32 school age children who reside outside of the subsidized housing complex in Luna Pier. Those families in subsidy are statistically transitional. This plan does not have the current or future enrollment numbers to justify the plans as written.

These plans are more than what is needed and minimal to no effort was put into other options that would not be on the backs of residents for 30 years. When will leaders understand this tax base cannot support uncapped bonds for 30 years?

This is the same joke presented to us last time. Listen to your voters. Did no one take notes?

This will be my kid's senior year. I don't want their education disrupted with building construction.

Too long.

Too many years.

Uncapped tax bonds are a high risk and completely insolvent for our tax base. Proposing them at all, let alone for decades, is a ridiculous ask. Tax values increase EVERY year or significantly when you sell or open a building permit/make any change to your house to improve the value. This will be the amount people pay for year one, but next year and every year, just like your taxable value, it will go up every year. Also the rate will maybe remain 2.0 mills for the first year but will also change every year in flux with the tax base - keep in mind that for all the businesses/people that move out or do not pay their taxes, the millage will raise for the state to capture the full payment due every year and what happens when a business like the dump closes in a few years which is a significant part of the tax base? The answer is this millage rate will rise significantly and be spread to the remaining residents to cover in full. The school cannot be trusted with large sums of money as they have already proven, and state bonds are terrible for communities. This is nearly as much as the last bond which was one of the highest asks by comparison of the smallest of resident tax bases.

Unfeasible for district residents.

Unsure at this time.

Wow

You should have put money into the elementary and not just the high school.

Potential Reasons Votes Could Change

Question: Mason Consolidated Schools is considering putting this bond request on the ballot in May 2025. Is there any reason how you vote on this bond request in May 2025 could change from how you answered this survey today?

Respondents who answered that they did think how they would vote in May 2025 could change were asked why. The following responses were provided:

Need More Information

At this point I am in support, but I have not yet discussed or processed the need and the proposal with others who have further information and details. Also, need to see where we are financially at that time and whether we can afford the increase in our taxes.

Details for why the board created a couple of the proposals might help me to determine pros and cons.

Full transparent Information. The district should apply for any and all grants that would cover what they are proposing putting on the bond prior to bond being voted for. If the bond is paying for these updates, does the Board of Education have a plan in place so they will not have to come back to the taxpayers in 10 -15 years when these updates need replaced or repaired? Are they able to put aside 1%- 2% of their budget in a maintenance fund? Are they putting their funds in accounts that would allow them to make money on their funds? Financial responsibility is the most important aspect of this and so far the school board for the last ten years has done a poor job.

Further details on the work to be completed/not completed, plus the economic outlook in the near future may sway my vote on if it is feasible for my family financially.

Having a more thorough paper sent in the mail to break down all four options. Along with option four and answering the question, what will happen to the elementary?

I have time to research the issue more.

I need more information on what each plan would entail (specific details on what upgrades are needed and how this will improve the schools). If the upgrades are only a band-aid and not a solution, I'd rather go with the option that will be a long-term solution, even if it's the more expensive option (because in the long run, it will be more cost effective).

I need more information.

I need more of a detailed plan, especially the fate of Central Elementary and how would new additions/facilities be utilized.

I would definitely want to see the layouts of the buildings to understand how the new flow would work. I would also vote yes for a brand new school if that became an option.

I would like to have a clearer decision as to which plan the school is going to pass.

I would need more details, cost estimates, etc.

If I had more detailed information about the selection options.

Just better understanding of bills and actual monetary cost.

Make it more transparent. Tell people exactly what they're paying for. You know Central houses the most kids and you waited to add improvements to that school mainly in the 3rd proposal. That's where you want the most votes. So, for now until necessary improvements are balanced and listed more concretely I'm a no.

More details about reconfiguring the middle school and what will happen to Central?

More facts.

Need More Information – Continued

More information and details of what is to be done.

More information being provided.

More information provided could be helpful. Also, talk to the people who turned it down on the first attempt. Talk to the farmers/large landowners and lay it out very clearly to them.

Don't leave any room for assumptions.

More information.

Need more specific info to review and want improvements to start sooner than later.

Presentation of necessity and guarantee bond funds would be spent as presented.

We would have to be educated on how the school system plans to: 1. Address and protect the students, teachers, and staff from any active shooter situation 2. You would have to relate to us the specific academic improvement which will result from each improvement of your facilities, services, etc. 3. We would need to see the results of this survey in very simple terms; what do the taxpayers of our district think, want, and expect? 4. We would suggest a few "community fire side chats" with the Superintendent, board, Principals, and a few teachers in attendance to present the plans and answer questions.

With more information I would make the best choice for the community and my family. The schools need improvements, but I want to see more of the plan to know what one would be best.

Miscellaneous

Anything is possible when voting.

Adding more items to the wish list.

Come up with new plan that doesn't ask the community to pay for it for so many years.

Depending on any more scandals or unprofessionalism from the district.

Everything hinges on the presidential election.

Grants, state assistance, anything.

I would change to vote for an option where there are new buildings completely.

If all my concerns are met and I feel like the school district will follow through with the plan as laid out, then yes I would feel more comfortable.

If cost of living decreases, that would be helpful. Also, it would be helpful if the school was mindful of how often they ask for money. I don't want my kids to miss out, but the amount we pay for sports, towards making raffle baskets, providing team dinners, fundraisers, etc. all adds up.

If I decide to not move south or if I win the lottery - whichever comes first.

If numbers or requirements change.

If the actual cost rises. If my home is revalued much higher for some reason. If anyone in my household loses their job.

If the plan the school chooses to go with covers necessities only I will support what I said I would.

If they consolidate several plans into one, I may not support that if it isn't reasonable.

If they change the bond to tearing down and rebuilding the schools.

If we haven't gone after all state grant money first I won't vote for the any of these options, so the community needs to be addressed. I will vote to make schools better all the time because our future is with our younger generation, but we need to do a better job keeping up on maintenance, so it doesn't become overwhelming.

It's always about the money, sadly.

Possibly other options, the increase is too steep.

Miscellaneous - Continued

Put pressure on the townships to allow large scale solar to fund all.

Reprioritization

Why are we not building a school to accommodate PK-5 and then a Jr. high/high school?

You could start by employing tax paying, voting residents instead of hiring people that don't live or vote here.

You need to help pay for some of this. Don't just dump it on us.

Other Comments

Question: Please list any other comments you would like to share about Mason Consolidated Schools:

Respondents were given the opportunity to share additional comments about Mason Consolidated Schools. The following responses were provided:

Concerns About District Leadership

I agree with option 3 but do not think it is as important to do a new playground for the elementary school. There are other major issues with the school that need to be addressed before a new playground is put in. The community of Mason Consolidated Schools is strong. I believe that if the Board of Education works with the community, accepts the community's input, works alongside the community, and truly listens to what the community has to say and offer, this bond should be smooth sailing. For far too long the Board of Education/Mason Schools and the public have not seen eye to eye. I believe this is due to the lack of communication to the public and the public does not feel heard. There are many giving people within this community that can make this bond happen and provide a great learning environment for our kids. The school needs to be open to the public's input and accepts suggestions and constructive criticism to make this happen. The public needs to feel heard. At this time, the public does not feel heard.

I have always liked Mason schools, and it is a shame that the boards have not accomplished more than they did. The window replacements were a beautifying and very nice addition - 20 years ago! Since then it's been band-aids and duct tape. I feel bad for the chaos it is in now.

[Redacted] is why you have had to replace a quarter of your staff. Conflicts of interest between relations with administration and central office staff is cronyism and is evidence of why faith has been lost in the community.

Teacher retention should also be considered. The turnover there at Mason is far too high. We had amazing teachers for many years and we're very proud of those teachers. Many of them are now gone or considering leaving. Something needs to be done about this. Look at your administration and ask why you are losing such good teachers.

We cannot trust this school or the board. The endless stream of lies that came out during the last bond scam tells me that I should never support this school financially ever again. The wasteful spending over the years has proven that people with zero financial or corporate backgrounds can't handle our money.

What HAVE we been doing that led us here? These are our only options? Seems like someone needs to address the ones making decisions.

Concerns About District Leadership – Continued

You cannot saddle and destroy this community with another bond request. It is not our fault that the school has had poor leadership and has failed to maintain its facilities and/or keep the trust of this community. I feel that the best scenario here would be to fix the absolute bare minimum items as efficiently as possible and slowly let this school phase out. With school of choice, all of the homeschool options in place and many other schools within a reasonable distance, I'm not sure that we even need this school in the future. The dump is closing and we're losing a small fortune in tax revenue there, which will make any bond an extremely heavy lift for 30 years, which is awful for this community and again, will do nothing but drive people out and it won't matter if there is a school or not. Other methodologies should be investigated like state and federal grants, fundraising, and better leadership to spend our money more wisely. I feel that this bond is an absolute pipedream of a few lost souls, and they desire to burden this entire community for the benefit of very few. I don't have all of the answers by any means, but this school has proven to waste our money and has lost all trust with a majority of this community. And with some of the numbers I just read, continues to try to burden this community due to horrible leadership.

Cost/Economy

Appreciate the frustration of trying to make improvements whilst dealing with high inflation causing this to cost more and more each year. It's terrible that monies that were supposed to be allocated to our schools (ex. lottery) aren't.

I am only one voter. Praying others can substantially help support the projected plans financially. Realistically, the escalation of overall taxes and the constantly increasing cost of living concerns are very reasonable and legitimate reasons for many voter's hesitations to vote a committed yes. Even though many understand and want to genuinely help, for many people, voting a committed yes comes down to paying a monthly utility bill or buying groceries, before helping with a school millage for even much needed updates/repairs. Praying.

I appreciate the schools putting together this survey. I believe everyone in this school district recognizes the need to upgrade the school buildings, however, the reality of our economy may cause even the supports to reject a bond. Whatever the outcome of the proposal is, I expect the school district to put together a comprehensive maintenance plan and follow through with it.

I understand the need for improvement, but 30 years is a long time to expect a resident to pay \$200-475 a year on \$100,000 taxable value. 30 years.

I want to vote yes right away on the biggest, most expensive, most beautiful facilities. I love this school. I am solely worried about the cost long-term and about declining enrollment rates; birth rates statistically across the world have declined, and in our area it seems like it will only continue to decline, leaving us with sparkling facilities and no students to keep it running.

In hindsight, the needs of the school should have been addressed in a more timely manner. I would vote for the first plan to address immediate needs. And I would love to see all the updates from all the plans, but the cost is too great. Some of these issues have been needed to be fixed for decades. The costs have doubled in the last 4 years and now we want to fix everything? Let's take care of priority items.

Cost/Economy – Continued

Need a new plan that won't be a financial burden, that people can afford in this economy, and it doesn't last 30 years because who knows what's gonna happen in 30 years to the school.

Need to knock down the cost somehow. Maybe an alumni donation program. I know not likely, but I find it hard to believe people will commit to 30 years of this added tax.

Taxes are already too high!

The entire township understands that there are needs to keep our school running but it seems as if the economic makeup of the community isn't really being looked at. Having a 30-40% increase in taxes seems to be ridiculous when we are talking about a low income/farm community.

The only chance to upgrade the school's infrastructure would be to put this tax burden on the developers. The businesses have done their part and there are very few of them. All businesses, as well as homeowners, are not able to do what they have in the past. Inflation and interest rate ramifications will be long-term and digs into everyone's pocketbook. With the fewer homeowners in the future, this will have a major impact on funding. There is no better option to pay for these and future improvements for our community than large scale solar.

The price of the improvements is clearly over charged. Ask anyone with common sense.

The school just continues to make ridiculously poor decisions. No one can afford the pipe dreams here.

You are asking for 30-year commitments, too much for this community. There are a lot of middle to elderly who can't commit.

Facilities Need Updated

A/C needs added.

All my kids graduated from Mason, I myself went to Mason, all 11 of my grandkids graduated or currently go to Mason [Redacted]. I love our lil school, but it needs so much work. I hope this bill passes so our kids can be proud of Mason and our lil school.

Great complex, just fix/upgrade where appropriate. Don't ask for a blank check.

Great school with a lot of potential but a lot of work needs to be done.

Great school, buildings are in severe need of updates.

Have the state grant as much money as they can give to do the repairs and goals the school needs. Kitchen and cafeteria in the middle school should be prioritized in my opinion as it is a safety concern.

Hope we can come up with a solution to maintain Mason Consolidated Schools. Hope to have open communication with school and community.

I believe option 4 would be the best option of all. The elementary needs to have individual rooms instead of the current set up where they have to walk through other rooms during the school day.

I believe the students should have a safe environment. I know the need is there to replace and repair. Knowing the funds are going ONLY to the issues that were voted on.

I have no problem putting money into the school. I volunteer frequently and coach at the school. I see the upgrades that are needed. I feel that the last millage did not pass because the public (those who don't visit the school) had no idea how bad the school needs are.

I prefer the last option. Putting band-aids on the elementary is wasteful. One less building to heat, etc. would be more fiscally responsible. That being said, SOMETHING needs to be done. Therefore, I would vote yes for any improvements.

Facilities Need Updated – Continued

I strongly believe that we need the majority of these improvements. My son is the third generation in my family to attend Mason and we love the school and small community. The school is severely lacking in structure and even technology at this point. We need some major improvements. That being said I would like there to be more information sent out about what these projected changes would look like, not just how much they cost us. I know we are a community that has a very large number of poverty level families so I'm not sure how this is all going to go, but I am hoping for the best!

I think most importantly, Mason Central Elementary needs the most love and support. Focus on making the updates there first. They need new plumbing and working toilets. They need acceptable drinking water. They need pest control for the mice in the classrooms. Nothing is being taken seriously/taken care of at the most important building for our students. It's quite embarrassing. Other school districts keep up with their schools and give them TLC always. It's quite unacceptable how bad the school has gotten.

I was a student many years ago and have witnessed the deterioration of the facilities. I am very willing to pay for improvements.

I would love to see the schools updated in a significant way.

Mason Consolidated Schools is a very good district. My kids have learned so much at this school district and I can tell a difference since they moved here. But the amount of money that is being asked is very high. But, with that being said, the schools do need the repairs. The federal and state governments should be doing better for the American people to make these things possible.

Mason needs the support of the community to ensure our students are safe and are able to learn in a safe environment that is conducive to learning, where our students are not afraid to go to school, where our elementary students' classrooms are not connected together, and where our middle school students do not have to walk across the campus for lunch. Please make our school safe for our students!

My children will be going to Mason in the future. I hope that the needed upgrades are implemented to ensure an effective and efficient learning environment for all students.

Our students and teachers deserve a safe learning environment that's free of mold, asbestos, and mice. Supporting that, you will always get a yes to pass a bond from me.

Pay attention to ALL students. Start fixing things that should have been easily fixed long ago.

Please upgrade our schools for your kids and your kids' kids.

School needs improvements. Without this our property value would go down.

The buildings are in major need of repair, especially Central.

The school needs the upkeep, and we need to do our part.

The schools are old and need many improvements. Hopefully people will see the need.

The schools have been patched together long enough. It's time for a major upgrade.

We are new to the area with children in the elementary school. They love the school, so that's a huge plus. We came for open house, and yes, the building is in need of some TLC for sure. I am not a homeowner at this point, so the bond on the ballot doesn't affect me personally.

We definitely need all these upgrades as soon as possible.

We love this district, and the schools have been great for our kids, but the buildings do need improvement.

We need to improve our school facilities.

Facilities Need Updated – Continued

We no longer have kids in Mason but will continue to vote to support the schools. I am aware of the terrible condition of our buildings, due to age and not neglect.

Whatever option is chosen, updates and upgrades must be made to school facilities asap. Our students should be our priority. And we as parents and grandparents are willing to help.

Need More Information

I would like a meeting with this information given out with more detail and drawings of the said enhancements.

I understand the cost saving of having just two buildings. But I'm not a fan of 7-12. The breakdown of annual taxing helps with future cost. The schools are in need of upgrades. I would make sure that this also goes out to public in the area on how exactly this breaks down tax wise and share information on as to why the upgrades are needed.

I would like to know why we can't get some help from the state to help the district make the improvements it needs to make without putting the entire burden on district residents.

I would like to see a community night to address and inform members of the district on exactly what needs repaired. We need more information.

I would love to have a meeting about this where questions could be asked.

I would love to hear a detailed priority list with reasons why. Top to bottom.

Just wondering with option 4, what happens to the elementary? Torn down? Or repurposed?

More information about the conditions should be shared with the community.

Possibly include an explanation of exactly what "mills" is. I'm really happy you are starting with this survey and getting feedback from the community first. Hopefully you can find a way to show the community the needs, so they really understand them. I also think it would be helpful if a script or advice/pointers to explain mills and or the steps was available for people who are speaking to their friends and neighbors that are negative or don't understand. I REALLY hope this helps and we get desperately needed funding! Also, can you add a share to social media option on the website link to this survey?

The community at large would like reassurances our school can sustain in function and use for our local children. If these millages do not go through, the community needs to know what the future for Mason could/would be. Does it mean more school of choice transfers out? Does it mean the campus closes permanently? What is the fate of our schools regarding these needs and improvements?

To pass this millage, there should be a lot of publicity, community outreach, a question and answer meeting for the community, and literature available to all residents on plans.

We like the concept of a single district on one campus. It makes sense. We are not fully aware of where our district ranks among state averages regarding academic standings. We suspect we are average or below. We would like to understand how increased funding will improve the academic state of our district

Would like more info.

New School Should Be Built

Find a way to build a new school.

How much more would it be to build new schools for our district?

It seems we could tear down all the buildings and start fresh for 12 million dollars!

New School Should Be Built – Continued

My opinion is all three schools should be torn down and new ones built. Do them in stages. But I don't think you could get the money from the community. Not even sure we would be able to put the additional tax increase in our budget.

Our children deserve the best. I know our community is not always behind that, but I believe we should always have that option open to build new. If presented correctly maybe the community would come around.

Personally, I feel we need new schools instead of keeping on patching the old. Eventually a new school will be needed and the longer we wait the more expensive it will get.

Please get rid of the outdated building and build new schools!

Praise for Mason Consolidated Schools

Great school, my daughter graduated in 2023.

I appreciate the new leadership in place. The current board, superintendent, and administration are very transparent. I respect the educational improvements that have been made and continue to be made. I appreciate that I can contact administrators with questions and get answers.

I commend Mason teachers and administration on how they make the most of their resources to provide the students with the best education possible.

I graduated from Mason as did my husband, our children, and now grandchildren. I would like to see the Mason pride we all feel.

I love Mason Consolidated Schools. I feel it gave me a good education. I thank the teachers first and foremost. We have good teachers. I am grateful. I feel the problem all public schools, cities, townships, and villages are suffering from right now is political. Poor choices over the last forty years that have slowly bled the money away from the average American and have directed it to the few who think they deserve it more than the rest of us. But a new age is coming thankfully just in the nick of time.

I love this community and the people in it and the school. Sure wish I could be more help.

Keep up the good work.

Mason Schools are wonderful and are worth every penny needed to accomplish an improved school system. Our youth are our future residents and leaders of our community. They deserve to have a safe, accommodating environment and the best resources at their disposal.

Teachers and staff are great.

The staff are great at Mason. Thank you.

Miscellaneous

N/A (3 respondents)

As stated, I am more than willing and happy to invest in the future of our community but do it right.

Be open and reasonable in the request.

Do whatever needs to be done.

Don't trust them with how money was spent in the past.

How about you pay a bit more attention to un-needed expenditures and less attention to high school football.

Miscellaneous – Continued

How much are all these consultants, assessment, communications, the survey, the cost of the special election you have to pay for? Year after year you misspend money. When you get money, you spend it every other way than what you promised, and no one trusts you anymore. Figure it out like everyone else has to and do better with your budget and spending.

I am happy to support the schools financially, but it would be important to me that the whole process from start to end was transparent.

I feel that as a small district, with a small business revenue, we should look into creative options to better the schools for our children. Ida Public Schools is in the same situation. We should look into combining the schools and building a new school in a middle area for the two districts. The new school could be PK-6 or 7-12. The other 1/2 of students could go to the next most new building out of all Ida and Masons campus. You would get money from Ida and Erie taxpayers and would not need to increase the building plans sizes much.

I hope all of these improvements will pass. However, being in the area and observing the community of parents and students in this district, this is a very uphill battle.

I vote yes for every bond and millage. Maybe before the next one we can get parent volunteers to canvas.

I would love to see this school improved greatly, however, given the number of low income housing in our district and very little tax income from business, along with being charged for 30 years, I see this as almost an impossible battle to win. Have other options been considered? Ida Public School district is also looking for improvements. With Mason's shrinking enrollment and lack of financial needs, has merging the two districts ever been considered? I would suggest building a new combined high school somewhere centered between Ida and Erie. The younger grades could still stay separate and move into the current high school building. Tax revenue would be greatly expanded and could share resources with Ida.

I would support this bond. I personally like the last one the best.

If these go through, I hope the money is used for what it was intended for and not a new gym floor, lockers, or the football team.

It is a shame that it has taken so long for our community to vote yes on improving our schools.

It was good enough for me when I went there, it's fine now.

Listen to the people in your district for once.

Mason does not get my support.

More straight up lies and intentionally misleading messaging. You're absolutely coming for a bond not "considering" it. This and many other reasons is why the entire community doesn't trust leadership or abilities here.

My children graduated 20+ years ago. I am no longer in the schools. Why has it taken so long to address the issues to residents without children in the building? Education and safety should be top priority for our students. I appreciate this survey and will reach out for additional detail.

Need to improve communication.

Not at this time.

Option 4 would be the best option for our kids.

Our youngest graduated in 2008 so I am out of touch with the schools at this stage of my life.

Miscellaneous – Continued

- Overall, I would support school improvements. Just want to spend money on things that will last. Don't invest in something that you will tear down in the near future. The schools should be safe and conducive to learning in our ever challenging environment and world.*
- People in our district who do not have students at Mason seem to vote against these mills. I highly recommend marketing this as vital fundraising to ensure the future of our community in Erie, La Salle, and Luna Pier. Our students grow into adults who make decisions and pay taxes, and they deserve to go to school in a safe and welcome environment with up to date features and modern opportunities.*
- Please put it on the ballot as soon as possible. Special election. The last option is ideal, and I don't know why it wasn't built this way originally with PK-6 and 7-12. Two buildings.*
- Please quit putting money into just one school, spread the wealth and put more money into the middle and elementary school.*
- Provides a quality education. I hope there are avenues that can be explored further for government assistance from the state. There must be options available since most of these renovations are for safety reasons.*
- Run city sewer to the school and Maplewood to improve drainage and remove the old system from the school property.*
- Same as previous.*
- School needs to listen to the public and communicate with the public. There is a lack of trust within the community and school.*
- See prior.*
- The election could be a deciding factor.*
- The kitchen/lunchroom combo could also serve as an auxiliary gym, which gives the school an additional space for events/practices. It could mirror the gym at St. Joe's which is a multi-use facility. It's desperately needed and is one of the least expensive upgrades the school could build. Basically a metal building with an attached kitchen space.*
- The Monroe ISD needs to create a plan that addresses low enrollment (now and projected). The Mason Consolidated Schools are not meeting the Trauma Informed Care requirements from the State Department of Education. This responsibility falls with the ISD. There is no discussion on merging buildings (modern concept based on reality of enrollment numbers). There is no mention of renovating space. This plan is a money grab from my perspective as a Luna Pier resident.*
- The surrounding communities serviced by Mason do not need to raise taxes if they simple approve state acceptable CREOS for clean energy projects! Be better! This land belongs to landowners who should be able to exercise these options which would bring money into the local area for YOUR schools' needs! Stop forcing people to spend money for projects unless the administration themselves are willing to take pay cuts!*
- This survey conveyed the needs of the school system extremely well.*
- Until the district starts to get things right by not indoctrinating the students, I might feel like investing again.*
- Whatever happened to talking to the community about this? I think your time and money would have been better spent asking what we actually want and would be okay with rather than paying for someone else's opinion.*

Miscellaneous - Continued

You are not "considering" putting this bond vote on a May 2025 ballot, you are absolutely moving forward with this so please stop intentionally trying to mislead and misinform the taxpayers of this community. You have secured consultant contracts whose sole purpose is to "win bonds" which you are using tax dollars to pay for, you have RFP's out, you have invested significant time, labor, and costs into getting the numbers in this survey together, you have openly communicated that you want this bond, and you want another bond for a new building in the future. You are using taxpayer dollars to hold a costly non-primary elections because the people are less aware of such events, and they yield lower voter turnout and awareness. You are more than just "considering" putting this on a special election ballot, just like you cannot ever say what the costs and rates will be over the course of 30 years for an uncapped state bond. Please stop misleading the residents and taxpayers. Your volumes and scores are the lowest in decades. You do not need more space. You need to do your job and manage the facilities you have with the funding you receive. Those buildings are better than anything you will build today.