

PROPOSED \$19 MILLION BOND WOULD BECOME \$28 MILLION IN GENERATIONAL DEBT (25 YEARS)

School Proposal for Expansion of Hollis Primary School

The enrollment committee originally identified 3 classrooms as the initial space need - Evolved into a 39% building expansion financed through \$28.2 Million of generational debt.

Major additions:

- 5,500 sq ft new gym • expanded cafeteria • expanded library • kitchen relocation

The cost represents principal and interests payments only. NO future operational costs.

Concerns if this bond passes:

- It authorizes the large building expansion described above.
- The schools will borrow \$19.4 million dollars.
- Total repayment with interest estimated to be **\$28.2 million dollars over 25 years.**
- Permanent operational and maintenance cost increases.
- Large tax spike after years of accelerating tax growth.

Potential lower cost options were not fully priced or pursued with necessary engineering:

1. Use of Farley building
2. Relocation of 3rd grade to the Hollis Upper Elementary School
3. Smaller upgrade to add necessary classrooms only

School borrowing does not occur in isolation:

The Town also faces capital and budget pressures including potential facility upgrades for fire and police stations.

The average tax bill has risen approximately 34% over the last 3 years, and if the bond is approved the 4-year increase would approach about 41%.

What This Means for the Hollis School District taxes on a \$750,000 Home:

- Actual 2025 Taxes: (HSD PH Presentation SL 35)
- Tax Rate $\$18.90 \times 750 = \$14,175$

Projected 2026 Taxes with Bond cost - Year one partial Bond payment:

- Tax Rate $\$20.42 \times 750 = \$15,315$
Annual Tax Percent Increase : + 8.0%
Annual Tax Amount Increase: + \$1,140

Hollis Schools are a vital part of our community. It is best to find a solution to provide high quality education to our students balanced with fiscal responsibility for our taxpayers. Accomplishing this with a proposal that meets the needs for classroom space in a cost effective way is necessary to balance rising taxes against present school facility needs.

**You Can Support Our Schools and Still Vote NO on the Bond.
This Plan is NOT Sustainable.**

**Please vote at the Annual Hollis School District Meeting on
Tuesday, March 17th @ 7PM at the Hollis-Brookline High
School Gym: 24 Cavalier Ct. in Hollis.**

~The Bond Article is the 1st article on the warrant~