



RAMS

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ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOND PROPOSAL 2025

VOTE BY
NOV. 4

Looking to the future of Rockford Public Schools, our community will vote on a bond proposal on the November 4, 2025, election ballot. This proposal would authorize the district to borrow \$230 million for district-wide improvements, with an estimated **zero mill increase** over the 2025 debt millage. The bond proposal furthers RAMS XII, our strategic plan, with pillars focused on: Building for the Future and Advancing Excellence.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Providing safe and functional spaces that support and enhance educational programs.

- **Add air conditioning** – all remaining schools
- **Improve safety and security** – electronic door locks for all classrooms
- **Enhance entry circulation and safety** – improve students' experience and strengthen security at Rockford HS and East Rockford MS
- **Gym or cafeteria additions** – all remaining elementary schools would have separate gym and cafeteria spaces
- **Update aging infrastructure** – mechanical, electrical, plumbing, roofs, and outdated systems
- **Enhance outdoor facilities to improve community experience** – restrooms, seating, entry/exit
- **Update technology infrastructure**
- **Playground equipment upgrades** – all remaining schools
- **Replace aging buses** – maintain the replacement cycle to keep the fleet modern and safe

ADVANCING EXCELLENCE

- **Performing Arts Center renovation** – New seats, stage, walls, and interior improvements
- **Construction of the Ram Center** – indoor turf fieldhouse for athletics, fine arts, and community recreation. Classroom spaces for digital media, sports marketing, and business programming
- **Career exploration classrooms at Rockford HS** – Expanding hands-on learning through Robotics, Skilled Trades, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math), and Health Sciences
- **Enhance student experience** – Renovating student-centered collaboration spaces
- **Early childhood renovations** – Updating spaces to enhance programs for our youngest learners and enhance safety
- **Update educational technology**

ADDITIONAL DETAILS



PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

RAMS XII Strategic Plan

- **Rooted in community conversations** – involving hundreds of stakeholders, including students.
- **Prioritizing student readiness** – the bond proposal would further strategic pillars and priorities: Academic Excellence, Wellness and Preparedness, Social Responsibility and Community Engagement, Collaborative Culture, and Organizational Effectiveness.

Community Committee

- **Gathering community input** – a wide cross-section of community members formed a Community Input Committee with district staff. The Committee met five times to evaluate opportunities across the district, provide feedback, and make a recommendation to the Board of Education regarding facility improvements.

Ongoing Stakeholder Conversations

- **Validating input and alignment** – continual conversations to ensure a variety of ideas and voices were included in creating the proposal.

LEARN MORE INFORMATION

Voting Information

- **Polls are open** – Tuesday, November 4, 2025, from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM
- **Vote absentee** – ballots available as early as September 25
- **Find more voting information** – at michigan.gov/vote

Bond Proposal Information

- **For more details** – visit the District website at rockfordschools.org
- **If you have additional questions** – contact Dr. Steve Matthews, Superintendent, at (616) 863-6320
- This informational material is paid for by Rockford Public Schools, 350 N. Main St., Rockford, MI 49341



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

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