

## Just the Facts

- District 207 seeks to address its highest priority capital facility needs, including improvements to all three of its high schools: **Maine East, Maine West and Maine South.**



- The last time District 207 asked voters to approve a bond measure was in 1967—51 years ago.
- District 207 has been very proactive in addressing repairs and renovations. In fact, in just the past five years, \$33.6 million of funds were used to address building repairs and upgrades.
- District 207 has insufficient reserves to address all of the proposed improvements. The District seeks to retain enough reserves to address unforeseen emergency expenditures, eliminate the need for short-term borrowing to fund day-to-day operations, and protect the District's strong "Aaa" credit rating.
- There are many anticipated benefits of the proposed improvements, including:
  - Making your high schools safer and more secure
  - Extending the useful life of existing facilities
  - Reducing costly emergency repairs and improving energy efficiency
  - Improving accessibility for students, teachers, parents and visitors with disabilities

- Creating classrooms and labs that leverage instructional technology, promote collaboration and can adapt to existing and future teaching methods
- Improving student access to counselors and other support services
- Providing sufficient room and time for students to eat lunch
- Enhancing special education, Career and Technical Education, and fine arts programming
- Maintaining high-performing high schools that enhance property values

- The proposal calls for the District to borrow \$195 million through a voter-approved bond issue and allocate an additional \$45.7 million in reserves toward the improvements. District reserves would also be used to cover any cost overruns.
- The estimated annual tax impact of the proposed 20-year, \$195 million bond measure is \$91.02 per \$100,000 of a home's market value (as determined by the county assessor), or about \$7.59 per month. For a property owner with a \$300,000 home, the annual tax impact is estimated to be \$273.06.
- All spending from a voter-approved bond measure would be publicly disclosed and project updates would be presented at community information meetings as well as on District 207's website.
- A detailed summary of proposed improvements at each school is presented on the backside of this Fact Sheet.



## There are certain improvements that are **COMMON** across all three high schools:

- Improve safety and security by constructing new front entrances with secure vestibules to prevent visitors from entering the buildings before being cleared by school personnel.
- Install new fire suppression systems.
- Replace outdated plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems to extend the useful life of the existing buildings, reduce costly emergency repairs and improve energy efficiency.
- Update classrooms and labs to create flexible learning spaces that leverage instructional technology, enhance current teaching methods and promote collaboration.
- Right size and relocate special education spaces to better meet the needs of students.
- Relocate the offices of counselors, deans, psychologists and other support personnel into one area at each school. This will enhance student access to these important services while also maintaining student privacy/confidentiality.
- Expand undersized fine arts spaces.
- Create flexible learning spaces for students to study individually and in small groups.
- Improve the Library Media Centers to increase functionality and access by all students and staff.
- Increase pool depth to comply with current codes and regulations, and renovate pool locker rooms.
- Add and expand tutoring space.

## Then there are improvements that are **SPECIFIC** to each individual school:

### MAINE EAST HIGH SCHOOL

- Add an elevator to the East section of the building to provide access to the second floor athletic areas.
- Provide a first-floor, handicapped-accessible hallway connecting west wing of the school to center court, improving students' traffic flow and access throughout.
- Update dining and food service areas to ease congestion, as well as replace 50-year-old equipment.
- Relocate cardio and weight room equipment from access hallways to a more accessible and safe location.
- Relocate the outdated locker rooms to be adjacent to the fieldhouse.
- Update restrooms.
- Relocate dance program to more appropriately sized space.
- Repurpose the old pool for an all-district Entrepreneurial/Professional Development Center.

### MAINE WEST HIGH SCHOOL

- Eliminate the need for students to walk outside to access Career Technology Department from the main building.
- Update restrooms and locker rooms.
- Construct a new fieldhouse to consolidate athletics/physical education space in one location. This will allow greater resource sharing and an ability to secure the rest of the building during after-hours events.
- Add a commercial foods lab.
- Expand dining to the lower level and provide a more efficient connection to student services and support programs.
- Update food service areas to ease congestion, as well as replace 50-year-old equipment.

### MAINE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

- Eliminate the need for students to walk outside to access the A-wing of the school, improving safety and security.
- Consolidate the cardio and weight areas.
- Create a dedicated space for gymnastics equipment to free up space in the fieldhouse.
- Add competition basketball courts to the fieldhouse to address athletic programming needs.
- Add business presentation rooms for Career and Technical Education.
- Provide new performing arts storage to free up space in existing rehearsal rooms for performers.
- Relocate and expand dining area and renovate food service area to ease congestion, as well as replace 50-year-old equipment.
- Renovate locker rooms.

