



Armada Area Schools Election Information

When is the election?

The election will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Absentee ballots will be available after March 23, 2023 and can be cast through Election Day.

What is on the ballot?

There will be two proposals on the ballot. The first proposal is a \$26.5 million no tax-rate increase bond proposal designed to improve safety and update and renovate schools and educational facilities across the school district.

The second proposal seeks voter approval to re-establish a sinking fund to support small-scale, ongoing maintenance projects throughout the school district.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MAY 2 NO TAX-RATE INCREASE BOND PROPOSAL

What are the major areas the bond will address?

Updates and improvements will be completed at all school facilities. Projects fall into four major categories:

- **Safety improvements**

Replacing door entry systems, re-keying doors, adding emergency generators, and creating secure entries.

- **Interior improvements to support the learning environment**

Updating HVAC systems (unit vents and temperature controls), updating bathrooms, replacing furniture, replacing select doors, replacing clock systems, updating lighting, and renovating locker rooms.

- **Exterior improvements to the facilities**

Repaving parking lots and bus loops, improving site drainage, replacing select exterior doors, and replacing select roofing.

- **Site work/Athletic improvements**

Renovating the athletic building to add concessions and bathrooms, adding press boxes at the varsity baseball field and stadium, resurfacing the track, adding synthetic turf, creating a practice field for the Marching Band, and installing a scoreboard at the JV softball field.

How were the bond proposal projects identified?

As part of the Armada Area Schools' strategic plan, school administrators worked with architectural and construction management specialists to identify short- and long-term facility needs. The list of projects was prioritized, and the final list was developed.

Will the bond provide for the installation of secure entrances at all schools?

In 2015, secure entrances were created at Krause Elementary School and Armada Middle School. The May 2nd bond proposal will provide secure entrances at Armada High School and the Academy.

Can any of the bond proposal funds be used for employee salaries or operating expenses?

No. Bond proposal funds cannot be used for employee salaries. They also cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses. Bond proposal funds must be used only for purposes specified in the ballot language, and as required by state law, they must be independently audited.



Vote May 2nd

How can approval of the bond proposal not raise the current tax rate?

Armada Area Schools will extend the current tax rate for the entirety of the bond. Hence, there will not be any tax-rate increase to complete the projects.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MAY 2ND SINKING FUND PROPOSAL

What is a sinking fund?

A sinking fund is a pay-as-you-go method of funding upgrades and repairs to schools and school facilities.

The school district already has a sinking fund. Why isn't the sinking fund proposal a renewal?

Residents first approved the sinking fund in 2004 and renewed it in 2014. At that time, sinking funds could only be used to purchase real estate for sites and to construct or repair school buildings.

In 2016 the law changed, and now sinking funds can be used for the purchase of school property sites, the construction or repair of school buildings, school security improvements, and the acquisition or upgrading of technology. Due to the change in the law, the Armada Area Schools must ask voters to approve the sinking fund with language that includes the allowable expense areas.

Even though the sinking fund ballot language calls for a .85 mill increase, it is the same amount that residents now pay. The length of the sinking fund proposal is ten years.

NO CHANGE IN THE TAX RATE. NONE!

Information about voting...

Who can vote in the May 2nd election?

Residents of Armada Area Schools who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day and are registered to vote can vote in this election.

Where can I get information about voting (such as how to register, where to vote, and absentee voting)?

Go to the Michigan Voter Information website (www.michigan.gov/vote) or call your local Clerk's Office.

Where can I get more information about the bond and sinking fund proposals?

- Go to www.armadaschools.org and click on *School Election Information*
- Call any Armada Area Schools Principal
- Contact Superintendent of Schools Michael Musary at (586) 784-2112 or email him at mmusary@armadaschools.org.

Please take a few minutes to tell us what you think about the Armada Area Schools' bond and sinking fund proposals.

Scan the QR code or go to www.research.net/r/ArmadaAreaSchools to take a brief survey.



Vote May 2nd

No Tax-rate Increase Bond Proposal • Sinking Fund

Paid for by Armada Area Schools • 74500 Burk Street Armada, MI 48005