

FOCUS

A Publication of Fruitport Community Schools



**2025
BOND
PROPOSAL**

VOTE

on or before

NOV 4

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Board Calls November 4, 2025 Election

The District and Board of Education appreciate being part of a community that values education and actively participates in shaping the future of our schools. Thank you to all of those who participated in the May 6, 2025 election. While the bond proposal was narrowly defeated—1,876 yes votes to 1,951 no votes—your feedback has played an important role in informing the next steps.

Following the election, the Board of Education carefully reviewed input from the community. 761 community members responded to the District's community survey. Those results are shared on the District's bond website. At a special meeting on July 10, 2025, the Board of Education approved placing a revised bond proposal on the November 4, 2025 ballot.

This newsletter, along with the District's bond webpage, will provide updates and information to help our community learn more about the revised proposal. The District and Board remain committed to open communication as we continue planning for the future of Fruitport Community Schools.

As the District and Board of Education continue working to ensure that our facilities meet the evolving needs of our students, staff, and community, the November 2025 bond proposal differs from the May 2025 proposal in the following ways. The November proposal reflects community feedback and district priorities, and includes three (3) key changes:

What's Different?



As shown to the left, the November 2025 bond proposal reflects three (3) key changes from the May 2025 bond proposal.

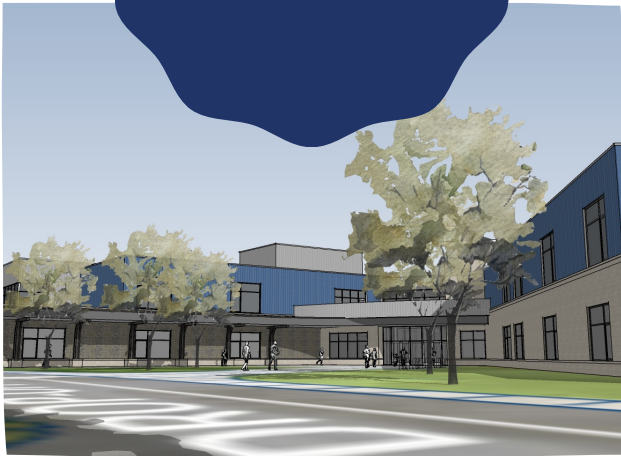
- 1.**Reduced Bond Dollar Amount:** The overall bond request has been decreased, while still supporting critical facility updates.
- 2.**Adjusted Project Scope:** The soccer field and outdoor concession stand/restroom facility have been removed from the proposal. This decision helps focus resources on the most essential infrastructure needs across the district.
- 3.**Enhanced School Improvements:** The revised bond proposal now includes additional renovations to elementary school buildings and the middle school, helping ensure learning environments are safe, modern, and more up to date.

Proposed Districtwide Bond Projects

Building	Safety Upgrades	Playground Accessibility	HVAC Improvements	Roofing	Classrooms and Furniture	Flooring Upgrades
New Edgewood	●	●	●	●	●	●
Early Childhood Center	●	●	●	●	●	●
Beach Elementary	●	●	●	●	●	
Shettler Elementary	●	●	●	●	●	●
Middle School	●		●	●	●	●
Operations and Transportation				●		



Expected zero (0) mill increase from the current levy



Fruitport Community Schools voters will be asked to consider a bond proposal on the November 4, 2025 election ballot. If approved, there is expected to be a zero (0) tax rate increase from the current rate for property owners, and it would authorize the District to borrow \$78.5 million to fund capital improvements throughout the district. These projects are outlined on the following pages.

The bond proposal would be designed to create safe and modern learning spaces, while improving accessibility to playground spaces and elementary and early childhood experiences for families.

Additionally, the bond proposal would allow the District to address aging systems at the end of their useful life cycle. See the following pages for more information.

The bond proposal would help align learning experiences across the District, in accordance with the Master Facilities Plan.



2025 BOND PROPOSAL

LEARN MORE



VOTE

on or before

NOV.4

November 2025 Bond Proposal

Project Scope

NEW EDGEDWOOD ELEMENTARY



The bond proposal would include the construction of a new Edgewood Elementary School, and the renovation of a portion of the current Edgewood facility into a dedicated Early Childhood Center. Both buildings will feature safe, modern, and future-ready learning spaces that align with the high-quality updates previously completed at Fruitport High School. These projects align with the long-term Master Facilities Plan.

- New Edgewood Elementary School with a new playground, new parking, and new parent and bus drop off loops.
- Complete remodel of a portion of the current Edgewood Elementary into an ECC; Demo the remaining. Complete remodel, including:
 - HVAC
 - Plumbing (bathrooms)
 - Lighting
 - Roofing
 - Windows
 - Doors
 - Casework
 - Ceilings
 - Flooring
 - Paint
 - Student Furniture
 - Technology
 - Playground
 - Parking

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATES



Improvements to our elementary and middle school buildings would include new student furniture, playground upgrades with barrier-free access, and replacement of select exterior doors and windows. Additional projects include roofing updates on the oldest portions of our buildings, partial flooring replacement, new HVAC equipment for the gyms and auditorium at the middle school, and installation of modern fire alarm systems. These updates are designed to enhance comfort, safety, and accessibility for all students and staff.

- Updates to Beach, Shettler, and the Middle School, as outlined below:
- Beach Elementary School
 - New student furniture
 - Playground improvements with barrier free access
 - Roofing at oldest portions
 - HVAC at gym
 - New Fire alarm system
- Shettler Elementary School
 - New student furniture
 - Playground Improvements with barrier free access
 - Select exterior doors and windows
 - Roofing at oldest portions
 - Partial flooring replacement
 - HVAC at gym
 - New fire alarm system

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS



If approved, bonds would fund facility upgrades to ensure safe, efficient, and updated learning environments. Projects include roofing replacements on the oldest portions of our buildings, HVAC system improvements to enhance air quality and comfort, and upgrades to fire alarm systems for increased safety. Select exterior doors and windows will be replaced to improve security and energy efficiency.

- Fruitport Middle School
 - New student furniture
 - Gym scoreboard and bleachers
 - Select exterior doors and windows
 - Partial flooring replacement
 - HVAC at gym and auditorium
 - Fire alarm
- Operations and Administration
 - Roofing at oldest portions

Understanding how Michigan schools are funded

School funding in Michigan is complex and built on three primary sources: state funding, local property taxes, and federal support. Each plays a unique role in providing the financial resources necessary to operate public schools.

Roughly 60-70% of a district's budget comes from the State through the School Aid Fund (SAF). Most of these funds are distributed through the foundation allowance, which provides a set amount of money per student. This per-pupil amount is determined annually by the State. These funds support everyday operations such as teacher salaries, classroom supplies, utilities, and other essential costs.

Also, the SAF distributes money through categorical grants. These are targeted for specific needs, such as transportation or support for at-risk students. Some grants are automatically provided based on district characteristics, while others require an application. The SAF is funded through state sales taxes, income taxes, lottery proceeds, and other state revenues.

The second-largest funding source comes from property taxes levied at the local and county levels. While property taxes once made up nearly all of a district's funding, a major reform in 1994 (Proposal A) shifted the balance to reduce this burden, and increased the state sales tax to help fund schools.

Today, local operating millages, approved by voters, supplement state funding. However, these millages are generally collected only on non-homestead properties (e.g., businesses, rental properties, second homes).

Districts may also propose sinking funds or bond issues to finance capital projects like building renovations or new construction. These voter-approved taxes apply to all properties, including primary residences, and are used for maintaining and improving school facilities.

Voter approved bond funds may only be used on projects described in the ballot proposal, and can not be used on operational expenses, such as employee salaries and benefits. Bond funds must be kept separate from operating funds, and must be audited by an independent auditing firm.

Lastly, federal funds make up 5-10% of a district's overall budget. These dollars are typically designated for specific programs such as special education, school nutrition, or support for students from low-income households.

Our District remains committed to being good stewards of public funds while providing high-quality education for every student. The audited financial statements and Board approved annual budget can be found on the District's transparency reporting webpage.

Schools are assigned a fiscal indicator score, which is a high level, single digital metric designed to give a quick look at how a school or community is faring fiscally considering changing economic climates. The lower the score, the more fiscally stable. **For four (4) straight years, Fruitport Community Schools has been assigned a fiscal indicator score of zero (0), the best a school can be assigned!**

A bond proposal is how a public school district asks its community to borrow money to pay for capital improvements not covered by other funding sources.

BOND FUNDS USE REQUIREMENTS

Bond funds CAN be used:

- To purchase, erect, complete, remodel, and equip school buildings, structures, athletic fields, playgrounds, or other facilities.
- To acquire, install, or equip school buildings for technology.
- For other capital expenditures.
- For costs of bond issuance.



Bond funds CANNOT be used for:

- Training, consulting, service contracts, or other software support.
- Employee salaries, wages, or benefits.
- School operations.
- Classroom supplies such as textbooks.
- Upgrades to operating systems or applications software, except if purchased with qualifying technology.

VOTER AND ELECTION INFORMATION

The election polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Absent voter ballots must be available to be sent to members of the general public by Thursday, September 25, 2025.

Voter Registration Information:

To learn more about voter registration, such as eligibility requirements, how to register to vote in Michigan, and updating or canceling your voter registration, please visit the website below:

- <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting/register-to-vote>.

Absentee Voting:

All registered voters in Michigan have the right to vote by mail using an absentee ballot delivered to their home. Voters can also request an absentee ballot directly from their local clerk's office. Absentee ballots are available beginning 40 days prior to every election.

Michigan voters can decide to be placed on a permanent absentee ballot list. The local clerk will then mail them an absentee ballot for all local, state, and federal elections. For more information about absentee voting, visit the website below:

- <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting/absentee-voting>.



Online absentee ballot application



Online voter registration



Shall Fruitport Community Schools, Muskegon and Ottawa Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Seventy-Eight Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$78,500,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, in one or more series, for the purpose of:

The District would sell bonds totaling \$78.5 million for facility improvements.

acquiring, erecting, completing and remodeling school buildings, facilities, and additions to school buildings and facilities; equipping, re-equipping, furnishing and refurnishing school buildings and facilities; acquiring, installing, equipping and re-equipping school buildings for instructional technology; purchasing school buses; and acquiring, preparing, developing, improving and equipping athletic fields, play fields, playgrounds, structures, facilities and sites?

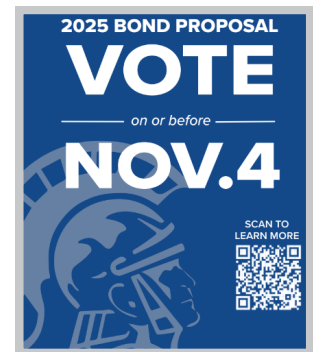
See page 4 of this newsletter
for bond proposal project
scope and priorities.

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2026 is 2.26 mills (\$2.26 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a 0.00 mill net increase over the prior year's levy. The maximum number of years the bonds of any series may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is thirty (30) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 3.13 mills (\$3.13 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

Expected zero (0.00) mill increase from the 2025 levy; Same debt millage rate since 2016.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)



FCS Debt Tax Rate History and Bond Proposal Impact to Debt Tax Rate

**CURRENT
MILLAGE RATE:
6.900 MILLS**



**EXPECTED FUTURE
MILLAGE RATE:
6.900 MILLS**



**WOULD AUTHORIZE
\$78.5 MILLION FOR
IMPROVEMENTS**

If the bond proposal would be approved by voters, the debt millage tax rate is estimated to remain the same as the 2025 levy with a zero (0) mill rate increase to property owners. The debt tax rate history for Fruitport Community Schools is shown below:

[illegible]

Understanding Property Taxes in Michigan and Their Impact on Fruitport Community Schools

The District is committed to transparency and helping our community understand how local property taxes support public education.

In Michigan, property taxes for schools are based on a property's taxable value, not its market value. Taxable value is determined by a local assessment and is typically 50% of the property's market value. Each year, the taxable value can only increase by the rate of inflation or 5%—whichever is lower—unless there is a transfer of ownership or new construction, which may reset the value. This system allows for more predictable and gradual tax increases, even when market values rise more sharply.

In Fruitport, the District levies a 6.9 mill debt tax rate to pay debt service on voter-approved bonds that financed projects and facility improvements across the District.

This debt millage has remained consistent since 2016, as shown on the previous page, providing stability for taxpayers. However, as local taxable values increase due to inflation or new development, the amount of taxes paid by any individual property owner might increase or decrease, even though the rate itself remains unchanged.

These funds are used for bond allowable expenses that improve our infrastructure, while providing safe and modern learning environments for students. The District has created a long term Master Facilities Plan that involves asking voters to consider bond proposals as current debt is retired, allowing long term facility improvements across the District without increasing the debt levy from the current rate.

“The District has created a long term Master Facilities Plan that involves asking voters to consider bond proposals as current debt is retired, allowing long term facility improvements across the District without increasing the debt levy from the current rate.”

Why is there a need for more classroom space?

While enrollment trends in schools across the State have declined over the years, the needs of students and the increasing special education demands of students continue to increase. This results in classes that are required by state and federal law to be smaller in size, while also increasing the number of classrooms that are needed. Within the last decade or so, the District has seen increases in staffing positions that support students such as social workers, psychologists, interventionists, instructional assistants, and behavior support positions, as examples. Many of these positions are mandated due to special education needs of students.

Further, the District has added Moderately Cognitively Impaired Classrooms (MoCI) at every grade span. Also, the District has added Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classrooms at the elementary level, and will be adding classrooms at the middle school and high school in the coming years as students transition to successive grade levels. Due to increased student need, the District has added Mildly Cognitively Impaired (MiCI) classrooms this year. These are just some of the examples of classrooms that have been added to account for program growth as the needs of students expand.

Even though student enrollment has declined over time, the total number of classroom and office spaces that are required has increased significantly. As a result, many of our itinerant staff members are using spaces not intended to be office spaces for them to work out of. Also, the District has worked with our construction management team to complete an analysis around enrollment trends. The District has found that every new household built in the District equates to a 0.34 full time student equivalency. This means that if there are 100 new homes built in the District, we will see 34 new students from those new homes. Not only must we account for program growth and student needs, but we must account for new housing growth that is happening in the District. Moving early childhood programs out of their current space frees up classrooms at the middle school, Beach, and Shettler that are currently being used by ECC programs.



Beach Elementary Boiler Replacements

This summer, the District replaced the two boilers located at the south end of Beach Elementary. The boilers at the north end of the building were replaced about five years ago, completing this facility's heating system updates. This project follows a series of recent infrastructure improvements, including the replacement of boilers and HVAC controls at Shettler last year, fully digitizing its HVAC system, and the replacement of one boiler at the middle school the year prior. The remaining middle school boiler is expected to be replaced within the next 5–10 years. Looking ahead, the boilers at the high school will likely need replacement in 15–20 years, while the boilers at Edgewood are approaching the end of their useful life and will also require replacement in the near future. The District follows a planned replacement cycle for essential equipment and infrastructure, including HVAC systems and boilers, to ensure our facilities remain efficient, reliable, and comfortable. These ongoing investments help maintain optimal learning environments for our students and staff.



This summer, the District completed improvements to Ken Erny Field to ensure that it remains a safe and high-quality space for our students and community. Working with a professional turf grass contractor, our team replaced worn and damaged turf at the south end of the field with fresh sod. The new sod is already beginning to root, a process that typically takes two to six weeks to become fully established. During this time, foot traffic will be minimized in the repaired area to allow the turf grass to take hold and grow strong. We appreciate the community's support and patience as we make these improvements to our soccer facility.

Ken Erny Soccer Field Improvements Underway



Main Campus Power Switchgear Replaced

This summer, the District completed a major infrastructure improvement to the electrical system serving the main campus. The main switchgear and sub base, located near the road in front of Edgewood Elementary, were replaced to ensure safe and reliable power for years to come. The work included installing a new pad mount, main disconnect, and fuse compartments, all matching the existing setup. The newly installed Federal Pacific Pad-Mounted Switchgear had a 45–50 week lead time for delivery, making this a well-planned project. Approved by the Board in 2024, this upgrade replaces the pad-mounted switchgear that had been 37 years old, and enhances the efficiency and reliability of the campus power system.





Why Focus on Elementary and Early Childhood Programming?

The bond proposal would provide improvements to our early childhood programs, an investment rooted in both academic research and strategic planning for the District's future. High-quality early childhood education lays a strong foundation for lifelong learning, supporting academic readiness, social and emotional development, and long-term success for our youngest learners. Almost always, the District finds that students who have strong pre-school experiences score higher on our kindergarten readiness screening assessments.

In addition, relocating and expanding early childhood services to a dedicated facility would create much-needed space in schools across the District. This thoughtful reallocation supports community growth and ensures that all students have access to the modern, functional learning environments they need to thrive. Even though enrollment trends across the State have declined, the needs of students have increased; creating the need to expand programs and services to support the ever growing needs of students today. ASD, MOCI, and MICI classrooms are now spread across the District, as examples of program expansion driving the need for additional space.

The bond proposal would invest in high quality early childhood education, while creating space to support growing enrollment, expanding student needs, and access to modern, functional learning environments for all.

Creating Accessible and Barrier Free Playgrounds for Students

The District is committed to enhancing accessibility on our elementary school playgrounds. If approved by voters, the proposed bond would include the addition of adaptive playground equipment designed to ensure that all students, regardless of ability, can enjoy safe, engaging, and inclusive play. Accessible equipment helps every child feel a sense of belonging and provides meaningful opportunities for students with mobility or motor challenges to socialize and connect with their peers.

Examples of adaptive equipment may include swings designed to hold a wheelchair, ramps that allow access to various play surfaces, and sensory manipulatives positioned at lower levels to accommodate students in wheelchairs. These additions would take steps toward ensuring every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and play in a space that meets their needs.



Update on Beach Elementary School Storm Damage

At the end of March 2025, strong winds and heavy rainfall caused significant damage to Beach Elementary. The storm impacted several areas, including the gym roof and floor, the softball field fencing and bleachers, and an outdoor playground storage facility.

The District's operations team worked closely with its insurance provider and a team of contractors to make the necessary repairs. The gym now has a brand-new floor, a replaced roof membrane with new insulation, and updated rooftop mechanical vents. With the support of the Parent Teacher Organization, an improved storage structure for playground equipment has also been built and delivered to the school.

Because the gym bleachers needed to be removed to install the new floor, the Board of Education approved replacing the original bleachers with new ones. Ordered in June 2025, these bleachers have a 20-24 week lead time and are expected to be installed in November 2025. While they will not be in place before the start of the school year, the gym is fully ready to support physical education classes and the school's food service program.



SCHOOL ENROLLMENT PROCESS

All new students to the District should register for school as soon as possible. A birth certificate, immunization record, valid photo identification, and proof of residency in the District are required to register. The enrollment process is outlined below.

Step 1 - Online Registration: Please complete the online registration form BEFORE going to the school office with your documents. The website is:

- <https://www.fruitportschools.net/prospective-families/enrollment-information/>.

Step 2 - Gather Required Documents: We will make copies of your documents and/or print out any forms for you; you do not need a printer. You will need the following: original birth certificate, current immunization record or health department waiver, proof of residency, other documents requiring your signature will be provided at the building.

Step 3 - Take Your Documents To The Office: During the school year, please take your documents to your child's building office. During the summer months when the building offices are closed, enrollment may be completed at the Superintendent's Office.



2025 – 2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

2025

AUGUST 19: Secondary Open House (MS and HS) 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
AUGUST 20: Meet, Greet, Find Your Seat (Elementary) 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
AUGUST 25: First Day of School – Half Day Schedule
AUGUST 26, 27: Full Day Schedule – No Delayed Start on August 27
AUGUST 28: Half Day Schedule
AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 1: No School – Labor Day Break
SEPTEMBER 3, 10, 17, 24: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
OCTOBER 6 – 9: Parent Teacher Conferences (4:00 – 7:00 p.m.; Details to follow)
OCTOBER 10: No School – Staff Professional Development Day
OCTOBER 13-14: No School – Fall Break
NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
NOVEMBER 26 – 28: No School – Thanksgiving Break
DECEMBER 3, 10, 17: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
DECEMBER 22 – JANUARY 2: No School – Winter Holiday Break

2026

JANUARY 5: School Resumes
JANUARY 14: No Delayed Start
JANUARY 7, 21, 28: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
JANUARY 15, 16: Half Day Schedule – Records Days: End of First Semester
JANUARY 19: No School – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FEBRUARY 4, 11, 25: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
FEBRUARY 16: No School – Staff Professional Development Day
FEBRUARY 17-20: No School – Mid-winter Break
MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
MARCH 9 – 12: Parent Teacher Conferences (4:00 – 7:00 p.m.; Details to follow)
MARCH 13: No School – Staff Professional Development Day
APRIL 2 – APRIL 10: No School – Spring Break
APRIL 8, 15: No Delayed Start
APRIL 1, 22, 29: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
MAY 6, 13, 20, 27: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
MAY 25: No School – Memorial Day Holiday
JUNE 3: Delayed Start (school starts 1 1/2 hours later)
JUNE 10: No Delayed Start
JUNE 8, 9, 10: Half Day Schedule
JUNE 10: Last Day of School – Half Day Schedule

Important Dates and Calendar Reminders:

- August 18, 2025 (5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) – Blue and White Community Night
- August 19, 2025 (4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) – Secondary Schools Open House
- August 20, 2025 (4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) – Elementary Meet, Greet, Find Your Seat
- August 25, 2025 – First Day of School (Half Day Schedule)
- August 26, 27, 2025: Full Day Schedule – No Delayed Start on August 27, 2025
- August 28, 2025 – Half Day Schedule
- August 29, 2025 – September 1, 2025 – No School (Labor Day Holiday Break)
- September 2, 2025 – Full Day Schedule



Educational Benefits Form Reminder

The District wants to remind you of the importance of completing the Food Service Education Benefits Form, even though we are hopeful that school meals will be provided at no cost to families once again this year. As of this communication, the State of Michigan School Aid Budget has not been adopted by the legislature, nor signed by the Governor.

The information submitted on this form helps determine the amount of state and federal funding our district receives. This funding supports critical programs and services, including, but not limited to:

- Instructional staff, supplies, and materials
- Counseling, social work, and health services
- Professional learning opportunities for staff
- Parent and community engagement
- Classroom and school technology

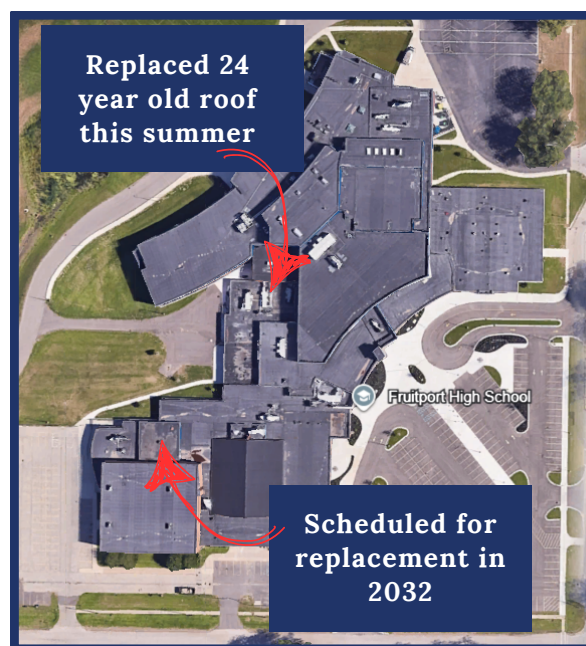
Further, completing this form helps inform additional benefits for eligible students, such as discounts on fees and potential eligibility for EBT cards. You can complete the Education Benefits Form quickly and easily online through the Meal Magic Family Portal. The link to complete this form is: <https://fruitport.familyportal.cloud/>. Once you click on this link, you will select “Apply for Benefits,” and follow the prompts to complete this process. Alternatively, you may download and print the attached Education Benefits Form and return it by mail or send it to your child's school building. You may mail the completed form to the address below:

Fruitport Community Schools
Attn: Food Service Department
3255 E. Pontaluna Rd.
Fruitport, MI 49415

Please note that benefits will only begin after your Education Benefits Form is reviewed and approved by our food service department. Debts incurred before approval are the family's responsibility. Families approved last year must complete a new form within the first two weeks of school to avoid any interruption in benefits. All submitted information is confidential and used solely to determine funding eligibility. Thank you for helping ensure that our school district has access to the full resources our students deserve by completing and submitting your Education Benefits Form as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support of Fruitport Community Schools!

High School Roofing Project Completed

While Fruitport High School has undergone extensive renovations and new additions as a result of the support of voters on the 2016 bond project, some portions of the original building remain. Two sections of the high school roof were not replaced during the bond work. This summer, one of those sections, now 24 years old, was replaced as part of the District's ongoing roof maintenance plan. The final section of roof is scheduled for replacement in 2032, ensuring the entire facility remains in good condition for years to come. As a point of reference, approximately 75,000 square feet of the high school was renovated or left as-is rather than rebuilt, resulting in significant cost savings for the project. The updated roof sections are highlighted in the image to the right for the community's reference.



Bond Proposal Frequently Asked Questions

For a complete listing of the frequently asked questions about the bond proposal, please visit the District's website at: www.fruitportschools.net/bondinformation/bond/bond-election-november-4-2025/.

Annual Notices

RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

Fruitport Community Schools often publishes the names and/or photographs of students for public view. Publications may include the Fruitport Focus, building newsletters, the District web site (fruitportschools.net), and/or similar type publications. The purpose varies and may include special awards, honor rolls, attendance lists, athletic rosters, and/or team/organization photographs, etc. If for any reason you do not wish your child's name and/or photograph to be published, please contact your school's office immediately. This notice is in compliance with the Rights and Privacy Act P.L. 93.380.

ASBESTOS INFORMATION

Federal regulations require that local educational agencies annually notify building occupants or their legal guardians, regarding asbestos containing materials in school buildings, including plans related thereto. Management plans and inspection reports are available for review by contacting John Winkas, Director of Operations. The District inspects its facilities on a regular basis in compliance with the regulations of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. Buildings containing asbestos have been evaluated and judged to present no health hazard in their current condition. The District will continue to inspect all buildings to ensure compliance.

SMOKING, TOBACCO, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL

The use of all tobacco products and alcohol is prohibited by all persons on school premises at all times. This includes all building, grounds, athletic facilities, and vehicles owned and operated by Fruitport Community Schools. See Board of Education Policy.

ANNUAL NOTICE OF A PERSONAL CURRICULUM

This posting serves notice to all high school parents and students of the school's obligation to develop a personal curriculum (PC) at a parent or guardian's request. For more information on a personal curriculum, please contact the high school Guidance Office.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

As part of Fruitport Community Schools' Integrated Pest Management Program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and buildings. In certain emergencies however, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you would like to request prior notification, please contact your building principal's office to obtain a notification form. You may also contact the Operations Department at (231) 865-4018 with any questions regarding this program. Notification requests will be handled by Operations.

RIGHT TO KNOW

The District operates Title I programs. You may request the following information about the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s): 1) Whether the teacher has met Michigan licensing requirements for the grade level(s) and the subject area(s) in which the teacher provides instruction; 2) Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which Michigan licensing requirements have been waived; 3) The teacher's college degree(s), major(s), and field(s) of discipline, as well as any graduate degree or certification that he or she may have earned. In addition, you may also request this information about any paraprofessional or instructional assistants who provide Title I services to your child.

CAMERAS, AUDIO, AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

The District may monitor any building, facility, property, bus, or vehicle with video and/or audio recording equipment, other than areas where a person has a legally recognized and reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., restrooms and locker rooms). Except in those areas, a person has no expectation of privacy.

USE OF DETECTION DOGS

The District may use a detection dog, without a warrant or consent, to sniff property in an effort to locate illegal drugs or contraband according to the District's policy. A detection dog will not be used to search a person unless a warrant or appropriate consent has been obtained before the search, or the search is otherwise authorized by law or Policy.

Annual Notices

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, age, height, weight, familial status, marital status, military service, veteran status, genetic information, disability, or any other legally protected basis, and prohibits unlawful discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, in any education program or activity that it operates, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment and retaliation, may be referred to the District's applicable Coordinator and/or an agency with jurisdiction. A person alleging discrimination may use the District's Grievance Procedure, or file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Education, 1244 Speer Blvd., Suite 310, Denver, CO, 80204-3582.

Designated Title IX Coordinator

Olivia Zienert, Director of Special Education
3255 E. Pontaluna Rd. Fruitport, MI 49415
Phone: (231) 865-3188
Email: ozienert@fruitportschools.net

Designated Section 504 Coordinator

Rob Rogers, Assistant Principal
357 N. 6th Street Fruitport, MI 49415
Phone: (231) 865-3101
Email: rrogers@fruitportschools.net

Civil Rights Coordinator/Employment Compliance Officer

Jason Kennedy, Superintendent
3255 E. Pontaluna Rd. Fruitport, MI 49415
Phone: (231) 865-3154
Email: jkennedy@fruitportschools.net

The District's Non-discrimination, Anti-Harassment, and Non-Retaliation Policy and Grievance Procedures are available at 3255 E. Pontaluna Rd., Fruitport, MI 49415, or on the District's website at: www.fruitportschools.net. To report information about conduct that may constitute unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment and retaliation, or make a complaint of such conduct, please contact the applicable Coordinator listed above.

ADA POLICY

Fruitport Community Schools, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), would like to accommodate those with disabilities. If a special accommodation, i.e., Braille, large print, audio tape, etc., is needed to assist you with the contents of this publication, or any school publication, please contact Olivia Zienert at (231) 865-4012. Every attempt will be made to meet special accommodation requests.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that Fruitport Community Schools obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records, unless certain conditions specified by FERPA are met. FERPA distinguishes between personally identifiable information and directory information, however, the District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without your written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary.

If you do not want your student's directory information released, you must request an opt-out form from the Superintendent's Office, and complete the form no later than October 1, 2025. If you fail to complete and return this form, the District will presume that you give permission to release your student's directory information for all appropriate uses. Your opt-out request will be recorded in the student information system and kept on file in the school's office for one (1) school year.

Directory information is the information contained in a student's education record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy, if disclosed. In addition, Federal law requires the District to release a secondary school student's name, address, and telephone number to U.S. Military recruiters and institutions of higher education upon their request, unless others indicated on an opt-out form. See Board of Education Policy, Directory Information and opt-out, for more information.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are: 1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of a request. 2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education record that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy. 3) The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. 4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY), or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by fax at (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442, by email to Program.Intake@usda.gov, or by mail to the following address. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

MCKINNEY - VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

The District will provide a free public education to homeless children and youth who are in the District, and afford them the educational rights and legal protections provided by federal and state law. For more information, please see Board of Education Policy. The homeless liaison will coordinate services to ensure that homeless children and youth enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed. The liaison will also coordinate and collaborate with state homeless coordinators, community agencies, and District personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youth, including unaccompanied youth. A student or parent / guardian in a homeless situation who requires assistance should contact the District's homeless liaison. The coordinator is Rob Rogers, and he can be reached at (231) 865-4100, or he can be reached by email at: rrogers@fruitportschools.net.

For a complete listing of the annual notices of the Board of Education and District to the community, please visit the District's website at: www.fruitportschools.net.



Fruitport Community Schools

3255 E. Pontaluna Rd.

Fruitport, MI 49415

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Fruitport, MI

Permit No. 4

Board of Education:

Dave Hazekamp, President

Kris Cole, Vice President

JB Meeuwenberg, Treasurer

Steve Kelly, Secretary

Tim Burgess, Trustee

Josh Mueller, Trustee

Kathy Six, Trustee

Superintendent

Jason J. Kennedy

2025-2026 Building Start/End Times

Beach Elementary School

Regular Day: 8:25 a.m. - 3:37 p.m.

Delayed Start: 9:55 a.m. - 3:37 p.m.

Half Day: 8:25 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Shettler Elementary School

Regular Day: 8:25 a.m. - 3:37 p.m.

Delayed Start: 9:55 a.m. - 3:37 p.m.

Half Day: 8:25 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Fruitport High School

Regular Day: 7:35 a.m. - 2:37 p.m.

Delayed Start: 9:05 a.m. - 2:37 p.m.

Half Day: 7:35 a.m. - 10:59 a.m.

Edgewood Elementary School

Regular Day: 8:33 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Delayed Start: 10:03 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Half Day: 8:33 a.m. - 12:08 p.m.

Fruitport Middle School

Regular Day: 7:45 a.m. - 2:47 p.m.

Delayed Start: 9:15 a.m. - 2:47 p.m.

Half Day: 7:45 a.m. - 11:11 a.m.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE



VOTE on or before **NOV. 4**

2025 BOND PROPOSAL