



PORTLAND Public Schools

Proposed General Obligation Bond Measure

In May 2025 voters will have the opportunity to consider a bond measure which would fund Portland Public Schools. If the measure passes on May 20, the proposed 2025 bond measure would authorize a continuation of property taxes that would fund additional building, health, safety, and learning priorities in schools across the District.

If the measure passes, the tax rate would continue to be approximately \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The total principal amount of bonds authorized by this measure cannot exceed \$1.83 billion.

If passed by voters, what would the proposed bond measure fund?

Update and Repair Elementary and Middle Schools:

- Update or replace leaking or deteriorating school roofs, mechanical systems (heating and cooling), electrical systems, plumbing systems, fire alarm and sprinkler updates, elevator replacements, site upgrades, exterior enclosure upgrades, and other building repairs.

Safety and Security Projects:

- Update safety and security systems, including additional cameras and fencing.
- Strengthen buildings to withstand earthquakes.

Modernize Educational Materials, Technology, Schools:

- Renovate or replace Cleveland and Ida B. Wells (formerly Wilson) High Schools, including expanded athletic facilities and fields.
- Utilize the high school project cost savings to update and/or repair elementary and middle schools.
- Provide comprehensive, culturally relevant, and up-to-date textbooks and curriculum materials.
- Replace or provide student tablets and laptops to provide equitable access to classroom learning, and update classroom and District technology.

Increase Extracurricular Opportunities:

- Upgrade athletic facilities, including Roosevelt, Lincoln (at West Sylvan), Franklin and Grant, and create athletic hub facilities at Jackson Middle School and on the Marshall campus.
- Update high school performing arts and theater facilities.

The proposed bond measure package was informed by feedback from PPS families, students, staff, members of the community, and technical facilities assessments.

If the proposed measure does not pass, the projects outlined above would not be completed as proposed and the property tax rate would gradually decrease.

PROPOSED 2025 BOND MEASURE PROJECTS



Rebuilds and Modernizations

\$1.15 Billion

- Cleveland High School
- Ida B. Wells High School
- Jefferson High School

Repairs and Upgrades

- Elementary and Middle Schools



Educational Materials, Technology, Extracurricular Activities

\$311.0 Million

- Technology (\$176,000,00)
- Curriculum (\$56,000,000)
- Athletics (\$79,000,000)



Updates and Repairs

\$200.0 Million

- Repairs to systems and other priority physical projects (\$190,000,000)
- Physical Education (\$10,000,000)



Admin and Contingency

\$166.1 Million

TOTAL

\$1,827,100,000



Proposed General Obligation Bond Measure



If the measure is passed by voters, what would the proposed bond cost?

If the measure passes, the tax rate would continue to be approximately \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, because the previous bond's tax rates are decreasing due to declining debt service. The owner of a home assessed at \$284,003 (the average assessed value for residential property in the Portland Public Schools District) would continue to pay approximately \$59 per month. If the proposed measure does not pass, the projects outlined above would not be completed as proposed and the property tax rate would gradually decrease.

Accountability and transparency

PPS's Bond Accountability Committee—an independent group of appointed community members—would review quarterly reports and audits of how the bond dollars are being spent, to provide accountability to the public until construction is complete.

Previous bond-funded construction projects

In 2012, 2017, and 2020, voters passed bond measures that authorized property taxes which funded projects at Portland Public Schools buildings, most of which were built over 75 years ago. The previous bonds have funded modernization and rebuilding projects that are completed or under construction, including:

- Modernization of Roosevelt, Franklin, Grant, McDaniel (Madison), and Benson Polytechnic High Schools.
- Rebuilding of Faubion PK-8, Kellogg Middle School, and Lincoln High School.
- Master planning and design work to modernize Jefferson, Cleveland, and Ida B Wells High Schools.

In addition, the previous bonds have funded projects at every school throughout the district that are completed or under construction, including:

- Replacing plumbing and fixtures to remove lead from drinking water.
- Removing or encapsulating exposed lead-based paint and asbestos.
- Upgrading fire alarm and sprinkler systems.
- Repairing or replacing leaking, damaged, and rotting roofs with seismically strengthened roofs.
- Seismically retrofitting buildings to strengthen facilities for earthquakes.
- Removing barriers to accessibility for people with disabilities on the main floor of every school.
- Mitigating radon exposure.
- Strengthening school safety and security.
- Updating science labs at middle schools.
- Enhancing technology.
- New curriculum materials.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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