



VALLEY CITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SCHOOL  
REFERENDUM

**VOTE**  
JUNE 10, 2025

# REFERENDUM INFORMATION

On June 10, 2025, voters in the Valley City Public School District will decide whether to approve a proposed \$46 million new school connected to Jefferson Elementary School. This flyer highlights what is included in the proposed plan, why a new school has been proposed, the consequences of a no vote, how the project would be funded, and other important information.

## WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED PLAN?

If the referendum passes on June 10th, the district will move forward with these proposed building projects.

- Build a new 3-12 school connected to Jefferson Elementary
- Remodel Jefferson Elementary for improved safety and security
- Close and sell the District Office and Washington Elementary
- Demolish the 1919, 1948, 1958, and portions of 1971 buildings at VCHS
- Renovate the 1971 and 1991 portions of VCHS connected to the HAC
- Add a new parking lot for the Hi-Liner Activity Center.



## WHY A NEW SCHOOL?

There are three primary factors driving the school district to propose a new school in Valley City. These reasons have been highlighted below:

- **Aging Systems and Infrastructures:** A facility conditions assessment showed that major facility systems and infrastructure have exceeded the useful life and will need to be repaired or replaced in the next few years. The cost to make these repairs or replacements would be an estimated \$37 million. This includes building repairs (windows, doors, roofing), HVAC (heating, ventilation, cooling), plumbing, and electrical systems. The average age of school buildings are 73 years old.
- **Modernization of Education:** Education has evolved significantly over the past 73 years. A new school would enhance safety and security, ensure ADA accessibility, and create learning spaces and classrooms that reflect the needs of today's students.
- **Cost-Savings and Operational Efficiency:** The consolidation of school facilities will provide significant cost-savings and greatly improve the operational efficiencies across the school district. This will include savings and efficiencies with maintenance, staffing, programs, and energy/utilities. The estimated annual savings to the district's general fund is \$750,000.

## THE CONSEQUENCES OF A 'NO' VOTE

If this referendum vote does not pass on June 10<sup>th</sup>, the school board will need to reconsider options to address aging systems and infrastructure, how to modernize educational spaces, and also bring necessary cost-savings and operational efficiencies to the school district. A few of the consequences of a failed vote on students, staff, and our school community may include:

- Closing and selling Washington Elementary; and subsequently relocating the 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to either Jefferson Elementary or VCHS.
- Closing and selling the District Office; and subsequently relocating district administrative staff to Jefferson Elementary, VCHS, or the District Bus Shop.
- Due to space limitations at Jefferson Elementary, a free pre-kindergarten program would no longer be an option for the district and community.
- Cutting additional programs and staffing in order to balance the district budget.
- A new referendum vote called for up to \$37 million in repairs and/or replacements on major systems and infrastructure in the existing schools.