Referendum Information

• 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 improvements would include:
  – Making the 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 and promote collaboration
  – Providing sufficient room and time for students to eat lunch
  – Creating appropriate space for special education, career and technical education and fine arts programming
  – Improving student access to counselors and other support services

• 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 last time District 207 asked voters to approve a building bond measure was in 1973 – nearly 45 years ago.

• District 207 has been trying to address repairs and renovations. In fact, in just the past five years, $33.6 million of funds were used to address building repairs and upgrades.

• There are 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.

• District 207’s proposal ensures equity of facilities at all three schools.

• 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 and posted on the District 207 website.

• A detailed summary of proposed improvements at each school is presented on the backside of this fact sheet.

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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 (sprinkler 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.
- Right size and relocate special education spaces to better meet the needs of students.
- Update classrooms and labs to create flexible learning spaces that leverage instructional technology, enhance current teaching methods and promote collaboration.
- Update restrooms.
- Relocate the outdated locker rooms to be adjacent to the fieldhouse.
- Relocate cardio and weight room equipment from a hallway to a more accessible and safe location.
- Repurpose the old pool for a community Professional Development Center.

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 the school.
- Update dining and food service areas to ease congestion, as well as replace 50-year-old equipment.
- Relocate cardio and weight room equipment from a hallway 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 a community Professional Development Center.

### MAINE WEST HIGH SCHOOL

- Eliminate the need for students to walk outside and across an access drive to reach the 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 food lab to more effectively prepare students for food service careers.
- 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.
- Add business presentation rooms for Career and Technical Education.
- Relocate and expand dining area and renovate food service area to ease congestion, as well as replace 50-year-old equipment.
- Replace failing single pane front and back hallway glass to improve energy efficiency.
- Create additional space to address athletic programming needs.
- Provide new performing arts storage to free up space in existing rehearsal rooms for performers.
- Consolidate the cardio and weight areas and also renovate locker rooms.

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