

Superintendent's Office

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616.878.6100

Superintendent: Kevin Macina, Ph.D.
Asst. Superintendent: Jeff Wierzbicki
Chief Financial Officer: Meghan Hathaway

Board of Education

President: Brenda Hondorp
Vice President: Amber Swift
Treasurer: Thalia Tilma
Secretary: Brad Wiechertjes
Trustees: Rob Hughes, Tom McCoy
and Tim Oberst

2025

Board of Education Meetings

Sept. 8, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
Sept. 22, 5:15pm (Work Session)
Oct. 6, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
Oct. 20, 5:15pm (Work Session)
Nov. 3, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
Nov. 17, 5:15pm (Work Session)
Dec. 1, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
Dec. 15, 5:15pm (Work Session)

Check www.bcpsk12.net board page
for meeting specifics and locations.

*Work Sessions will be scheduled
as needed.*

*Upon request at least ten (10) days
prior to a meeting, the District shall
make reasonable accommodations
for a person with disabilities to
be able to attend and participate.
Contact the Facilities Director at
616.878.6100.*

*There is a time for public
participation during a meeting as
indicated in the agenda.*

*Official minutes are available and
stored at the administration office.*

Stay Informed! Check out
Byron Center Public Schools
on Facebook and Instagram for
information on school closings,
upcoming events and more!

Byron Center Bond Proposal



The 2025-26 school year is off to a great start. It's been wonderful to see students and staff back in school buildings and community members out at sporting events and performances. We're looking forward to another year filled with opportunities for learning, growth and student success!

Byron Center Public Schools has experienced consistent and significant growth over the past two decades. In response to that growth, the district is looking at updating and expanding our facilities to serve the increasing number of students. Byron Center's leadership team has been working closely with staff, students and community members to envision the future of our district. Those conversations have guided the development of a bond proposal that will appear on the ballot on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

This special edition of the BConnection is dedicated to explaining the details of the bond proposal. The plan includes improvements that would impact every school across the district from our youngest learners, to high school students. The proposed projects are designed to enhance academic learning environments, fine arts spaces and athletic facilities, while also supporting districtwide technology upgrades and improvements to all areas of transportation.

If the bond passes, the district would be provided with the funding for the projects with no projected increase to the current tax rate.

I encourage you to take a moment to read over the information included in this edition of the BConnection to learn more about the proposed projects. Your partnership and voice matter. Please make a plan to vote by Tuesday, November 4.

Sincerely,



Kevin Macina, Ph.D.
Superintendent



NOVEMBER 2025 Bond Proposal

On November 4, 2025, Byron Center voters will consider a bond proposal that would help shape the future of Byron Center Public Schools. This bond proposal would impact every school in the district, addressing academics, arts and athletics from early childhood through high school.

If approved, there is **NO INCREASE** projected to the current tax rate for BCPS property owners.

- **Academics:** Renovate classrooms at the Early Childhood Center, Marshall Elementary, Countryside Elementary, West Middle School and Byron Center High School, expand space for North Star Academy and special education programs and upgrade student technology across the district.
- **Arts:** Renovate the fine arts wing at West Middle School and Byron Center High School with added rehearsal, multipurpose and storage spaces and increase marching band access to a turf field.
- **Athletics:** Build a new athletic stadium and four new baseball/softball fields at the West Athletic Complex and keep Byron Center's current stadium, Waddell Field, for track, marching band practice and multipurpose activities across the district.
- **Infrastructure:** Update worn out furniture, flooring, cabinetry and HVAC systems throughout the district, improve parking lots and site drainage and expand the district's transportation center.



Proposal Amount: If approved, the bond would generate \$110 million for district improvements.

Tax Impact: There is no increase projected to the current tax rate if the bond is approved by voters.

Voting: Election day is **Tuesday, November 4**. Absentee ballots are available in Michigan starting Thursday, September 25. Polls will be open on election day, Tuesday, November 4, from 7am-8pm.

PROPOSED DISTRICTWIDE PROJECTS

BOND 2025 PROPOSED PROJECTS	LEARNING ENVIRONMENT	ATHLETIC FACILITIES	FINE ARTS	TECHNOLOGY & BUSES	RENOVATIONS/ INFRASTRUCTURE
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER	×			×	×
BROWN ELEMENTARY				×	×
COUNTRYSIDE ELEMENTARY	×			×	×
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY				×	
MARSHALL ELEMENTARY	×		×	×	×
NICKELS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL				×	
WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL	×		×	×	×
BYRON CENTER HIGH SCHOOL	×	×	×	×	×
TRANSPORTATION CENTER				×	×

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Early Childhood Center

The Early Childhood Center has seen an increase in enrollment, resulting in the demand for more space.

- **Classroom Additions:** Add classrooms to accommodate more students, some are currently on a waitlist to get into the program.
- **Safety & Security:** Reconfigure the front entrance to create a safe and secure vestibule for staff and students.
- **Cafeteria Space:** Create a dedicated cafeteria space where students would be able to eat. Currently, they eat in their classrooms.



Early Childhood Center students pictured in their classroom. Currently, there are students on a waiting list to get into ECC programs.



Early Childhood Center staff are pictured in the front office. The bond proposal looks at reconfiguring the front entrance to create a secure vestibule.



Early Childhood Center students are pictured eating lunch in their classroom because there is not a cafeteria.

Marshall Elementary

Marshall Elementary has shown signs of aging over time, prompting the proposal of upgrades.

- **Special Subjects Wing:** Reconfigure art, music and STEM classrooms to create more functional spaces.
- **Restroom Renovations:** Update outdated facilities to improve functionality and cleanliness.
- **New Cabinetry & Flooring:** Replace worn out carpet, cabinetry and furniture throughout the building.



Marshall Elementary students are pictured in the art classroom, which is overcrowded.



A student bathroom at Marshall Elementary is pictured. This bond proposal looks at restroom renovations.

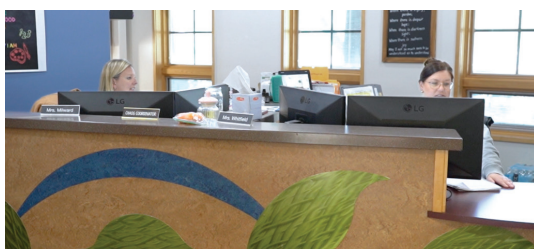


Outdated cabinetry at Marshall Elementary is pictured.

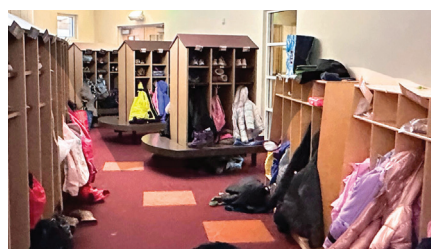
Countryside Elementary

Over the years, Countryside Elementary has experienced wear and tear, and several improvement projects are proposed.

- **Safety & Security:** Reconfigure the main entrance to provide better visibility for office staff, to improve overall safety and security.
- **New Cubbies & Flooring:** Replace worn out student cubbies, carpet and furniture throughout the building.
- **Improve Site Drainage:** Modify drainage systems to improve water flow and decrease flooding on playgrounds.



Countryside Elementary staff are pictured in the office with their backs to the front entrance, making it hard for them to see who is approaching the school.



The kindergarten cubby room is pictured. Many of the cubbies are worn out and falling a part.



A Countryside Elementary playground is pictured flooded due to poor drainage.

West Middle School

Improvements are proposed for West Middle School to accommodate growing student programs and update its aging facilities.

- **STEM & Fine Arts Expansion:** Expand the fine arts wing, including the STEM classroom, to support student growth. This includes added rehearsal spaces, multipurpose rooms, instrument storage and a dedicated classroom for percussion.
- **New Flooring & Furniture:** Replace worn out flooring and furniture throughout the building.
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Upgrade aging windows, heat pumps and parking lots.



Band, Choir and Orchestra students are pictured practicing in the band room ahead of a performance because there is not a rehearsal space available at West Middle School.



Worn out flooring is pictured in a classroom at West Middle School.



An aging parking lot is pictured at West Middle School.

Byron Center High School

Renovations at Byron Center High School in 2017 did not address the fine arts wing or alternative program spaces.

- **Fine Arts Wing Renovation:** Renovate the fine arts wing to create rehearsal spaces, multipurpose rooms and instrument storage for the growing performing arts programs.
- **Code Red Robotics:** Create a dedicated workspace for Code Red Robotics at the district's central campus.
- **North Star Expansion:** Add classrooms to support North Star Academy's growing student population.



A student is pictured moving percussion equipment down the hallway to a classroom due to the lack of storage space.



The Code Red Robotics' current workspace is pictured at Byron Center High School.



North Star Academy students are pictured in an overcrowded classroom.



Election Day is Tuesday, November 4

Technology

Districtwide technology upgrades are proposed to keep student and staff technology up to date and working efficiently.

- **District Infrastructure:** Update technology hardware, networking and support systems across the district to help keep learning, teaching and administration running smoothly.
- **Student & Staff Devices:** Upgrade instructional technology by replacing aging student and staff devices and classroom audio/video throughout the district.
- **Safety & Security:** Improve network servers and data storage systems to accommodate emerging technology infrastructure and safety measures.



Byron Center students are pictured working on their laptops during class. The bond proposal looks at upgrading technology districtwide for both students and staff.

Transportation

With the growing student population in the district, BCPS identified concerns for more buses to be able to continue to serve students who need transportation to and from school.

- **Transportation Facility Expansion:** Restructure and expand the existing transportation facility to house all BCPS buses. Parking school buses in a covered garage keeps them from the outside elements and can help them last longer.
- **Add Buses to Fleet:** Replace school buses more than a decade old that have wear and tear, rust and that are reaching their end of service. In addition, add buses to Byron Center's fleet to accommodate the growing student population.
- **Staff Office Space:** Create a dedicated office space for transportation department employees.



BCPS buses are pictured parked in the transportation facility. It is important to keep buses covered from the outside elements to help them last longer.



A rusted wheel well on a Byron Center bus is pictured.



Legs of the seats are rusted on this Byron Center Public Schools bus.

Voting Information



Absentee Voting:
Absentee ballots
available Sept. 25.



Polls Open:
Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fine Arts

With the growth of fine arts programs in Byron Center, the district has proposed renovations to expand classroom space and support increasing student participation. Both West Middle School and Byron Center High School students are outgrowing the performing arts spaces at their respective buildings.

West Middle School Fine Arts Expansion: Expand West Middle School's fine arts wing to support student growth. Create rehearsal spaces, multipurpose rooms and instrument storage for band, choir and orchestra. In addition, add a dedicated space in the band room for percussion students to rehearse independently. Currently, they practice in the cafeteria.



West Middle School percussion students are pictured practicing in the cafeteria because they do not have a dedicated space to rehearse.



West Middle School orchestra students are rehearsing in a tight space because they do not have breakout rooms.

Byron Center High School Fine Arts Renovations: Renovate Byron Center High School's fine arts wing to create a more efficient space for band, choir and orchestra students. Add dedicated rehearsal spaces and multipurpose classrooms and design proper storage for all instruments and equipment.



Instruments are pictured stacked up in a classroom at Byron Center High School because there is not dedicated storage space for equipment.



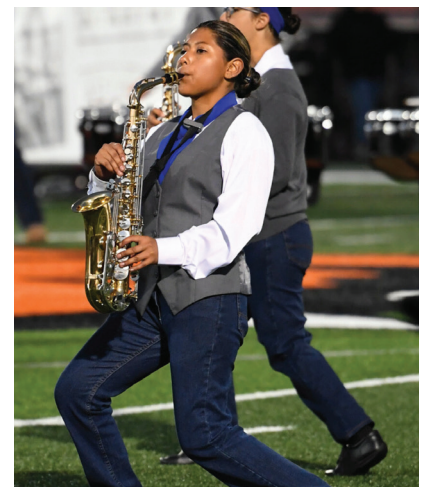
A Byron Center High School student is pictured navigating an instrument through a classroom door.

Marching Band Practice

Space: With the addition of a third turf field in the district at the West Athletic Complex, the Byron Center High School Marching Band would get more opportunities to perform on a turf field. The band would be able to use the new field or Waddell Field to practice ahead of competitions which are hosted on turf fields. Currently, the band has to work around many athletic teams' schedules to gain access to a turf field.



Byron Center marching band students are pictured practicing in the band parking lot.



A Marching Band student performs on Waddell Field during a Friday night football game.

Athletic Facilities

As Byron Center athletic programs grow, there are concerns about whether the district has adequate space for student-athletes to practice and compete. The bond proposal looks at building fields at the West Athletic Complex to accommodate the district's growing sports programs.

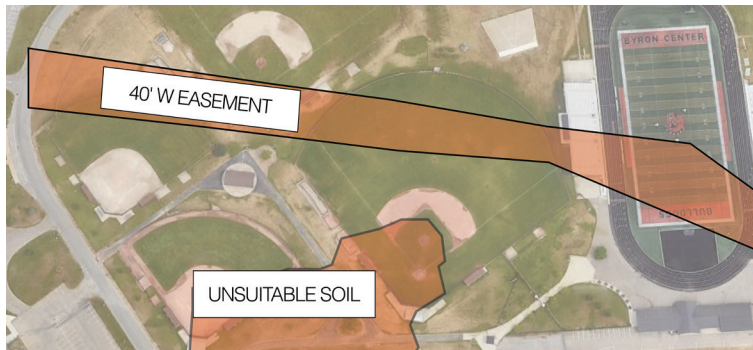
New Stadium: Build a new stadium at the West Athletic Complex, to provide the district with a third turf field. This would give Byron Center athletic programs additional space to practice and host competitions. In addition, the new stadium would alleviate the overcrowding and cramped parking during Friday night football games at the district's central campus.

The district is unable to expand its current stadium, Waddell Field, due to an easement that runs through the field, making it unsuitable for development. However, Waddell Field would still be used for track, marching band practice and multipurpose activities across the district.



Byron Center fans pack the stands for Friday night football games at Waddell Field. The bond proposal looks at building a new turf field to alleviate the crowds.

Baseball & Softball Fields: Build two turf and two natural grass baseball and softball fields at the West Athletic Complex. These fields would replace the current fields on the district's central campus that are impacted by poor drainage, unsuitable soil and limited parking. New turf fields would eliminate the many delays or cancellations Byron Center sports teams experience throughout the spring season. In addition, press boxes would be added to the baseball and softball fields, making it easier to host postseason competitions.



An aerial view of Byron Center's athletic facilities highlights unsuitable soil under the district's baseball and softball fields as well as an easement running across those fields and through Waddell Field.



Water is pictured on Byron Center's softball field. Due to poor drainage the field floods frequently.



A Girls Varsity Soccer player is pictured during a home game. The bond looks at adding seating and a press box to the soccer field.

Facility Enhancements: Install additional seating and a press box at the district's existing soccer field at the West Athletic Complex. Expand parking at the West Athletic Complex to support the new fields, and at Waddell Field to accommodate track and other events.

Enhancing these athletic facilities would give Byron Center the ability to host more postseason competitions in the future.





BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
8542 Byron Center Avenue SW
Byron Center, Michigan 49315
www.bcpsk12.net

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BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2025 BOND PROPOSAL

**For more information about
Byron Center Public Schools'
November 2025 bond proposal,
including project details, please
visit the district's website.**

