What is a mill rate? How does Sevastopol’s mill rate compare to other Districts?

The District’s mill rate has a direct impact on the school portion of each taxpayer’s annual property tax bill. The District’s goal has always been to provide the highest quality education possible while being responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.

What is the difference between an operational referendum question and a building referendum question?

An operational referendum question asks voters for permission to exceed the revenue limit for the purpose of funding annual school operations such as employee wages and benefits, utilities, technology, and support for student programming. A building referendum question asks permission for the District to borrow money for the purpose of capital improvements and maintenance projects and can be repaid over a 20-year borrowing period. The survey will ask residents to provide feedback on renewing the District’s operational referendum and for advice on facilities needs for a possible building referendum.

Has the District considered consolidation with Sturgeon Bay?

In 2008, the District commissioned a study to explore combining the Sevastopol and Sturgeon Bay School Districts. The study confirmed there are no academic or financial benefits of consolidation. Historically, Sevastopol students have performed well, and consolidation would eliminate our control of student programming. If the District consolidated, the current building would still need to remain open, and the facility improvements would still need to be addressed. At the time of the study, Sevastopol’s mill rate was $4.82 and Sturgeon Bay’s mill rate was $8.80; the new consolidated mill rate was projected to be $6.04. Currently, Sevastopol’s mill rate is $5.54 and Sturgeon Bay’s is $10.61. If consolidation occurred today, the resulting mill rate for Sevastopol taxpayers would increase significantly.

Has the District considered consolidation with Sturgeon Bay?

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We Need Your Help!
The CFAC has developed two options that they believe address our needs and best prepare the District for the future. Next, they want all residents of the School District of Sevastopol to provide feedback on their proposed concepts.

In June, every District resident will be receiving a survey in their mailbox. The survey results will determine the next steps in the facilities planning process. The District encourages all residents to educate themselves on the needs of the District and potential solutions before taking the survey. Background information on the facilities planning process can be found on the District website: www.sevastopol.k12.wi.us/CFAC.

Options:

Option 1 up to $57,000,000
Construction of a new Pre-K—12th grade school on District-owned land

- Building and site to be planned with safety and security as top priority
- Creation of flexible, modern, and appropriately sized classrooms
- Building code and ADA compliance

Potential Options:
- Option 1 up to $57,000,000
- Option 2 up to $45,000,000

Potential Options
Construction of a new Pre-K—12th grade school on District-owned land

Background:
- In 2017, the School District of Sevastopol received Wisconsin’s second-highest score on the Department of Public Instruction state report card.
- US News & World Report included Sevastopol High School on their list of the “2015 Best High Schools” in the nation.
- In 2014, the US Department of Education recognized Sevastopol Middle & High School as a National Blue Ribbon School.
- Sevastopol students’ average ACT score of 23.6 is a full point above the state average and the highest in Door and Kewaunee Counties.
- The District’s current mill rate is $5.54, well below the state average of $9.79.

Potential Investment | $40 Million | $50 Million | $60 Million
--- | --- | --- | ---
Estimated Mill Rate Impact over 2017-18 level | $1.94 | $2.43 | $2.94

Assumptions:
- Phased borrowing approach to keep all referendum debt bank qualified.
- Assumes interest rates of 4.00% to 5.00%.
- Mill rate based on 2017 equalized valuation (TID-OUT) of $1,388,253,213 with annual growth of 0.00%.

New construction allows for:
- Building and site to be planned with safety and security as top priority
- Creation of flexible, modern, and appropriately sized classrooms
- Building code and ADA compliance

Demolish the 1924 and 1946 sections of the school
Construct a new Elementary School
Construct a new Middle/High School while maintaining and renovating the newer sections of the existing school
Update aging infrastructure in existing building
Address building code and ADA compliance

Both options are preliminary layouts pending final design.