

Clarinda Community School District 2023 Post-Bond Vote Survey

We want to thank the many residents of the Clarinda Community School District who took time to learn about the recent referendum that was held and for participating in having your voice heard through your vote.

The Clarinda Community School District provides a quality educational experience for our students. Our talented teachers and staff meet and exceed the expectations of our community and as a result our students continue to excel both during and after their time in Clarinda schools.

To continue this reputation and be long-term fiscally responsible to the taxpayers, the School Board put forth the referendum on March 7, 2023 based on the recommendation of a citizen-driven Community Facility Team. While the referendum did not pass, the School District still has many facilities needs to address in order to maintain a quality school experience for our students.

Understanding that a school district is a direct reflection of the community it serves, the School District continues to be committed to a strategy and direction forward that reflects the priorities of the taxpayers and meets the needs of our students and communities. Therefore, we need to hear your voice about how to continue forward.

We are hoping that you would consider taking a few minutes to provide feedback in this survey that the School Board can use to help their planning for future projects. The survey is voluntary and entirely confidential. A summary of the results will be shared with the School Board at a public meeting soon after the **survey closes on Sunday, April 30th.**

**Once you have completed this survey, please return by
mail or by dropping off during business hours:**

CCSD District Office
423 East Nodaway Street
Clarinda, IA 51632

Office Hours: 8:00am – 4:00pm, Monday – Friday

* Required

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Please mark your response to each of the following:

1. How did you hear about this survey? *

- ☐ Postcard
- ☐ District email
- ☐ District social media
- ☐ District website
- ☐ Other

2. What is your age? *

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65+

3. Do you live in the Clarinda Community School District? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

4. Do you own property in the school district that is taxed as agricultural land? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. Are you a Clarinda Community School District employee? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. Do you have school-aged children (Pre-kindergarten - HS Senior)? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. If you have school age children, where do they attend school? (Mark all that apply)

☐ Clarinda PK-6

☐ Clarinda 7-12

☐ Parochial

☐ Home School

☐ Virtual (online) School

☐ Another public school outside of Clarinda

☐ I do not have school age children

CLARINDA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

8. All things considered, how likely are you to recommend Clarinda Schools to a friend or colleague? *

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Not at all

Very likely

9. Please provide any additional information as to why you chose the rating above:

VOTING INFORMATION

Please mark your response to the following:

10. How did you vote in the referendum election on March 7, 2023? *

☐ I voted YES on Question #1

☐ I voted YES on Question #2

☐ I voted NO on Question #1

☐ I voted NO on Question #2

☐ I am not eligible to vote

☐ I did not vote

☐ I prefer not to answer

11. If you voted NO for the referendum, please explain why. (Mark all that apply)

- ☐ Uncertainty of economy
- ☐ Did not feel informed enough about the issues
- ☐ Tax impact was too high
- ☐ Not comfortable with the projects included in the referendum
- ☐ The referendum was confusing
- ☐ Lack of faith in the District's ability to successfully complete the projects
- ☐ I voted YES for the referendum
- ☐ Other

12. Please provide any additional information to further explain your answer above:

13. How did you cast your vote? *

- ☐ I voted at the polls on Election Day
- ☐ I voted absentee (mail-in)
- ☐ I voted in person at the clerk's office
- ☐ I did not vote
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

COMMUNICATING REFERENDUM INFORMATION

When the School Board made the decision to hold a referendum, the goal was to provide each resident with a good understanding of the needs of the School District and what solutions the referendum would have provided.

Please answer the following questions so that we have a better understanding of how we can improve our communication and better address the questions and concerns you may have in the future.

14. I feel as though I was sufficiently informed to make a decision and vote on the referendum questions. *

- ☐ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ I voted via mail-in ballot before I saw information about the referendum

15. I would have preferred more information or a better understanding regarding the following project scope items: (Mark all that apply) *

- ☐ The overall purpose of the referendum
- ☐ The need for additional classroom space at the 7-12 building
- ☐ The need to renovate classrooms at the 7-12 building (science and Family Consumer Sciences rooms)
- ☐ The need to upgrade restrooms at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Creating secure entryways at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Renovating office space and creating additional classroom space at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Building a new Early Childhood Center at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Renovating the Career and Technical Education (CTE) space at the 7-12 building
- ☐ I received all the information that I needed and did not need any additional information

16. I would have preferred more information or a better understanding regarding the following financial-related items: (Mark all that apply) *

- ☐ More information on the tax impact on my property
- ☐ The difference between funding options presented (GO Bonds, Voted PPEL, SAVE)
- ☐ Breakdown of the total costs included in the referendum
- ☐ More information regarding the project financing (bond terms, interest rates, etc.)
- ☐ I received all the information that I needed and did not need any additional information
- ☐ Other

17. Where did you get the information you used to form an opinion on the referendum? (Mark all that apply) *

- ☐ District webpage
- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ Information sent in U.S. Mail
- ☐ Information sent via email
- ☐ Social media (i.e. Facebook/Twitter)
- ☐ District informational videos
- ☐ TV or Radio
- ☐ Word-of-mouth / personal conversations

18. I wish more information had been available through the following methods: (Mark all that apply)

- ☐ Community open houses at school sites
- ☐ School tours
- ☐ District webpage
- ☐ Social media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter)
- ☐ Information sent in U.S. Mail
- ☐ Information sent via email
- ☐ District informational videos
- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ TV or Radio
- ☐ Word-of-mouth / personal conversations

19. Comments about communications:

HOW TO PROCEED

Nineteen voluntary Future Facilities Advisory Team members spent over 15 hours during five meetings from September 2022 to November 2022 and ultimately identified several issues they felt needed to be addressed through a referendum, including:

- Add, reconfigure and modernize classrooms in the 7-12 building
- Update and expand Career and Technical Education spaces (Tech Ed., Family Consumer Science, etc.)
- Update building infrastructure where required (HVAC, electrical, lighting etc.) at each school
- Address preschool and before/after school programming
- Address district office space concerns
- Update secure entryways at each school's main entrance
- Reconfigure the PK-6 drop-off/pick-up and parking for safety and logistical concerns
- Update PK-6 outdoor spaces and/or playground and improve outdoor security
- Update the outdoor athletic complex (seating, scoreboard, fencing)

Understanding that the long-term viability of our school district depends on improvements being made both from a student achievement and a fiscal stability standpoint, please answer the following questions relative to how the district should proceed in the future.

20. What should the next steps be? (Mark all that apply) *

- ☐ Ask the same referendum questions after we see some economic recovery and reduced inflation
- ☐ Do additional community engagement/listening sessions to get a better understanding of community concerns
- ☐ Look for alternate solutions to the needs the district has
- ☐ Refine the referendum question and schedule another referendum
- ☐ Not sure – I need more information
- ☐ Do nothing at this time

21. What aspects of the referendum did you agree with? (Mark all that apply) *

- ☐ Building additional classrooms at the 7-12 building to better accommodate middle school students
- ☐ Renovating the Career and Technical Education (CTE) space at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Renovating science classrooms at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Renovating the Family and Consumer Science (FCS) classroom at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Upgrading restrooms at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Creating secure entryways at the elementary school
- ☐ Renovating administrative offices and adding classroom space at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Building a new Early Childhood Center at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Providing a budget allowance to build a bus barn
- ☐ I did not agree with any aspects of the referendum
- ☐ Other

22. What aspects of the referendum did you not agree with? (Mark all that apply) *

- ☐ Building additional classrooms at the 7-12 building to better accommodate middle school students
- ☐ Renovating the Career and Technical Education (CTE) space at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Renovating science classrooms at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Renovating the Family and Consumer Science (FCS) classroom at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Upgrading restrooms at the 7-12 building
- ☐ Creating secure entryways at the elementary school
- ☐ Renovating administrative offices and adding classroom space at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Building a new Early Childhood Center at the PK-6 building
- ☐ Providing a budget allowance to build a bus barn
- ☐ I agreed with all aspects of the referendum
- ☐ Other

23. Other items or ideas you would have liked to have seen addressed in the referendum:

24. Please rate the importance of the following priorities identified by the Facility Improvement Taskforce prior to the last referendum: (1=low; 2=medium; 3=high) *

	1	2	3
Be future focused, preparing students for all careers, including trades	☐	☐	☐
Having the most up to date technology for students and staff	☐	☐	☐
Safety, security, and accessibility (ADA)	☐	☐	☐
Having flexible, inclusive, and quality learning environments	☐	☐	☐
Welcoming and aesthetically pleasing facilities	☐	☐	☐
Long-term value and a good return on investment	☐	☐	☐
Students' ability to participate in athletics and extra-curricular activities	☐	☐	☐
Spaces for community members to use	☐	☐	☐

25. Are there other priorities the District should be considering?

26. If the District were to hold another referendum, when would be most appropriate? *

- ☐ September 2023
- ☐ November 2023
- ☐ March 2024
- ☐ At some point after March 2024
- ☐ Not sure – I would need additional information
- ☐ I would not support another referendum

27. The referendum had two questions with a total estimated tax impact of \$21.37 per month (\$256 per year) on the average home* in the School District. Assuming the projects were acceptable to you, what would be your level of support for a future referendum based on an average home*?

* Average home market value of \$125,000

- ☐ Under \$5 per month (under \$60 per year)
- ☐ \$5 per month (\$60 per year)
- ☐ \$10 per month (\$120 per year)
- ☐ \$15 per month (\$180 per year)
- ☐ \$20 per month (\$240 per year)
- ☐ \$25 per month (\$300 per year)
- ☐ \$30 per month (\$360 per year)
- ☐ More than \$30 per month (more than \$360 per year)
- ☐ I would not support any referendum

28. Any final comments about to how to proceed: