SLCS 2025 Bond Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is on the November 4, 2025, ballot?
South Lyon Community Schools is placing a bond proposal on the November 4, 2025, ballot. If passed, the bond would result in a zero-tax-rate increase for South Lyon Community taxpayers.

Why is South Lyon Community Schools proposing a bond?
As part of a larger strategic plan developed in 2020 and recently updated in 2025, the district is actively continuing its commitment to providing an exceptional learning experience that empowers all students to thrive, academically and personally, while preparing them to be the best version of themself.

The 2025 bond proposal was developed to offer an opportunity to create a more equal learning environment for all students in our district. Regardless of the school or grade level, every classroom should provide the same high-quality education, safe and secure facilities, and future-ready resources. This bond proposal aims to close the gaps between our school buildings by investing in district-wide improvements.

To support our mission, the Board of Education is asking voters to consider a $350 million bond proposal that would fund district-wide improvements at a zero-tax-rate increase. The proposal focuses on safety, infrastructure, and providing students with state-of-the-art technology and future-ready learning environments. Additionally, the bond proposal would include a significant expansion of the Early Childhood Center, enabling the district to better attract and serve the young families of the district, as well as an expansion and renovation of the Center for Active Adults.

How is the bond funded if this proposal is a zero-tax-rate increase?
The district has structured its existing debt to provide for decreases in the debt millage needed to service existing debt. This step down in millage next year would allow the district to issue the new bonds within the district's current debt millage rate of 7.00 mills.

These millage rate projections are based upon conservative projections from PFM Financial Advisors, the leading educational/municipal bond advisors in the State of Michigan and the nation. These factors will enable the district to pay the debt service costs on the new bonds without raising the total debt millage rate over the debt millage rate paid by taxpayers in 2025.

Property tax costs may be lower for senior citizens or households with incomes below a certain level that qualify for the Homestead Property Tax Credit. For more information, visit Michigan.gov/taxes/iit/credits/hptc.

What buildings and projects would be updated if the bond passes?
Below are the projects that would take place if the bond passes:

Future Forward Learning Opportunities
Invest in early learning, modern spaces, uniform facilities, and well-rounded student experiences.

- Major early childhood expansion
- Renovation & expansion of the Center for Active Adults
- Upgrades of science, technology & art spaces
- Uniformity across district facilities
- Athletic upgrades & playground enhancements

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Safety and Security

Enhance school safety through secure entrances, surveillance, and alarm systems.

- New secure vestibules
- Upgraded surveillance & alarm systems
- New emergency generators
- New doors, hardware & access control

Critical Infrastructure

District-wide renovations, efficiency upgrades, exterior and interior upgrades and replacements.

- Renovate all district schools
- Mechanical & electrical work to replace aged equipment and create operational savings
- Roofing, windows & door replacements
- Site work & parking lot improvements

Technology, Equipment, & Furniture

Equip learning spaces with upgraded technology and necessary equipment to create supportive learning environments.

- New classroom instructional technology
- New musical, art & athletic equipment
- New school buses
- New classroom furniture

How will the bond dollars be allocated?

A zero tax-rate-increase bond will yield approximately $350 million. Below are the approximate bond dollar allocations:

Future Forward Learning Opportunities = 28%
Safety and Security = 10%
Critical Infrastructure = 43%
Technology, Equipment, & Furniture = 19%
Total = $350M

What would be the anticipated timing for projects in this proposed bond program?

If approved by voters, projects will enter the design phase, with construction anticipated to begin in 2026 and continue through 2033. Information would be shared with the community on the district website in future communications.

Please explain what bond program funds can cover and what it cannot.

Bond proceeds **can** be used for the following items (if included in the ballot language):

- Construction and remodeling of facilities
- Purchase of instructional technology equipment
- Equipment and furniture
- Site improvements
- Bus purchases
- Athletic upgrades & playground enhancements

Bond proceeds **cannot** be used for the following items:

- Salaries and wages
- General operating expenses
- Maintenance or repairs
- Classroom supplies and textbooks

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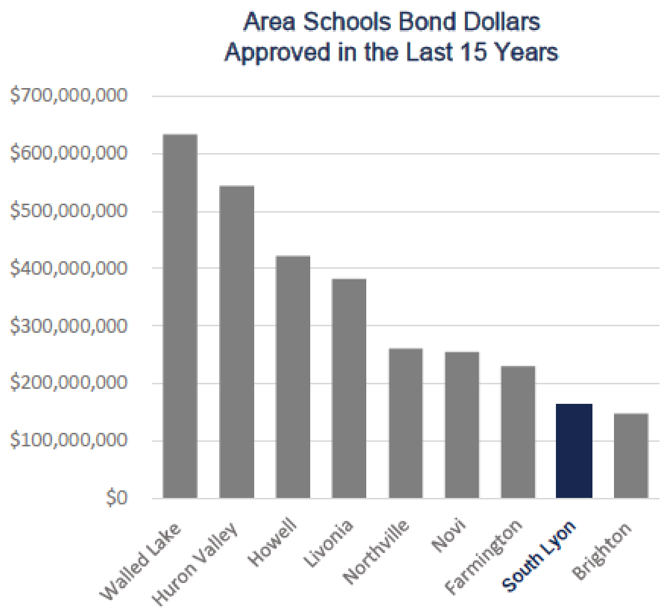
How are Michigan schools funded?
In Michigan, school districts receive funding from the state based on the number of students enrolled. This per-pupil funding helps cover everyday expenses such as employee salaries, classroom materials, and transportation. The state **does not directly provide** funding for building repairs, renovations, or new construction. Districts must ask voters to approve local funding through bond proposals, which helps to fund such capital improvements. Bond proposals allow districts to borrow money for facility improvements and repay it over time using property taxes. This type of funding proposal will appear on the November 2025 ballot.

How does our community's bond dollars compare to those of other school districts?
Bond programs have been approved and implemented in a number of nearby schools in the last 15 years. Please refer to the chart below:



When is Election Day?
The election day for this 2025 Bond proposal will take place on November 4, 2025.

Where do I register to vote?
To vote in the November 4, 2025, election, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age by Election Day, a resident of Michigan, and a resident of South Lyon Community Schools. Please visit your local township or city clerk to register to vote or visit any Secretary of State office.

If I am unable to vote in person on November 4, what are my options for absentee voting?
All eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absentee ballot. Applications for Absentee Ballots are available:

- Online at www.michigan.gov/vote
- At your City Clerk's office

Absentee ballots are sent out no later than 40 days before election day.
Note: Once election ballots are available in the clerk's office, you can walk into your clerk's office, receive an absentee application, fill it out, and immediately be given your ballot to cast your vote.

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What if the bond proposal does not pass?
The district strives to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to them by the community. If the ballot proposal does not pass, the district would need to delay critical infrastructure improvements. That delay will ultimately lead to higher costs in the future and could require the district to divert general fund dollars from the classrooms to address these critical infrastructure improvements.

The debt millage rate is scheduled to remain at 7.00 mills for 2026. The Board of Education and administration would need to then determine next steps, which could include another ballot proposal, refinancing existing debt to maintain the 7.00 mill levy for the next few years.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?
Please email bond2025@slcs.us for any questions related to the 2025 bond proposal.

Where can I find more information about the bond proposal?
To find more information on the November 4 bond proposal, please visit our district website at http://www.slcs.us/2025_bond_proposal