

# Glassboro Schools: Bulldog Proud

## A Special School Election Newsletter



Published by Glassboro Public Schools, 560 Joseph Bowe Blvd, Glassboro, NJ 08028 • Phone 856-652-2700

### Calling All Glassboro Bulldogs: Cast Your Vote on March 10

On March 10, the Glassboro community will vote on a referendum/special school election that reflects residents' suggestions. The Glassboro Board of Education listened to voters' voices, reprioritized projects and eliminated some items from the prior September referendum. The result - a three-question ballot that separates projects into Critical Needs, Energy and Environment, and Educational Space/Programs.



**Where:** Beach Admin. Bldg.  
560 Bowe Blvd.  
Glassboro, NJ

**When:** Tuesday, March 10  
2 - 9 p.m.

#### Vote by Mail Information:

[www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/c/cclerk/electserv](http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/depts/c/cclerk/electserv)

#### Tax Freeze Information:

Are you a Senior Citizen or receiving Federal Social Security Disability Benefits? You may be eligible for Property Tax Reimbursement (the Senior Tax Freeze). To find out, visit [www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml](http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml) or call 800-882-6597.



Gaping Leak in the GHS Hallway

### Important Things You Should Know About This Referendum

#### Three Question Ballot

While all three ballot questions address important projects, Question 1 projects are high-priority projects. Question 2 or 3 projects cannot be undertaken unless Question 1 passes in addition to 2 or 3, respectively.

#### Expiration of Existing Debt

District debt from prior referendums will be paid off by August 2018. Residents will begin to realize a positive impact in subsequent tax years. Existing debt accounts for approximately \$265 on the \$187,567 average-assessed home in Glassboro.

#### State Aid Available

The Board seeks to complete the projects through a referendum rather than other means so that the community can benefit from debt service aid from

the NJ State Department of Education. If all three questions pass, state aid could amount to an estimated \$12.6 million. This aid would not be available without referendum approval. Without it, the taxpayers and the District would likely bear the entire cost.

#### Alternative If Referendum Fails

Without state aid from an approved referendum, taxpayers would shoulder higher costs for less work. Approximately \$1.35 million of critical work on the high school roofs would need to be done immediately. Using a 5-year lease instead of the referendum to finance just that work alone would carry an average, estimated annualized tax increase of \$46 for residents. **Class size increases or program cuts might be necessary if the referendum fails.**

### Question 1-Critical Needs

These projects focus on protecting lives and property and replacing systems that are costly to repair and on the verge of potential failure.

- Repair/replace roofs (Those being replaced were not part of the 2002 referendum.)
- Eliminate wall leaks, restore plaster, and repair Masonry at GIS
- Replace GIS HVAC controls
- Replace Bullock chiller
- Renovate select bathrooms in the four older schools (Bowe students don't have hot water for hand washing; sewage backed up at GHS last year.)
- Replace failed and failing heating and ventilation units at Bowe
- Increase security and cameras
- Build secure entranceways
- Replace fire alarm systems and faulty intercom systems
- Add technology to support classroom learning, state mandated testing and security
- Install one emergency generator for communication in a crisis (Others were eliminated.)

**Question 1 Project Cost:** \$13.88 million  
**Estimated tax impact:** \$74 a year or 20¢ a day on an average-assessed home.



Large Ceiling Leaks at Thomas E. Bowe School

**Glassboro Public Schools**  
**560 Joseph Bowe Blvd.**  
**Glassboro, NJ 08028**

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**Glassboro, NJ 08028**

**Tuesday, March 10 from 2 – 9 p.m.**  
**at 560 Bowe Blvd., Glassboro, NJ**

**Question 2-Energy/Environment**

Through Question 2, the Glassboro School District seeks to address obsolete and non-functioning HVAC systems to reduce service calls, downtime and maintenance needs. The new systems will improve energy efficiency, comfort levels and reliability.

- Replace GHS chiller
- Replace boilers at GHS and J. Harvey Rodgers School
- Add new GHS classroom ventilators
- Replace HVAC controls in many buildings
- Add energy-efficient lighting in select areas of all schools
- Add air conditioning to non-air conditioned areas of GHS and J. Harvey Rodgers School

**Question 2 Project Cost:** \$9.77 million

**Estimated tax impact:** \$51 a year or 14¢ a day on the average-assessed home.



40-Year-Old Boiler at J. Harvey Rodgers School

**Question 3-Educational Space/Programs**

Question 3 projects will enhance district instructional programs and athletic spaces to support the fine and performing arts and athletic programs that are a great source of pride.

- Add GHS musical practice space and instrumental storage
- Remove the GHS band room’s tiered floor
- Renovate an outdated classroom into a drama classroom
- Restore GHS tennis courts for use by residents as well as students
- Repair GHS track and field areas to extend the life of the existing track
- Create a fitness track at GIS over the old dirt and grass track area
- Replace GHS gym basketball backboards and baseball backstops
- Remove the aging, archives building behind GIS.

**Question 3 Project Cost:** \$3.25 million

**Estimated tax impact:** \$21 a year or 6¢ a day on the average-assessed home.

**Community Presentations**

Thursday, March 5, 7 p.m. at Glassboro High School, 550 Bowe Boulevard. Additional presentations available upon request. More referendum information is available from Site Shortcuts on the District website ([www.glassboroschools.us](http://www.glassboroschools.us)).