



Goodridge School District  
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Goodridge School Website: [www.goodridge.k12.mn.us](http://www.goodridge.k12.mn.us)

Building Project Website: [GoodridgeForward.org](http://GoodridgeForward.org)

## GOODRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT REQUEST FOR SALES TAX EXEMPTION ON CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS HF 2823 / SF 3076

### Why Goodridge needs this exemption now

- **We are a 270-student district with only 796 residents.** That base is spread across 284 square miles of Pennington and Marshall counties and consists primarily of farmers and small landowners.
- **Our residents have already absorbed a significant property tax increase.** Our 2023 bond referendum carried a substantial impact on agricultural landowners and on the typical House/Garage/Acre parcel. We cannot return to district residents for additional funds.

### How this project will benefit our students

- **Dedicated Special Education classrooms** designed for the needs of our students.
- **A Career and Technical Education classroom** for welding, small engines, and robotics.
- **A renovated science lab**, with the existing science room repurposed as a Family and Consumer Science classroom.
- **A new hot-water boiler and modern HVAC system**, replacing the 70-year-old steam boiler.
- **A secure front entrance** with administrative offices on the ground level and multi-layer security.
- **A new performance gymnasium** with a full-size court and cross-courts for junior-high play.
- **Six additional elementary classrooms (grades 3–6)**, addressing chronic class-size pressure.

### Building project: fast facts

- **Parts of our building are over 100 years old.** Most classrooms and learning spaces are undersized for the way we teach today.
- **Our boiler is 70 years old.** Replacing it is non-negotiable for student safety and basic operations.
- **This is our first major building project since 1996.** The one before that was in 1964.
- **The project will need last another generation.** This is potentially the only bonding referendum the district will pass for decades. Every dollar has to go as far as possible.
- **Total referendum:** \$21.35 million (includes construction, contingency, bond issuance costs, and capitalized interest)
- **Total construction:** \$17.55 million
- **Estimated building materials:** \$8.5 million
- **Estimated sales tax on materials:** \$580,000
- **Bond approved:** November 7, 2023, by a vote of 230 to 179
- **Schedule:** groundbreaking June 2025; substantial completion before the start of the 2026–27 school year

### WHAT \$580,000 MEANS FOR GOODRIDGE

For a district our size, \$580,000 equates to the same dollar amount as **5 teachers, 3 paraprofessionals, and 2 bus drivers.**



### District profile

- Single pre-kindergarten through grade 12 building
- K-12 enrollment: 270 students
- 40% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals
- 90% of students ride a school bus
- Nearest neighboring school district is approximately 20 minutes away
- Located in northwestern Minnesota, 60 miles south of the Canadian border, in Pennington and Marshall counties
- 796 district residents and 323 households

### Project timeline

- Summer 2022 – District committed to a long-range facilities plan to improve aging facilities and expand educational opportunities for students.
- Fall 2022 – Hosted listening sessions with students, staff, and community stakeholders; completed educational-adequacy and facilities assessments.
- Spring 2023 – School board held public work sessions throughout the spring.
- May 2023 – Communicated findings to staff and community; consensus formed to pursue a bonding referendum. A community action committee was assembled from staff, parents, community volunteers, school board members, and administration.
- June 2023 – School board unanimously approved a resolution to present a single-question bond referendum to district residents on November 7, 2023.
- Summer–Fall 2023 – District engaged residents in communication about the proposed referendum.
- November 7, 2023 – Residents approved the \$21.35 million bonding referendum, 230 to 179.
- December 2024 – District accepted construction bids.
- June 2, 2025 – Groundbreaking.
- Summer–Fall 2025 – New precast additions erected; structural work completed; building enclosed before winter.
- Summer–Fall 2026 – Interior renovations completed; substantial completion before the start of the 2026–27 school year.

### School Rendering - Showing new secure front entrance and new addition

