

AN OPEN LETTER TO MACOMB COUNTY VOTERS

Special education services are provided to over 19,000 Macomb County special education students, including 900 infants. The services provided are for students with Autism, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Emotional Impairment, Cognitive Impairment, Severe Multiple Impairment, Physical Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Speech and Language Impairment, Visual Impairment, and Traumatic Brain Injury.

Our students come from all 21 school districts in Macomb County to attend schools and facilities operated by Macomb Intermediate School District (Macomb ISD).

A LITTLE HISTORY

Macomb ISD has been serving Macomb County's special education population since the 1950s. **The services Macomb ISD provides are efficient, effective, and much less expensive** than if each local school district provided the same services on its own.

WHY IS THIS BOND PROPOSAL NECESSARY?

Schools and facilities that serve Macomb County's special education students, on average, are 60 years old. One of the Macomb ISD schools scheduled for replacement was built in the late 1950s and is simply inefficient and worn out. Replacing it is more economical than updating it. In addition, the bathrooms, classrooms, and common spaces do not adequately meet the needs of special education students because many students are medically fragile and require specialized care such as feeding and breathing tubes and many other supports.

To accommodate Macomb County's changing special education population, Macomb ISD will remodel or build additional school facilities. In addition, classrooms will be constructed at several Macomb ISD school buildings. Other aging schools and facilities need upgrading, security enhancements, boilers, and roof replacements.

The bottom line is that Macomb ISD's special education schools and facilities have reached the end of their useful life or need expansion or enhancement to provide students with the specialized facilities they need.

WHAT WILL THIS BOND PROPOSAL COST?

If approved by voters, the bond proposal calls for a 0.17 mill tax increase. **The cost to the average Macomb County homeowner will be less than \$20 per year... or about 5¢ per day.** These funds remain in Macomb County for special education students, and none of these funds can or will be used for salaries.

WHO WILL BENEFIT IF THIS BOND PROPOSAL IS APPROVED BY VOTERS?

Special education students from every school district in Macomb County will benefit if the bond proposal is approved.

HOW TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION

Registered voters living in Macomb County can vote at the polls between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 8th, or by absentee ballot after September 29th through Election Day. You can request an absentee ballot application from your Clerk's Office or by going online to www.michigan.gov/vote and clicking on Absentee Voting in the left column.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOND PROPOSAL?

- Go to <https://macombisdbond.net>
- Contact Justin Michalak, the Macomb ISD's Assistant Superintendent for Special Education at 586/228-3512 or by email at specialeducation@misd.net.

Proud family of their Bovenschen student from Warren

Thank you for your consideration of Macomb ISD's special education bond proposal.

SIGNATURE HERE

Michael DeVault
Macomb ISD Superintendent





**Macomb Intermediate
School District**

44001 Garfield Road
Clinton Twp., MI 48038

Macomb County citizens have a legacy of supporting special needs children and adults.



Students and parents from Glen Peters School, Macomb Township

There's something special on the November ballot.

It has to do with a bond proposal to construct, renovate, and update the facilities where Macomb County's special education students—from birth through early adulthood—go to school and receive specialized support.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE SPECIAL EDUCATION BOND PROPOSAL WITH US.

Scan the QR code or visit www.research.net/r/macombisdbondproposal to take a brief survey.



Proud Mom of her Bovenschen student from Sterling Heights