

If you intend to  
speak at public  
comment,  
please sign up in  
the lobby

Act 780 Hearing

August 5, 2024

JSASD Board of Directors



# Public Hearing Pursuant to Section 780 of the PA School Code of 1949

August 5, 2024





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## Our Mission

The Jersey Shore Area School District will provide a supportive environment where all members learn, grow and succeed to positively impact the world around them.

# Agenda

- A. Compliance with School code
- B. Facilities Needs
- C. Budget Implications
- D. Educational Opportunity
- E. Timeline
- F. Public comment



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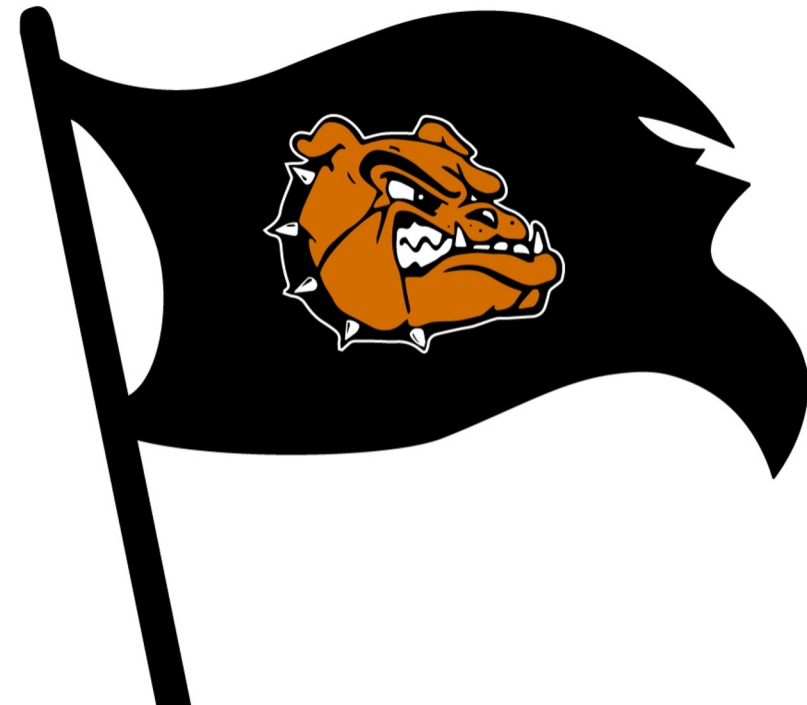
# PA School Code Section 780

“In the event of a permanent closing of a public school or substantially all of a school’s facilities, the board of school directors shall hold a public hearing on the question not less than three months prior to the decision of the board relating to the closing of the school. Notice of the hearing shall be given in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of such hearings.”



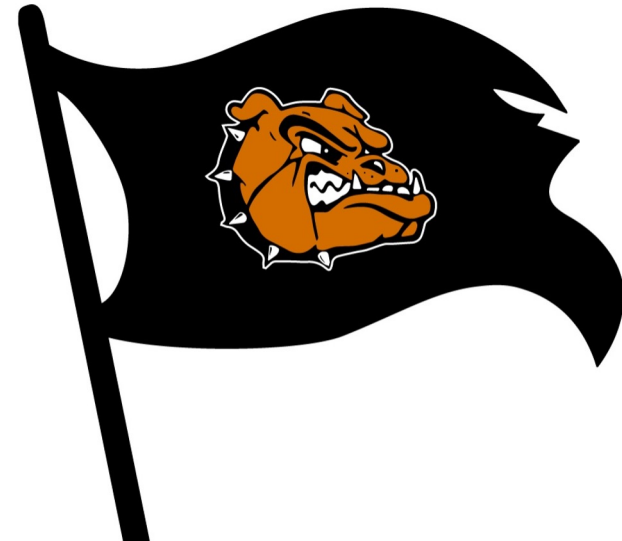
# PA Constitution

In my capacity as a commissioned officer of the State of Pennsylvania, I am charged by the Pennsylvania Constitution, Article III, Section 14, to provide for the maintenance and support of a “thorough and efficient system of public education to serve the needs of the Commonwealth”



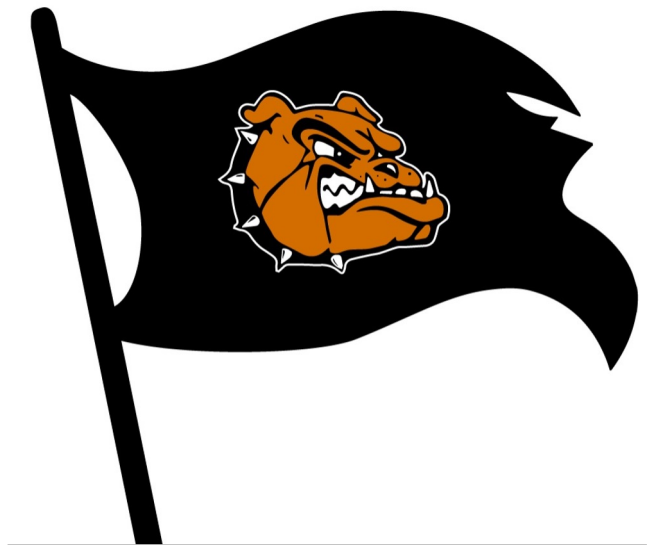
# Board Policy/PA School Code

The authority to establish, equip, furnish, operate and maintain the public schools of Jersey Shore Area School District is vested in the Board of School Directors, which is a body corporate and is constituted and governed by Title 24 of the Pennsylvania Statutes, the Public School Code of 1949 as amended, Article III of the Pennsylvania Constitution and applicable federal and state laws and regulations



# Board Policy/PA School Code

The Board shall act as the general agent of the residents of the school district in matters of public education.





## Facilities Needs

- Capital Projects Committee priorities
  - HVAC and Building Envelope
- Administration prioritized those items as identified by Hunt Engineering
- This was done over years at public meetings





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# Facilities Needs

- HVAC Breakdown\*
  - Administration \$175,000.00
  - Avis \$1,256,000.00
  - JSE \$95,000.00
  - HS \$1,294,000.00
  - MS \$834,000.00
  - Sall \$1,593,000.00

\*These are Hunt 2020 numbers



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## Facilities Needs

- June 2022 Capital Projects report\*
  - Salladasburg \$1,593,000.00
- These costs have escalated and do not include all needed repairs

\*These are Hunt 2020 numbers

# Facilities Needs

Facility	ALARM	ALERT	CAUTION	TOTALS
Jersey Shore Middle School	\$ 7,561,118	\$ 10,513,063	\$ 5,270,707	\$ 23,344,887
Avis Elementary	\$ 1,828,400	\$ 1,896,043	\$ 1,885,471	\$ 5,609,914
Salladasburg Elementary	\$ 845,845	\$ 1,007,860	\$ 11,497,940	\$ 13,351,645
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$ 10,235,363</b>	<b>\$ 13,416,966</b>	<b>\$ 18,654,117</b>	<b>\$ 42,306,446</b>
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Now</b>	<b>1 - 2 years</b>	<b>3 - 5 years</b>	

This does not include High School and JSE

# Budget Implications

- Borrowing \$10 million would result in an increase of \$500,000 to the general fund budget debt service annually through 2030.
- Current debt is eliminated in 2030.

\*August 2023 PFM (District Financial Management) report





# Budget Implications

- No change
  - Costs to maintain all buildings – minimally \$42 million
  - We cannot borrow this much without a larger annual payment.
- Reconfiguration
  - Utilize cost savings toward borrowing for current needs
  - When debt is satisfied in 2030, continue with other projects.



# Budget Implications

- No change
  - Costs to maintain all buildings – minimally \$42 million
  - We have the option of exhausting current fund balance and raising taxes to accomplish needed repairs.
  - Repairs can be done in smaller pieces over a longer period of time.
  - A longer time frame could cause emergency repairs to pop up with the options being deplete fund balance or borrow money.
  - This scenario means that borrowing has to be paid for with fund balance or tax increases.



# Proposal

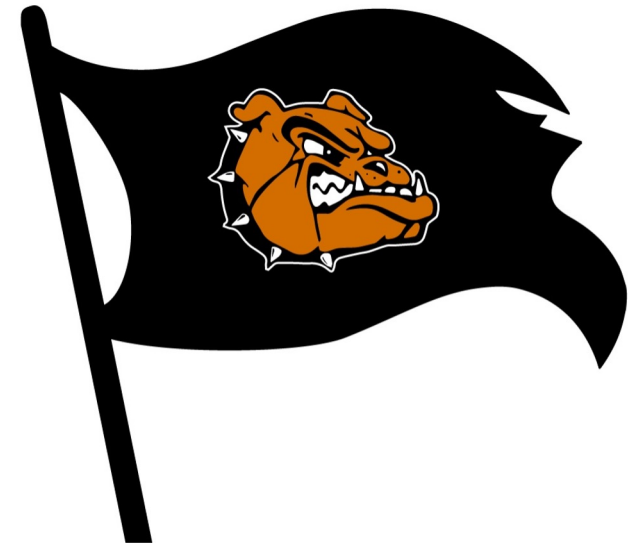
- JSE would house all current JSE and Salladasburg students in grades K-5
- Avis would house all current students in grades K-5
- Salladasburg would close at the end of the 2024-2025 school year





# Savings

- Annual Staffing savings = \$760,397.00
  - 5 teachers (5 regular ed) - \$419,711.00
  - 3 paraprofessionals (library, learning support and reading) - \$144,082.00
  - 1 night shift custodian - \$61,592.00
  - 1 head custodian - \$69,838.00
  - 1 10-month secretary - \$65,185.00
- Annual Operational savings = \$100,000
- Total Annual Budget Savings = \$860,397



\*Positions would be taken through attrition, not furloughs

# Educational Space Planning

Grade Level	25-26 projections	If current # of classes	Average class size	Proposed #	Average class size
K	100	5	20.00	5	20.00
1	90	6	15.00	5	18.00
2	124	6	20.67	5	24.80
3	104	6	17.33	5	20.80
4	117	6	19.50	5	23.40
5	120	6	20.00	5	24.00
		Total		Total	
		35		30	
			reduction	5	

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## Educational Space Planning

- Board members have been provided a map of JSE indicating space usage.
- Maps are security related and will not be released.



# Closure Issues

- Students and teachers at Salladasburg will be disrupted.
- People will be upset over the loss of their school.
- Some of the savings could be taken by withdraws (cyber, homeschool, etc.).



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# Educational Opportunity

- Efficiency of Support – Reading Specialist, Guidance Counselor, Speech and Language, Special Education
- Efficiency of Staff – Related Arts travel time (Art, Music, Library, Physical Education, Computer, Band, Chorus)
- Safety – smaller footprint and response time by Lycoming Regional Police and our SRO
- Building coverage – all buildings will have full-time administrative support



# Student Transportation

- In our district, most buses flow from outside into town already
- All Middle and Senior high school students already come into town from the Salladasburg area.



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# Timeline

- Board cannot take any action for 90 days
  - No action can be taken until after November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- No change would occur until August, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year





# Questions from the public

The Board and Superintendent will listen to questions and an FAQ document will be released at a later date.



# Guidelines for public participation in board meetings

- The purpose of public comment at Board meetings is to allow the Board to learn the thoughts of the public prior to Board deliberation and official action
- Each participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration, unless the Board President/Presiding Office extends the time limit.
- No participant may address Board Members or Administrators directly.
- No participant may speak more than once on the same topic, unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.
- Sign in for the first public comment is required
- Complaints need to follow the chain of command established in Board Policy and included on the website





Thank you for your  
participation and  
attendance

The hearing has now  
concluded. Please exit the  
building.