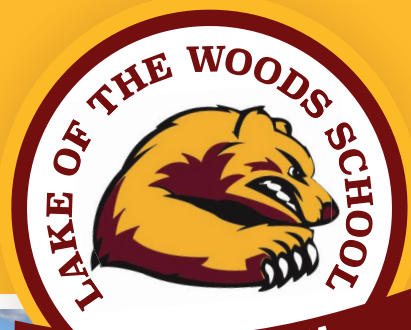




BOND REFERENDUM + CAPITAL PROJECT LEVY

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

REFERENDUM
VOTE NOV 4



A SINGLE BALLOT QUESTION. ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS.



FACILITY BOND

\$5 MILLION

Investing to Preserve Our Building:
Focuses on creating safe, high-quality learning environments for students. Funding would allow for replacement of original building windows to improve energy efficiency, needed repairs to flooring, roof, exterior masonry, sidewalks, and improvements to safety and traffic flow.



CAPITAL PROJECT LEVY

\$400,000 PER YEAR FOR 10 YEARS

Supporting Student Learning:
Focuses on instructional resources and student safety. Funding would update curriculum materials, classroom technology, devices, and software, replace security and communication systems, and provide a bus replacement schedule to maintain a safe and reliable fleet.

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETINGS

MON, SEPTEMBER 15
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Lake of the Woods School Auditorium
236 15th Ave SW, Baudette, MN 56623

TUES, OCTOBER 7
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Lake of the Woods School Auditorium
236 15th Ave SW, Baudette, MN 56623

THURS, OCTOBER 30
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Lake of the Woods School Auditorium
236 15th Ave SW, Baudette, MN 56623

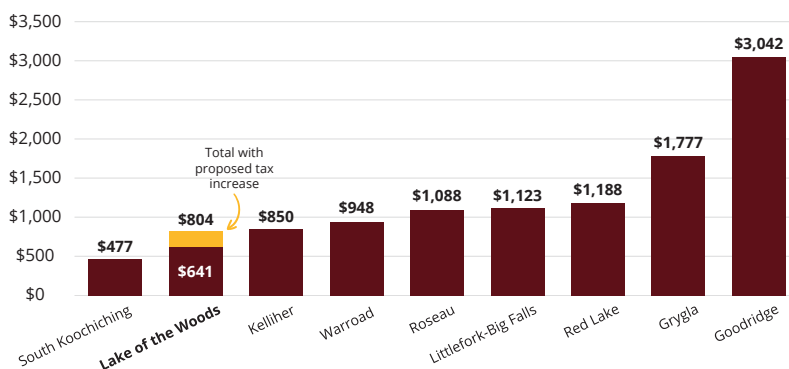
Invite the district to visit your group or organization. Contact Superintendent Scott Fitzsimonds.

Email:
scott_f@lakeofthewoodsschool.org

Call:
218-634-2510

COMPARISON OF NEIGHBORING SCHOOL TAXES

Total School Property Taxes, Payable 2025, on a Home with an Estimated Market Value of \$225,000



Source: Pay 25 School Tax Report
Note: Gold-colored bar represents estimated increase for referendum only for taxes payable in 2026. Other school district levy amounts for taxes payable in 2026 will be determined by the Minnesota Department of Education in the fall of 2025 and certified by the School Board in December of 2025.

Lake of the Woods School residents PAY LESS in school taxes than most neighboring districts, and that will not change even if the referendum passes.

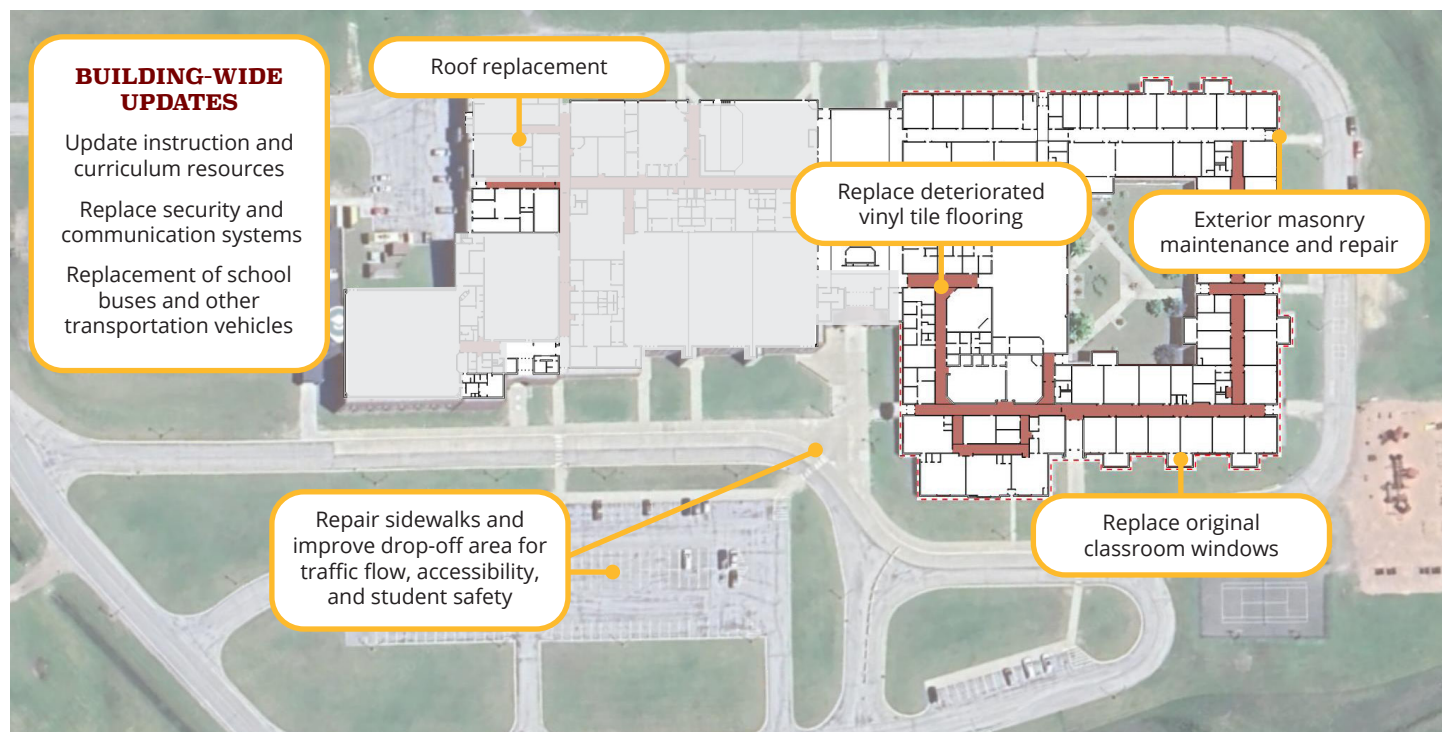
CURRENT CHALLENGES

Building experts have studied the condition of Lake of the Woods School. This school was built in 1991, with the most recent additions made 27 years ago. Some of the most pressing issues include:

- **Broken, cracked, and uneven sidewalks** allowing water to collect and freeze in the winter, creating safety and accessibility concerns.
- **Unsafe traffic flow in parking lots and pick-up areas** due to changing needs, crossing hazards exist putting children at risk. Repairs are also needed to meet accessibility requirements.
- **Roof deterioration** with blistering and cracking in areas, requires urgent attention.
- **The original residential-style windows are 31+ years old**, and have weathering damage and deformation, leaving them stuck shut or unable to close properly.
- **Masonry deterioration** of concrete walls and window sills require repair to maintain building safety.
- **Worn-out vinyl flooring** has cracking and widening joints from building movement, requiring replacement.
- **Lack of funding** for curriculum, textbooks, learning materials, and technology. Resources are outdated and technology infrastructure is at its end of life, needing replacement.
- **Aging buses and transportation vehicles** averaging nearly 12 years old, need replacing to ensure safe and reliable transportation for students.



PRELIMINARY CONCEPTUAL PLANS



TAX IMPACT

The table below shows the tax impact for the bond and levy question on various types of properties.

Type of Property	Estimated Market Value	Estimated Impact on Annual Taxes Payable 2026*	
		Monthly	Annual
Residential Homestead	\$100,000	\$4	\$51
	\$200,000	\$12	\$140
	\$250,000	\$15	\$185
	\$300,000	\$19	\$230
	\$400,000	\$27	\$319
Commercial/ Industrial	\$100,000	\$10	\$123
	\$250,000	\$29	\$348
	\$1,000,000	\$131	\$1,577
Agricultural Homestead** (average value per acre of land & buildings)	\$2,000	\$0.05	\$0.56
	\$3,000	\$0.07	\$0.84
	\$4,000	\$0.09	\$1.12
Agricultural Non-Homestead** (average value per acre of land & buildings)	\$2,000	\$0.09	\$1.12
	\$3,000	\$0.14	\$1.69
	\$4,000	\$0.19	\$2.25
Seasonal Recreational Residential	\$200,000	\$14	\$164
	\$300,000	\$21	\$246
	\$400,000	\$27	\$328

*The amounts in the table are based on school district taxes for the Capital Project Levy, principal and interest payments new bonds, and other capital levies only, and do not include tax levies for other purposes. Tax increases shown above are gross increases, not including the impact of the homeowner's Homestead Credit Refund ("Circuit Breaker") program. Owners of homestead property may qualify for a refund, based on their income and total property taxes. This will decrease the net effect of the proposed bond issue for qualifying property owners.

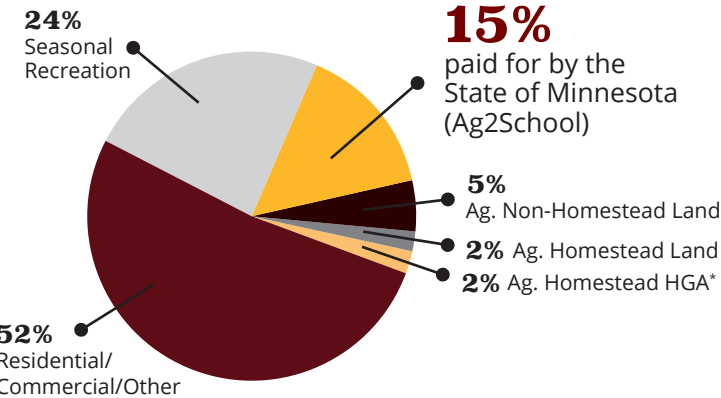
**For all agricultural property, the estimated tax impact reflects a 70% reduction due to the School Building Bond Agricultural Credit, applicable to the facility bond portion of the ballot question. Average value per acre is the total estimated market value of all land & buildings divided by total acres. If the property includes a home, then the tax impact on the house, garage, and one acre of land will be calculated in addition to the taxes per acre, on the same basis as a residential homestead or non-homestead property. If the same property owner owns more than \$3.8 million of agricultural homestead land and buildings, a portion of the property will be taxed at the higher non-homestead rate.

TAX CALCULATOR

Visit www.ehlers-inc.com/calculator/lotws2025 or scan the QR code to find out the tax impact on your property.



AG2SCHOOL CREDIT



ESTIMATED FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE FACILITY BOND PORTION OF THE BALLOT QUESTION

The Lake of the Woods School tax base is made up of 22% qualifying agricultural land. The State Ag2School Tax is currently set at 70%. As a result, the State of Minnesota pays approximately 15% of the facility bond portion of the ballot question.

*Ag. Homestead HGA is comprised of the house, garage & one acre of land & does not qualify for the School Building Bond Agricultural Credit.
Note: Estimates based on Final Data for Pay Year 2025 & assume no change in values, state equalizing factors or in state law.



SAMPLE BALLOT

School District Question 1 Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization

The school board of Independent School District No. 390 (Lake of the Woods) has proposed a project for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including roof repairs, exterior masonry; window replacements; flooring repair; the construction of site safety and traffic flow improvements to the school site and facility; the completion of various deferred maintenance and infrastructure projects at that facility; the acquisition, installation, replacement, support and maintenance of software, educational software, software licenses, computers, improved technology equipment, networks, infrastructure, the costs of technology related personnel and training; the purchase and replacement of school buses and school-related transportation vehicles; and the acquisition of curriculum, textbooks and materials. To provide funds for a portion of the project costs, the school board has proposed to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000. To provide funds for the remaining portion of the project costs, the school board has proposed a capital project levy authorization in the amount of 4.969% times the net tax capacity of the school district. The proposed capital project levy will raise approximately \$400,000 for taxes payable in 2026, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten (10) years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded by the capital project levy authorization is approximately \$4,000,000. The projects to be funded have received a positive review and comment from the Commissioner of Education.

Shall the issuance of the general obligation school building bonds and the capital project levy authorization proposed by the school board of Independent School District No. 390 be approved?

☐ YES ☐ NO

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION,
YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

VOTING INFORMATION

EARLY VOTING

STARTING SEPTEMBER 19

M-F 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Lake of the Woods Government Center
206 8th Ave SE, Baudette, MN 56623

EXTENDED HOURS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Lake of the Woods Government Center
206 8th Ave SE, Baudette, MN 56623



Prepared and paid for by Independent School District No. 390 (Lake of the Woods), 236 15th Ave SW, P.O. Box 310, Baudette, MN 56623.