



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

? **Does the quality of a school district affect home values and the overall value of property in the district?**

YES! Families often move to a community based on their perception of the school district. The laws of supply and demand and common sense tell us that home values increase when there are many potential home buyers who want to purchase existing homes. Also, new subdivisions are developed in communities with top quality schools. Conversely, when there is not a market for existing housing and/or no new houses being built, housing values plummet. Community decay often results, businesses close, and crime increases. An investment in school facilities is an investment in the community and homes within the community.

? **Is now a good time for the district to borrow money for these projects?**

YES! Interest rates are near a historic low. If the referendum is successful the district would borrow money through the sale of municipal bonds and be able to take advantage of the current low interest rates. In the future, interest rates may go up, making any projects more costly to our citizens. A 1% increase in the interest rates would result in more than \$7 million of additional interest costs.

? **If successful, will the referendum help our children prepare for college and careers?**

YES! The Grafton School District prides itself in maximizing the potential of all of our students. Students attending a four year university and attaining advanced degrees will benefit tremendously from the renovated science facilities, including the new bio-medical sciences classroom/laboratory. Because the new grades 7-8 school will be built next to the high school, middle school students will be able to access high school courses. The new Technical Education Center will help students learn advanced skills in engineering, robotics, machine tool processing, welding and automotive technology - skills that are in high demand in today's economy.