



Q & A Information for Washington Township Schools Community

Question: The district did various construction projects that started in 2006. What was done and where did the money come from to do those projects?

Answer: There was a \$50 million project approved in early 2006. That project, like the one MSDWT is currently seeking voter approval, was funded through the sale of bonds. The bonds for the 2006 project were sold in two installments, \$20 million in 2006 and \$30 million in 2008. These dollars were used primarily for the construction of a new natatorium at North Central High School, various heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, and several roofing projects throughout the district. The breakdown of costs for these projects is as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Percent of \$\$ Spent</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Percent of \$\$ Spent</u>
Natorium	\$14.2 Million	32%	Stadium Renovations	\$6 Million	14%
HVAC	\$11.8 Million	26%	Locker Room		
Roofing	\$11.1 Million	25%	Field Turf & Track Resurfacing	\$1.4 Million	3%

One of the major differences between the 2006 project and the one currently being proposed is that the property tax caps and referendum laws didn't exist at that time. There was a petition/remonstrance process available but the district and community came to an understanding on the amount of the project and the work to be done. Consequently, there was no remonstrance in 2006.

A referendum process allows for the annual debt service payment on the \$185 million in bonds that may be issued to be levied for outside of the property tax caps. Having the annual payment outside the tax caps is critical for the long term financial health of the school district.

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