



Current Proposed Sales Tax Exemption Bills

The Goodridge School is asking the Minnesota State Legislature to pass a sales tax exemption bill for our upcoming building project. The bill has been introduced in the House and Senate.

- SF 3076 - Chief Author Senator Johnson
- HF 2823 - Chief Author Representative Burkel

Building Project Fast Facts

- Goodridge School District will be breaking ground on June 2, 2025 for a major building and renovation project consisting of renovations to the prekindergarten through grade 12 school building; and construction of a new gymnasium, commons, classrooms, locker rooms, restrooms, weight room, career and technical education classroom, and secure front entrance. Project is projected to be completed in Fall of 2026.
- The building bond was passed on November 7th, 2023 with a vote of 230 to 179.
- The project significantly enhances learning spaces and provides additional highly needed learning spaces and opportunities. It specifically address the need for additional Special Education spaces, elementary classroom sizes, and our Career and Technical Education spaces.
- Large tax impact on Ag Land Owners and House/Garage/Acre
- Total Referendum - \$21.35 million
- Total Build - \$17.55 million
- Total Building Materials Estimate - \$8.5 million
- Estimated Sales Tax is \$580k

District Demographics

- Goodridge School consists of a single Pre K-12 Building
- K-12 Enrollment - 252 students
- 40% Free and Reduced
- 90% of students are on a bus route
- 20 minutes away from the next school
- 60 miles south of Canada.

Why Goodridge School Needs This Sales Tax Exemption Bill to Pass

- We used quite a bit of our contingency dollars to accept the bids.
- Bids were high due to being due to limited commercial contractors. We are also concerned about increasing material costs, labor shortages, and tariffs.
- This is potentially the only bonding referendum the district will pass in quite some time and we need to stretch every dollar to give students the educational spaces they deserve.
- Tax impacts are very high and it would be devastating to ask district residents for additional funds
- This funding would equate to same dollar amounts in our district as 5 teacher, 3 paras and 2 bus drivers

Please consider the passage of this bill, it will greatly help the students and community of the Goodridge School District.

Planning and Building Project Timeline

- **Summer 2022** - Goodridge School District expressed intent to work with the community to develop a long-range facilities plan to improve district facilities and enhance the educational opportunities for students.
- **Fall 2022** - The Goodridge School began hosting listening sessions with students, staff, and key community stakeholders to get input on our facilities; as well as, collecting data on educational adequacy of our classrooms and learning environments and completing a thorough facilities assessment.
- **Spring 2023** - The school board held work sessions that were open to the public throughout the spring to continue planning.
- **May 2023** - Goodridge School School communicates findings to staff and community and seeks additional feedback on the findings. The consensus from staff, administration, and community stakeholders is to move forward with a bonding referendum to address the identified facilities needs. A community action committee is formed from staff members, parents, and key community volunteers, school board members, and administration to help the district decide which plan to move forward with.
- **June 2023** - At the June School Board Meeting the Goodridge School District unanimously approved the resolution to present a single-question bond referendum to district residents on November 7, 2023. The school board felt confident that the plan best met the facility and educational needs of our district while remaining fiscally responsible to local taxpayers.
- **Summer and Early Fall 2023** - The Goodridge School District engaged with district residents on communication of the proposed bonding referendum.
- **November 7th, 2023** - The district residents voted to pass the \$21.35 million bonding referendum with 230 yes votes and 179 no votes.
- **December 2025** - Goodridge School District accepted the bids for the project.
- **June 2, 2025** - Groundbreaking is planned.
- **Summer - Fall 2025** - New precast additions will be erected and interior finishing completed on schedule
- **Summer-Fall of 2026**- Interior renovations completed and substantial completion of the project reached before the start of school year 2026.