

A spiral-bound calendar with a light-colored cover is open, showing a grid of dates. The calendar is resting on a blue book. The background is a dark, textured surface.

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland Public Meeting

Playhouse-Madison, SD

Friday April 22, 6:00 pm

AGENDA

- *Welcome* - Superintendents Fischer and Brosnahan
- *Introduction of Presenters* (Tom Oster, Kyle Raph, and Tom Grimmond)
- *Where we've been and how we got here* – Tom Oster
- *Envisioning the new school – what it could look like and what it would include* – Kyle Raph
- *Finances for a new school* – Tom Grimmond



FINANCIAL DISCUSSION

- Cost estimate as of today for the new school would be \$28,600,000
- The CO certificate amount would be \$7,800,000 and would be paid for from the school district CO budget.
- The bond amount would be \$20,800,000 and would be paid for by a special levy of the new district taxpayers.
- The bond payment would be \$1,190,000 minus the cost of the current opt outs of \$630,000 for a net cost of \$560,000. The net levy for taxpayers would be \$1.12 per thousand
- The cost for an average quarter of tillable ag land would be \$360.00 or \$2.25 per acre.
- The cost for a \$100,000 dollar home would be \$117.00 or \$9.75 per month

CONSOLIDATION VOTE:

All we are voting on is the consolidation

The consolidation vote includes a new \$500,000 opt out instead of the current \$630,000 opt-out – “Goes completely away if the bond passes”

<u>OLDHAM-RAMONA</u>	<u>RUTLAND</u>
\$200,000 current opt-out / over 308 M	\$430,000 current opt-out / over 210 M
Ag Cost - \$0.68 per thousand	Ag Cost - \$2.13 per thousand
O-R has 30% more assessed valuation- 308 M/210 M	
New \$500,000 opt out will result in \$1.00 per thousand tax levy	
Taxes will increase by 32 cents	Taxes would decrease by \$1.13



OPT OUT INFORMATION

- This new opt out would last two years, if and until a bond would pass for the new school.
- The opt out would last a minimum of five years if the bond vote fails
- Without a new school, you will end up with the elementary at one site and the secondary at the other site and will likely still need an opt out.
- If the bond vote fails, the new board will determine how much to request in any new or subsequent opt outs.



TAXABLE VALUE

- If a bond to build a new school receives a 60% yes vote, all individual taxpayers will pay the same levy amount
- Because Oldham-Ramona has $\frac{3}{5}$ of the taxable value and Rutland has $\frac{2}{5}$, Oldham-Ramona taxpayers will pay for $\frac{3}{5}$ of the new building.
- Again, the individual tax burden will be the same.

BOND FINANCES:

The opt out goes away and the resulting bond taxes would be as follows:

<u>OLDHAM-RAMONA</u>	<u>RUTLAND</u>
Current Ag opt out levy is .68	Current Ag opt out levy is \$2.13
Net Ag bond levy would be \$1.71	Net Ag bond levy would be .26 cents
Average cost per tillable acre is \$3.00	Average cost per tillable acre is .47 cents
Once the consolidation and bond passes, the taxes will be identical for all taxpayers. The tax increase will just be larger for Oldham-Ramona	

WHAT ARE CURRENT AG LEVIES FOR NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS?

Howard	4.20
DeSmet*	4.60-5.50
Lake Preston	5.44
Oldham-Ramona	5.57
Chester	5.91
Madison	6.02
Sioux Valley	6.12
Arlington	6.48
Rutland	6.64
Colman-Egan	6.66
Brookings*	7.03-8.03

New est. ORR levy with bond... 6.93

*trying to pass a bond



Location:

- New school location has not yet been determined
- Only the new school board has the authority to pick the site and request a bond vote.
- Consolidation plan (approved by the 2 school boards and state DOE) called for the site to be on or near highway 81 within the boundaries of the two districts.
- No way to predict and guarantee where the new school board will be able to secure land and build a new school. There may be more options in the future?



WHAT DOES ALONG HIGHWAY 81 REALLY MEAN?

- 20 acre building site to be purchased would likely include a grove of trees between the school and the highway
- School would be built with a substantial setback away from the road.
- Access to the school itself would be from a frontage road and not directly off the highway.
- State DOE has stated that they plan to install turning lanes on the 81/Nunda, 81/Ramona, and 81/Rutland corners, adding to safety.
- They have also stated that if a school were to be built, they would conduct a traffic study to determine any need for slowing of traffic, lights, or stop signs.



SCHOOL VOTE

WHY SHOULD I SUPPORT CONSOLIDATION & LATER PASSING A BOND FOR A NEW SCHOOL?

- Main buildings are both over 100 years old and will need constant attention
- We don't want our districts to dissolve and lose our identity and local control
- We will have very little say if we are forced to attach to a neighboring district
- I will have to pay school taxes no matter what district I am a part of

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

- The consolidation vote is to be held on May 10th.
- If it fails, the school boards may choose to have another election, or the voters can submit signatures to require the boards to have another election.
- If consolidation passes, a new school board would be elected in November of 2022 and the new school district begins July 1, 2023.
- The new school board would be responsible for agreeing on a new school and a location and passing a bond resolution.
- If all those things happen and the bond vote passes, you would move into your new school in August 2025.
- Under this scenario, the two schools would operate close to as is for the next two years. There may be some slight changes to administration etc.
- If consolidation passes and the bond vote fails, the new board will have to determine the attendance centers going forward - which site would host the elementary and which site would host the MS/HS



HOW CAN YOU VOTE?

- Absentee ballots are available from April 25th until May 9th.
- Absentee voting is in person with the business managers at each school during those dates.
- If they are unable to come in to vote you can request to be mailed an absentee ballot packet.
- In-person voting is on May 10th.
- Rutland voters will vote in the Rutland gym.
- Oldham-Ramona voters will vote as follows—
 - if you live in Kingsbury County, you will vote in the Oldham gym
 - if you live in Lake or Miner County, you will vote at St. Williams Parish Hall in Ramona

- The schools intend to prepare information materials for their constituents.
- This information may only include information and facts, it cannot be promotional or encourage you to vote one way or the other.
- What the Oldham-Ramona and Rutland schools districts are considering has been done numerous times in the state.
- Examples of schools built in the country: Tri-Valley, Hamlin, Sanborn Central



One more time, the vote on May 10th is only to authorize a consolidated school system.



It does not authorize a new school, determine a location, or pass a bond.



Think hard about voting yes on consolidation if you feel you cannot support the bond for a new school