

Welcome



**Welcome
Cape
Henlopen
Super
Intendent –
Robert Fulton**



VOTE Please

**CAPE HENLOPEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
2024 REFERENDUM**

March 26, 2024 | 7 AM - 8 PM

Polling Locations: Cape Henlopen High School,
Mariner Middle School, Rehoboth Elementary
(302) 645-6686 | [Click Here for More Information](#)

All Community Meetings will be held at 6:00 PM

Feb. 27 at Love Creek Elementary | Mar 11 at Milton Elementary School | Mar 18 at Lewes Elementary School

Referendum Results

- 2014 – 60% Approved
 - Love Creek, Middle Schools Additions, Current Expense Tax Increase (.17)
- 2016 – 74% Approved
 - 4 Elementary Schools - Brittingham, Rehoboth, Milton, Shields
- 2018 – 73% Approved
 - 3rd Middle School, CHHS Addition, Current Expense Tax Increase (.20)
- Spring 2020 – Current Expense - Postponed
- Spring 2024 - ????

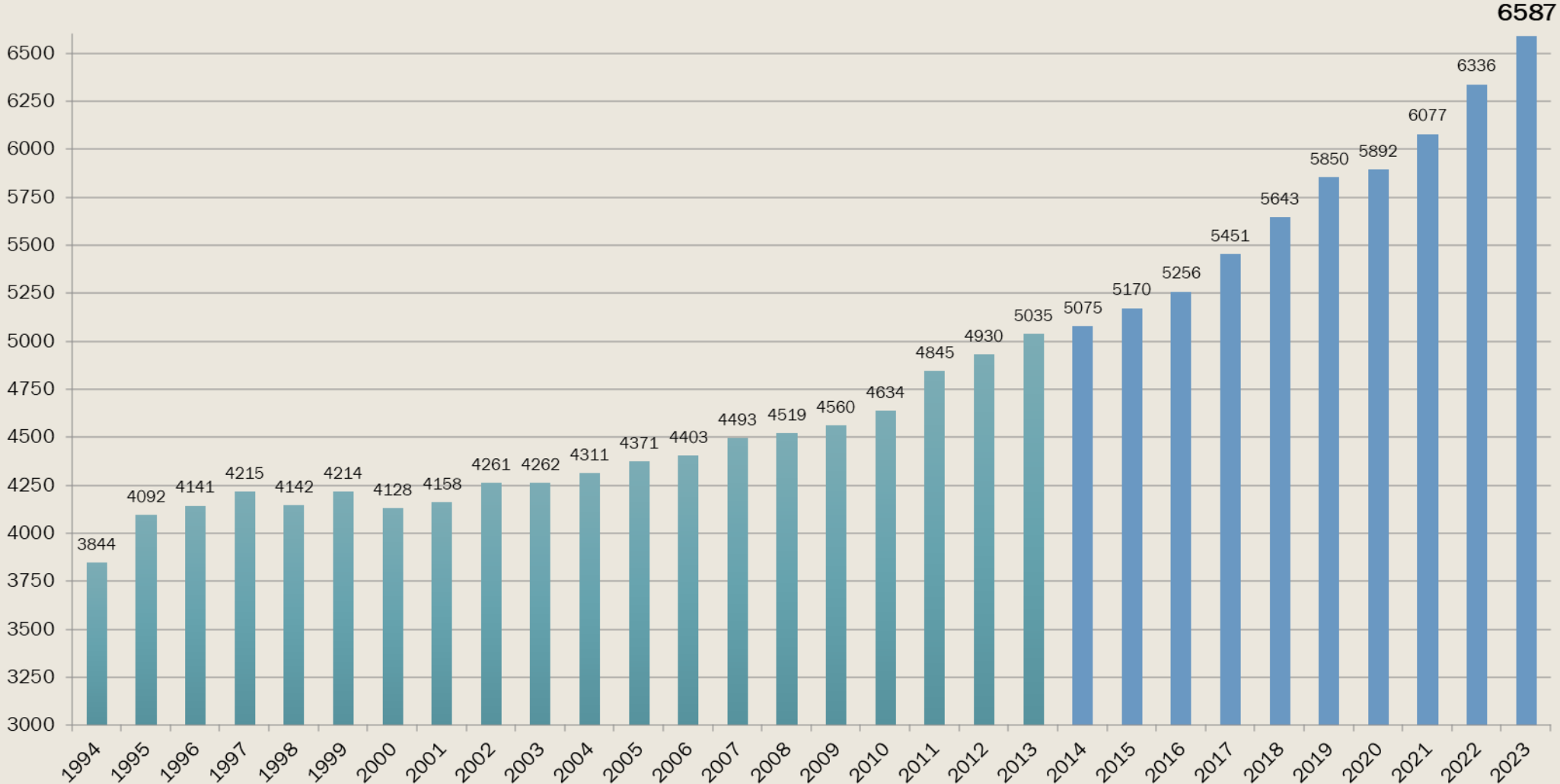
Since 2014



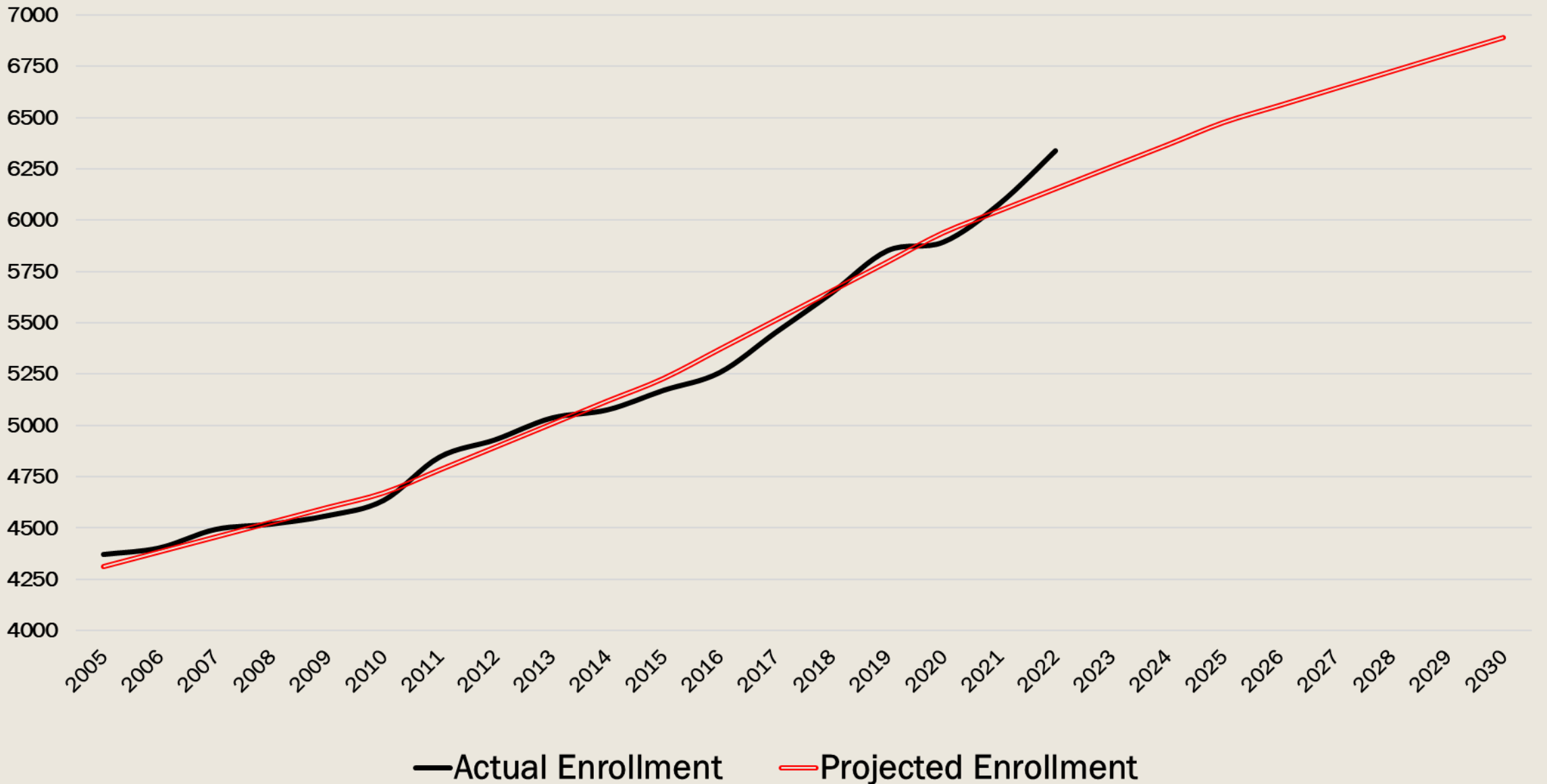
Enrollment Increases

Increasing Enrollment

2023-2024



Actual v Projected Growth



Major Capital Projects

\$300 Million



- BMS/MMS Additions
- Love Creek Elementary
- H.O. Brittingham Elementary
- Rehoboth Elementary
- Sussex Consortium
- Cape Henlopen High School (Addition)
- Milton Elementary
- Lewes Elementary
- **Frederick D. Thomas Middle School**
 - *Completion in Fall of 2024*

Referendum History

Enrollment/Unit Count Increases

Year	Current Expense	Major Capital	Enrollment	Units
2014	YES (\$.17)	YES Love Creek, Middle School Additions @ MMS/BMS	5075	396.8
2016	NO	Yes HO Brittingham, Rehoboth, Milton, Lewes	5256 (+181)	419.05 (+22.25)
2018	YES (\$.20)	YES CHHS Addition, Fred Thomas Middle	5643 (+387)	451.7 (+32.65)
2020	NO (\$.25)	NO	5892 (+249)	483.17 (+31.47)
2024 (Sept 30, 2023)	YES (?)	YES Property (Cedar Grove), District Office, Natatorium, Transportation Maintenance Facility	6587 (+695)	563.66 (+80.49)
Total Increase		Nine (9) Major Capital Projects Since 2014	+1,512	+166.86

Sussex County - Annual Property Tax Rates

Highest to lowest per \$100 of Assessed Value

■ Laurel	\$ 4.9120	+ \$24.30 Capitation Tax
■ Woodbridge	\$ 4.9030	+ \$8.82 Capitation Tax
■ Milford	\$ 4.6638	
■ Seaford	\$ 4.1015	
■ Delmar	\$ 4.0764	+\$13.00 Capitation Tax
■ Cape Henlopen	\$ 4.0282	
■ Indian River	\$ 3.2340	+ \$12.00 Capitation Tax

Summary – Budget Concerns

- Safety & Security Needs
 - *SRO's/Constables*
- Staffing/Personnel Costs
 - *Salary/Benefits*
 - *Hire All Positions Earned*
 - *Highly Qualified Teachers/Staff*
- Unit Count Growth Outpacing Revenue Growth
 - *+\$1,000,000 per Pay Cycle*
 - *+\$30,000 – Local Cost*
- Other Personnel Costs
 - *Substitute Teachers/Employees*
- State Budget Cuts and Less Discretionary Funding
- Ongoing Athletic Facility and Facility Maintenance Costs
- Ongoing Support for Energy and Utilities
- Support for Strategic Priorities
- Inadequate Reserve Funding
- Investment in Our Future
 - *Ongoing Technology Funding Needs*
 - *Ongoing Curriculum Needs*
- Finite Resources

School/District – Safety & Security

- School Resource Officers (4)
- Constables (8)
- At Least one (1) SRO or Constable in each of our nine (9) schools
 - *CHHS – One (1) DSP SRO and two (2) Constables*
 - *One (1) district-wide Constable to assist schools as needed*



Budget Pressures

- How Did We Make it Through Since FY 20?
 - State and Federal Grant Funding
 - Reduced Expenditures and Reallocations
 - Federal Grants (ESSER I, ESSER II AND ESSER III)
 - Federal Waivers for the Child Nutrition Program

District Needs

- CHHS site additions/renovations
- Land Purchase
 - *District Office relocation so that high school can expand*
 - Currently 41 staff at DO on Kings Highway
 - Additional 40 staff at FTB
 - This includes district-wide specialists, coordinators, support staff and administrators
 - *Natatorium – swimming complex*
 - *Bus Maintenance Facility and Yard*

CN Request

Certificate of Necessity #1

(60%/40% Funding)

- CHHS site additions/renovations – classroom space, storage, extra-curricular/athletic facility improvements
 - *Building is currently over capacity and growing*
 - *Additional parking and water retention needed with additions*

Certificate of Necessity #2

(100% Local Funding)

- Land purchase
 - *We need to secure land for future expansion*
 - *District Office relocation so that high school can expand*
 - *Up to 59 Acres (103)*
- District Office
- Natatorium
- Bus Maintenance Facility



Cape Henlopen School District

7/26/2023

Master Plan Budget

	SF	Bus Barn	SF	Natatorium	SF	District office
		\$ 360.00		\$ 630.00		\$ 432.00
Site Work		\$ 2,600,000.00		\$ 2,100,000.00		\$ 1,300,000.00
Buildings	4,000	\$ 1,440,000.00	40,000	\$ 25,200,000.00	30,000	\$ 12,960,000.00
Sub- Total		\$ 4,040,000.00		\$ 27,300,000.00		\$ 14,260,000.00
Design Fee	10%	\$ 404,000.00	10%	\$ 2,730,000.00	10%	\$ 1,426,000.00
CM / GC Fee	10%	\$ 404,000.00	10%	\$ 2,730,000.00	10%	\$ 1,426,000.00
Contingency	10%	\$ 404,000.00	10%	\$ 2,730,000.00	10%	\$ 1,426,000.00
Technology	\$ 11.00	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 440,000.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 330,000.00
FF&E	\$ 12.00	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 480,000.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 360,000.00
Audit	\$0.0040	\$ 16,160.00	\$0.0040	\$ 109,200.00	\$0.0040	\$ 57,040.00
Permits / Inspections	1.25%	\$ 50,500.00	1.25%	\$ 341,250.00	1.25%	\$ 178,250.00
Insurance	\$0.0020	\$ 8,080.00	\$0.0020	\$ 54,600.00	\$0.0020	\$ 28,520.00
Grand Total		\$ 5,418,740.00		\$ 36,915,050.00		\$ 19,491,810.00
2 year Escalation	10%	\$ 541,874.00		\$ 3,691,505.00		\$ 1,949,181.00
Grand Total w/ Escalation		\$ 5,960,614.00		\$ 40,606,555.00		\$ 21,440,991.00
Cost per SF		\$ 1,490.15		\$ 1,015.16		\$ 714.70

Why is Land Needed Now?

- District is currently utilizing existing property
- Land is very difficult to obtain in this area
 - *District sent out 16 letters of interest and only received a single response*
- Without land, renovations of the high school will be impossible
- Land is needed for future planning and expansion
 - *Examine property through the district*
 - *Land must have infrastructure and be in a state designated growth zone*
- Enrollment study shows growth beyond our existing capacity
- The longer we wait the more expensive the cost
- Fiscally prudent to get land now!

Primary Land Purchase Submission

102.429 Acres Parcel - \$15,555,438



Natatorium

■ Student Use

- *Swim Teams - Boys/Girls (70)*

■ Practice - Sussex Consortium

- *6 lanes*
- *Designed as Therapy Pool for Sc Use -*
- *In past did practice at YMCA - Challenges*
 - Were not able to use all 6 lanes - Usually 4 or 5
 - Because of number on participants and lanes available, practices could run as late as 9pm
 - Locker Rooms Shared with community/YMCA members

■ Meets – YMCA

- *6 Lanes*
- *Viewing Limited for Spectators*
- *Expanded Students Opportunities (K-12)*

■ Staff Use

■ Community Use

Natatorium

50 Meter Pool with Spectator Seating



Natatorium

50 Meter Pool with Spectator Seating



Natatorium

50 Meter Pool with Spectator Seating



CN Request Outcome

Certificate of Necessity #1

(60%/40% Funding)

- CHHS site additions/renovations
 - *Building is currently over capacity and growing*
 - *Additional parking and water retention needed with additions*

NO

Certificate of Necessity #2

(100% Local Funding)

- Land purchase
 - *We need to secure land for future expansion*
 - *District Office relocation so that high school can expand*
 - *Up to 59 Acres (103)*
- District Office
- Natatorium
- Bus Maintenance Facility

YES

Major Capital/Current Expense

Tax Impact

Possible Debt Service Tax Rate Implications

Options	Cost	Impact to Tax Rate	Impact on Average Assessed Home/Year	Impact on Average Assessed Home/Month
Property up to 102 Acres	\$15,000,000	\$0.214	\$59.93	\$4.99
District Office	\$21,500,000			
Transportation Maintenance Facility	\$6,000,000			
Natatorium (38,200 sq/ft)	\$36,122,000			

Possible Current Expense Tax Rate Implications

Options	Estimated Revenue	Impact to Tax Rate	Impact on Average Assessed Home/Year	Impact on Average Assessed Home/Month
Current Expense Tax Rate Increase	\$5,025,000	\$0.335	\$93.82	\$7.82

Possible Total Tax Rate Implications

Options	Estimated Revenue	Impact to Tax Rate	Impact on Average Assessed Home/Year	Impact on Average Assessed Home/Month
Debt Service – Property (102 Acres), District Office, Transportation Facility, Natatorium (38,200 sq/ft)	\$78,622,000	\$0.214	\$59.93	\$4.99
Current Expense Tax Rate Increase	\$5,025,000	\$0.335	\$93.82	\$7.82
Totals		\$0.549	\$153.75	\$12.81

Phase-In – Current Expense & Debt Service Tax Rates

(Average Assessed Home)

FY	Current Expense Tax Rate Increase	Debt Service Tax Rate Increase	Cumulative Tax increase	Annual Tax Rate impact	Annual Cumulative Tax Impact	Monthly Cumulative Tax Impact
FY 2025	\$0.335	0	\$0.335	\$93.82	\$93.82	\$7.82
FY 2026	\$0	\$0.052	\$0.387	\$14.56	\$108.38	\$9.03
FY2027	\$0	\$0.162	\$0.549	\$45.37	\$153.75	\$12.81
FY 2028	\$0	-\$0.095	\$0.454	-\$26.61	\$127.14	\$10.60
FY 2029	\$0	-\$0.027	\$0.427	-\$7.56	\$119.58	\$9.97

Phase-In – Debt Service Tax Rate (Only)

(102 Acres Property, Transportation Maintenance Facility, District Office, Natatorium)

Average Assessed Home

FY	Debt Service Tax Rate Increase	Annual Tax Rate impact	Annual Cumulative Tax Impact	% of Total Referendum Increase Attributed to Debt Service	Monthly Cumulative Tax Impact
Year 1 FY 2025	0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0
Year 2 FY 2026	\$0.052	\$14.56	\$14.56	13%	\$1.21
Year 3 FY2027	\$0.162	\$45.37	\$59.93	39%	\$4.99
Year 4 FY 2028	-\$0.095	-\$26.61	\$33.32	26%	\$2.78
Year 5 FY 2029	-\$0.027	-\$7.56	\$25.76	22%	\$2.15

Referendum Support

- It is a priority of the district to provide additional classroom space at CHHS where enrollment exceeds 2000 students.
 - *A Certificate of Necessity (CN) was filed by the district in 2023, but was not approved by the state. The district will be re-submitting a new CN for additional space at CHHS in 2024*
 - *Any additional construction at the CHHS site will result in the need for additional parking and storm water management, therefore our District Office will have to be relocated.*
 - *Moving the District office as soon as possible will enable us add additional classroom space at CHHS as soon as possible once a CN is approved by the state with fewer delays*
- While having substantial growth in the district and completing nine major capital projects over the past several years we still have the second lowest tax rate in Sussex County.
 - *Since 2014 (+1512 Student) and +167 Units)*
 - *MMM Addition, BMS Addition, Love Creek Elementary, Brittingham Elementary, Rehoboth Elementary, Milton Elementary, Lewes Elementary, Sussex Consortium, CHHS Addition, Fred Thomas Middle*

Recommendation Support

- With all of the previously mentioned growth in the district, our most recent referendum was in 2018, six years ago. The increase to the average assessed home in the district for the 2018 referendum was \$46/year
- In 2020 the district cancelled a scheduled current expense referendum to increase operating revenue. The current expense tax rate increase would have been \$0.25 and would have increased the average assessed home in the district by roughly \$70.
- Over the past several years the district has minimized any tax increase and all major capital projects approved since 2014 have been completed on time and under budget.
- Since 2006, the average assessed value home in the district has has minimal district tax increases, especially given the growth in students and staff and the budget challenges faced.
 - *Since 2006 the district taxes for a home with an assessed value of \$26,000 (district average), has only increased by \$288. That is only \$16/year or \$1.34/month.*

Important Information/Dates

■ Referendum - Tuesday, March 26, 2024

– *Community Meetings*

■ Tuesday, February 27

- Love Creek Elementary (Media Center) at 6:00pm

■ Monday, March 11

- Milton Elementary (Auditorium) at 6:00pm

■ Monday, March 18

- Lewes Elementary School (Auditorium) at 6:00pm

– *Additional Information*

- Referendum Website: <http://www.capehenloopenschools.com/referendum2024>

– *Other Meeting will be scheduled with:*

- Each of our Schools (Staff)
- Community Organizations
- PTO's at Each of our Schools
- Other as Needed

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Voting Requirements

■ You can vote in the referendum if you:

- Are 18 years of age or older
- Live in the Cape Henlopen School District
- Are a USA and Delaware Citizen
- Show proof of identity and address – Driver's license or State I.D.

■ Additional Information

- You do not need to own property or be a registered voter
- If you are unable to go to the polls, you can request an absentee ballot
- You do not have to be a registered voter for purposes of a general election to be eligible to vote in a school district referendum

Senior Tax Credit

- Homeowners age 65 or over are eligible for a tax credit against regular school property taxes of 50 percent (up to \$500).
 - *Applicant must be 65 years of age before July 1st of the year you wish to apply.*
- This credit may only be used against property taxes on a primary residence.
- Must be your primary residence and must be an owner of record.
- Ten-year Residency Requirement for New Applicants
 - *Must have been living in the State of Delaware for a period of 10 years prior to October 1st of the preceding year of application.*
 - *For individuals who moved to Delaware between 1/1/2013 and 12/31/2017, you must be a resident for at least three years prior to credit application.*
 - *For individuals moving to Delaware on or after 1/1/2018, you must be a resident for at least ten years prior October 1st of the preceding year of application.*
 - *Individuals who have established domicile in Delaware prior to January 1, 2013, will be eligible to receive the credit in the ensuing tax year.*

Senior Property Relief Program: finance.delaware.gov/financial-reports/senior-school-property-tax-relief/

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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

QUESTIONS?



RBDBCC Update

- **Increases on City of Rehoboth Beach Parking Fees – Meters & More**
- **Legislative**
 - 1) **The Paid Medical Family Leave Act**
 - 2) **The Short-Term Rental Bill**
 - 3) **Offshore Wind Projects**
- **The Chamber Awards and Installation of Board Members**
- **Merchant's Attic Event Report**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Business After Hours - Thursday, March 14th, 5-7 PM @ The Starboard**
- **Business After Hours - Wednesday, April 10th, 5-7 PM @ Downtown Blues BBQ**
- **Business After Hours - Wednesday, May 1st, 5-7 PM @ Starboard Claw**
- **Spring Sidewalk Sale – May 3 – 5: Rehoboth & Dewey Beach Resort Areas**
- **Annual Awards Luncheon/ Board Installation – May 8: Dogfish Head Brewings & Eats**
- **Shredding Day – Friday, May 10th, 10 AM – 1 PM**

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!