

Central Michigan School Business Officials (“CMBSO”)

“Campaigns that Clicked (and flopped): Real Talk on School Voter Initiatives”

February 6, 2026

2000 Town Center, Suite 900
Southfield, MI 48075



A nationwide & Michigan firm

Baker Tilly



6th

largest accounting
firm in the U.S.



11,000+

team members
(including principals)



3,400

Certified Public
Accountants



\$3B+

firm revenue as of
June 3, 2025



1,000+

principals



100+

office locations
across the U.S.



250+

workplace and
culture awards



- 114 team members
- 11 partners
- Named "Metro Detroit Best and Brightest Company to Work For" for the 8th consecutive year
- Over 250 communities served with bond issuance in excess of \$6.1 billion completed



Options overview

Construction Cost and Risk Management

- Construction contract review
- Change order analysis
- Pay application calculation review
- Project budget and timing online dashboards
- Monthly review meetings
- Cash flow draw management
 - Estimated cash flow draw
 - Proper allocation of funds
- Schedule monitoring

Municipal Advisory (Bond Issuance)

- Bond Issuance
 - Voted bonds
 - Non-voted bonds
 - Energy conservation improvement bonds
- Refinancing bonds
- State Aid Notes
- Sinking Fund Analysis

Clean Energy Funding

- Inflation Reduction Act (“IRA”)
 - Electric vehicles, charging stations, solar, geothermal, thermal energy storage.
- 179D Tax Deduction
 - Efficient building incentives

Grants, Incentives and Loan Analysis

- Federal and state grant possibilities
- Loan program alternative analysis
- Credits and Incentives

Accounting Support

- Staff mentoring and questions
- Software conversions
- Interim turnover support
- Audit preparations
- Budgeting support
- Periodic reporting and other accounting related functions

Arbitrage and Investment

- Arbitrage rebate calculations for bond proceed investments
- Investment of bond proceeds and operating dollars
- Investment compliance with state code
- Investment reporting for audit and accounting

Employment Tax Assistance

- Process review and support documents
- IRS negotiations and assistance
- Process assessments and training

Performance Audits

- Evaluate compliance with bond program expenditures, regulations, grants, etc.
- Assess performance against metrics and ways to enhance outcomes

Operational Reviews

- Review organizational efficiency and staffing levels
- Optimize processes to identify cost savings
- Conduct a review of specific departments to compare against best practices



Estimated 2025 Voted Bonds Election Data

Total Elections								
	May		August		November		Totals	
Passed	19	44%	7	58%	31	63%	57	55%
Failed	24	56%	5	42%	18	37%	47	45%
Total	43	100%	12	100%	49	100%	104	100%

Without Millage Increase								
	May		August		November		Totals	
Passed	18	60%	6	67%	27	77%	51	69%
Failed	12	40%	3	33%	8	23%	23	31%
Total	30	100%	9	100%	35	100%	74	100%

With Millage Increase								
	May		August		November		Totals	
Passed	1	8%	1	33%	4	29%	6	20%
Failed	12	92%	2	67%	10	71%	24	80%
Total	13	100%	3	100%	14	100%	30	100%



Bay City Community Schools Voted Bond Ballot Language Excerpt

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2027 is 0.43 mill (\$0.43 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a 0.00 mill net increase over the prior year's levy.

Is this a 0.00 mill increase, or a 0.43 mill increase voted bond election?

Voted Bond Ballot Language Example - Answer

	<u>2027</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Proposed bonds	0.43	-	0.43
Existing/prior approved bonds	<u>1.79</u>	<u>2.22</u>	<u>(0.43)</u>
Total estimated bond millage rate	2.22	2.22	-



Comstock Schools 2025 Voted Bond Election Mass Text Message

Comstock Public Schools

Other Supplementary Information Schedule of Bonded Indebtedness

June 30, 2024

Years Ending June 30	2016 School Building and Site Bonds		2018 School Building and Site Bonds		2021 School Building and Site Bonds		2022 School Building and Site Bonds		2024 School Building and Site Bonds		Total
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	
2025	\$ 120,000	\$ 59,325	\$ 400,000	\$ 462,775	\$ 330,000	\$ 321,775	\$ 175,000	\$ 887,575	\$ 155,000	\$ 734,101	\$ 3,645,551
2026	105,000	57,075	420,000	442,275	385,000	307,975	160,000	879,200	315,000	681,675	3,753,200
2027	105,000	54,713	435,000	420,900	420,000	292,275	155,000	871,325	240,000	667,800	3,662,013
2028	105,000	52,087	450,000	398,774	440,000	275,275	170,000	863,200	250,000	655,550	3,659,886
2029	105,000	49,331	475,000	375,650	455,000	257,475	185,000	854,325	255,000	642,925	3,654,706
2030	105,000	46,444	495,000	356,350	470,000	239,175	200,000	844,700	285,000	629,925	3,651,594
2031	100,000	43,500	515,000	341,200	490,000	220,175	210,000	834,450	280,000	616,300	3,650,625
2032	100,000	40,500	530,000	327,025	505,000	200,375	230,000	823,450	290,000	602,050	3,648,400
2033	100,000	37,500	550,000	310,012	520,000	183,875	245,000	811,575	300,000	587,300	3,645,262
2034	100,000	34,500	570,000	291,394	535,000	168,125	260,000	798,950	315,000	571,925	3,644,894
2035	100,000	31,500	595,000	271,300	545,000	152,000	280,000	785,450	325,000	555,925	3,641,175
2036	100,000	28,500	620,000	250,037	560,000	135,575	290,000	771,200	345,000	539,175	3,639,487
2037	100,000	25,500	645,000	227,900	575,000	122,875	305,000	756,325	360,000	521,550	3,639,150
2038	100,000	22,500	670,000	205,500	585,000	111,325	310,000	740,950	385,000	502,925	3,633,200
2039	100,000	19,500	700,000	181,438	595,000	99,575	320,000	725,200	405,000	483,175	3,628,888
2040	100,000	16,500	730,000	155,784	600,000	87,675	340,000	708,700	425,000	462,425	3,626,084
2041	100,000	13,500	760,000	128,688	615,000	75,006	350,000	693,200	445,000	442,900	3,623,294
2042	100,000	10,500	790,000	100,956	630,000	61,884	360,000	679,000	465,000	424,700	3,622,040
2043	100,000	7,500	800,000	72,680	665,000	47,681	370,000	664,400	490,000	405,600	3,622,861
2044	100,000	4,500	800,000	44,044	715,000	32,494	380,000	649,400	515,000	385,500	3,625,938
2045	100,000	1,500	720,000	20,938	840,000	14,963	395,000	633,900	535,000	364,500	3,625,801
2046	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,120,000	606,000	555,000	342,700	3,623,700
2047	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,205,000	521,200	575,000	320,100	3,621,300
2048	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,295,000	433,000	600,000	296,600	3,624,600
2049	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,335,000	341,200	675,000	271,100	3,622,300
2050	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,400,000	247,800	730,000	243,000	3,620,800
2051	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,395,000	151,800	860,000	211,200	3,618,000
2052	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900,000	56,000	1,495,000	164,100	3,615,100
2053	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,355,000	78,500	3,433,500
Total remaining payments	\$ 2,145,000	\$ 656,475	\$ 12,670,000	\$ 5,385,620	\$ 11,475,000	\$ 3,407,553	\$ 21,340,000	\$ 18,633,475	\$ 16,205,000	\$ 13,405,226	\$ 105,323,349
Principal payments due	May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		
Interest payments due	May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		May 1 & November 1		
Interest rate	2.00 - 3.00%		3.00 - 5.00%		2.00 - 4.00%		4.00 - 5.00%		4.00 - 5.00%		
Original issue	\$ 8,000,000		\$ 17,200,000		\$ 13,450,000		\$ 22,895,000		\$ 16,205,000		

Total bond principal and interest is \$105,323,349.



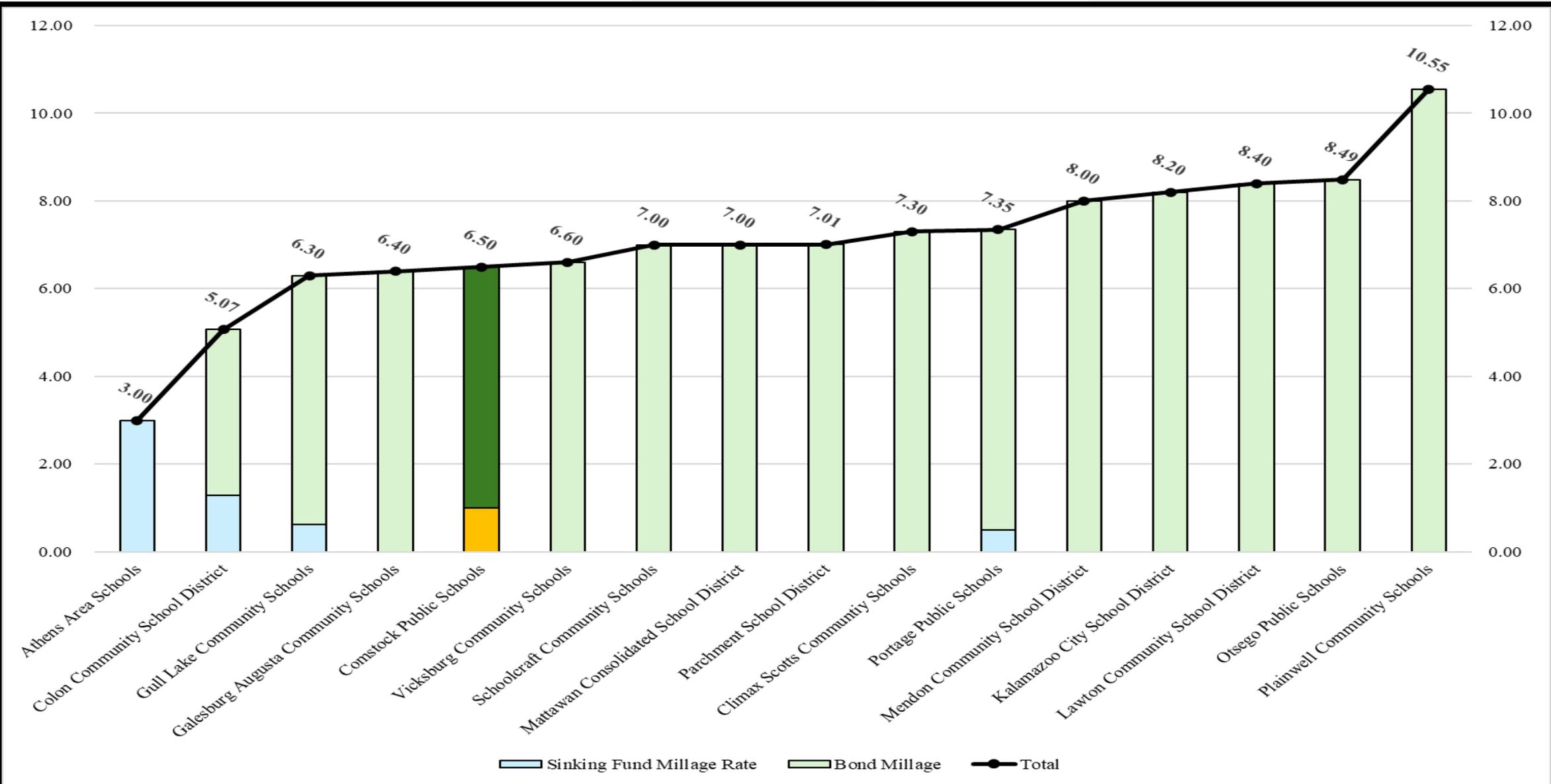
Comstock Schools 2025 Voted Bond Election Mass Text Message

*Before you vote on the \$31million bond issue that Comstock Public Schools is requesting this Nov. 4, this is the information that the 2024 audit provided about the amount of bond indebtedness that the district already has incurred. Please Note: as of Nov. 4, 2025, CPS will have made its payments for 2025, but that still leaves over \$101million (principal and interest) that CPS will be paying through 2053. I'm not here to tell you how to vote, but I ask you: Do you want to add another \$31million plus interest to the debt obligation that you and your neighbors will have to pay? Here is the link to the entire 2024 audit: <https://www.comstockps.org/common/pages/GetFile.ashx...>
The 2025 CPS audit has not been presented as of today.*

How would you respond to this?



Comstock Schools 2025 Voted Bond Election Mass Text Message



Dexter Community Schools May 2025 Bond Election

Newspaper Article Excerpt

Interest Rates Could Climb

The bond would be issued in a series of sales from 2025 to 2031. These sales are planned with interest rates around 4%. **But if rates rise to 6% or 7%, borrowing costs could increase significantly. For instance, if \$60 million in bonds were issued at an interest rate of 6% instead of the projected 4%, annual interest costs could increase by an estimated \$600,000.** The exact amount would depend on the bond's term length and repayment structure, but any additional costs would still need to be covered within the fixed 8.5 mills cap.

By 2040, between 5.5 and 6.5 mills could be tied up servicing this bond. That would leave only 2 to 3 mills for future facility needs. **For example, if Dexter were to borrow an additional \$75 million for repairs or expansions in the 2030s, the bond millage could need to rise above 10 mills—potentially increasing annual property taxes by \$380 to \$480 on a home with a \$200,000 taxable value (approx. \$400K retail value).** However, the actual impact would depend on several factors, including the timing of the issuance, prevailing interest rates, and how the repayment is structured.

How would you respond to this?

Newspaper Article Answer – “Bond Series Capital Planning”

1. Voted bond issue timing and amount is flexible but total amount of bonds does cannot exceed the voter approval.

2. If unfavorable economic or interest rate conditions occur the school district can delay or downsize any planned bond issue.

3. If favorable economic or interest rate conditions occur the school district can accelerate or increase any planned bond issue.

Dexter Community Schools - May 2025 Voted Bonds Plan		
Series I	2025	\$60,000,000
Series II	2027	75,000,000
Series III	2029	90,000,000
Series IV	2031	16,865,000
Total election amount		<u>\$241,865,000</u>



Baker Tilly Michigan municipal advisory team



Jesse Nelson
PRINCIPAL, CPA
P: +1 (517) 336 3951
E: jesse.nelson@bakertilly.com



Sam Barna
SENIOR MANAGER
P: +1 (248) 304 8219
E: sam.barna@bakertilly.com



Karlee Stoddard
MANAGER
P: +1 (517) 336 3956
E: karlee.stoddard@bakertilly.com



Sean Walsh
MANAGER
P: +1 (517) 336 3925
E: sean.walsh@bakertilly.com



Michaela Hooper
SENIOR CONSULTANT
P: +1 (517) 351 3637
E: michaela.hooper@bakertilly.com



Maria Gisting
MANAGER, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
P: +1 (517) 394 1037
E: maria.gisting@bakertilly.com



Konner Linn
SENIOR CONSULTANT
P: +1 (517) 512 6480
E: konner.linn@bakertilly.com



Disclosure

The information provided here is of a general nature and is not intended to address the specific circumstances of any individual or entity. In specific circumstances, the services of a professional should be sought.

Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC is a registered municipal advisor and controlled subsidiary of Baker Tilly US, LLP, an accounting firm. Baker Tilly US, LLP trading as Baker Tilly is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities.

© 2026 Baker Tilly US, LLP

