

On the Fruitport school's web site is an informational video relating to the bond issue. In this video, various Fruitport students give explanations about why we need a new high school. The students do a good job in presenting their material, but their material has obviously been written for them. We do not fault the students or their presentation, but do fault the material they were given to present. In one presentation, a student explains that one of the reasons we need a new high school is because students have to cross a road from a parking lot to enter the high school. Therefore, the administration's plan is to demolish our current high school and replace it with a new parking lot, so that our **high school students** will not have to cross a road to enter the high school. [see images above and below]



Please look at the above images. If a new parking lot is truly necessary, it could be built behind the current high school for a lot less than \$49,000,000. We do not have to demolish our current high school to build a new parking lot.

What in the world are our school administrators thinking?

Also in the video, a student talks about our current high school auditorium being too small for band performances, which have to be held in the gymnasium or the middle school auditorium. OK. If our current auditorium is too small, enlarge it! We do not have to demolish our current high school and build a new \$49,000,000 high school to have a larger auditorium.

Source: FCS Informational Bond Video



In the video are also images that show apparent stains on walls in what look like mechanical locations. Would

not buying some paint be cheaper than building a new \$49,000,000 high school?

Source: FCS Informational Bond Video



Would not buying a roll of duct tape be cheaper than building a new \$49,000,000 high school?

In the video, another student talks about Beach school being built in 1930s [which is not true]. This is not the fault of the student. This is the information that he was given by our school officials. Our school administration knows that the original portion of Beach School was built in the early 1940s. But '1930s' sounds worse than '1940s'.

More misleading information

"It's designed with the end in mind," Superintendent Bob Szymoniak said. Excerpt from G.H. Tribune Oct. 27, 2015
 Fruitport's oldest school building is Beach Elementary School at 78 years, and the middle school is the youngest at 46 years. Szymoniak said the district's employees have done a "marvelous job" keeping up the facilities
 Fruitport High School was built in 1955 and received additions in 1963, 1999 and 2005. Renovations were done in 1999 and 2010. The building is about 157,435 square feet and holds almost 900 students.

Just another example of misleading information from our school officials.

In their informational bond video, the school administration makes a **major** issue of the water pipes running beneath the floors of our high school. They maintain that this is a **big, big** problem. They say that this is a major problem in **all** of our school buildings, and that if this bond issue is approved, this issue will be corrected

in all of our school buildings. They will do this by doing **renovation** work at the middle school, Beach School, and Shettler School. And this renovation work will cost thousands and thousands of dollars per building, the cost of which they have included in their bonding proposal for these schools. [see image below]

FCS Bond Financial Description:

Cost of Beach Elementary - \$320,393

- Replace ceiling tile and some toilets
- Replace selected sections of roofing
- Replace toilet room exhaust fans
- Replace domestic water piping
- Install paved walks to bus loading
- Install barrier-free routes to playground
- Add student crosswalk at parent drive

Cost of Edgewood Elementary - \$228,088

- Replace boilers and associated pumps

Cost of Fruitport Middle School - \$640,005

- Replace elevator
- Add ceiling fan to Auditorium
- Replace carpet in select classrooms
- Replace toilet room exhaust fans
- Replace zone heating pumps
- Replace auditorium and gym air handlers
- Replace domestic piping

Cost of Shettler Elementary - \$473,840

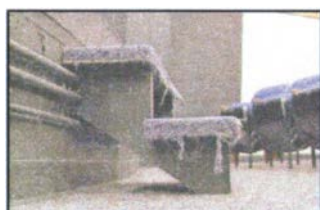
- Add corridor walls to enclose classrooms
- Replace doors
- Add ceiling fans to gym and cafeteria
- Remodel classroom finishes
- Provide fans for improved airflow
- Replace zone pumps
- Replace domestic piping

In their bond video, the school administration claims that this is a **major** problem at the high school which they **emphasize** in their video. To correct this problem, the administration says they must demolish our current high school and build a new \$49,000,000 high school. **This bears repeating.** The school administration maintains that they will correct this problem at our elementary and middle schools by doing renovation work costing thousands of dollars, and that they will correct this problem at our high school by demolishing it and building a new high school. And this will **only** cost us **\$49,000,000.**

There are other topics discussed in this video which we believe do not justify demolishing our current high school. Please watch the video and make your own decision.

Irregardless, nothing in this video justifies tearing down our still serviceable and functional current high school and building a new **\$49,000,000** high school, and in the process increasing our school taxes by more than **130%** over our current school tax rate, and which, according to our school administration's plans, will **never ever** come down.

Source: FCS Informational Bond Video



This image is just one of the reasons why our school administration says we need a new auditorium. To get a new auditorium, they

say we need to build a new high school. Wouldn't buying a small piece of carpet be cheaper than building a new \$49,000,000 high school?

Edgewood School

When the Fruitport school administration and school board asked Fruitport school district voters to approve a bond issue in 2009, part of their plan was to demolish most of Edgewood elementary school for "safety and security" [their words]. We were told at that time that Edgewood school was in such bad condition, that it had to be torn down immediately and a new elementary school built.

The portion of Edgewood School they wanted to demolish in 2009 because of "safety and security concerns."



Now we are being told in 2016, that Edgewood School is not in as bad a condition as we were told in 2009. According to the school district's facilities master plan, [Fruitport Focus special election edition], phase 2 of the master plan would begin in 2028, when another building would be replaced. We are assuming it would be Edgewood School. So we go from Edgewood school having to be replaced immediately in 2009, for safety and security reasons, to not having to worry about Edgewood school until as late as 2028, **19 years later.** Can we believe anything we are being told now by this school administration and school board?

Why are the voters and residents of the Fruitport school district not being told the truth?

The voters and our community are constantly being told by this school administration and their supporters, by means of mailings, school website information, information given to newspapers, and informal meetings with different groups, that the part of this bond proposal relating to the high school, will be used **"to replace the 1950s portion of the high school"** [see images]. This is completely false. This school administration intends to demolish not only the 1950s portion of the high school, which is only a small portion of our current high school [see image], but also the portions that were built in 1963 and 1968, and most of the portions that were built, renovated, or upgraded as recently as 1998, 1999, 2003, and 2010 from proceeds of the 1997, 2003, and 2010 bond issues. Why are we continually being told that only the 1950s portion is going to be demolished? Some portions of our high school are not even paid for yet. And now they want to tear it down. What are they thinking? Think of it. How many of us would tear down our own home if we had just spent large amounts of money to upgrade, remodel, or renovate it? What we are being told and what they actually plan to do is completely different.

THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR SUPPORTERS KEEP BRINGING UP THE AGE OF OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS AS THE REASON WE HAVE TO SPEND AN ADDITIONAL \$51 MILLION.

They claim that Edgewood school was built in 1950. However, additional rooms were built in the 1960s, and renovations done from the bond issues passed in recent years. Why do they keep saying that Edgewood school was built in 1950?



They keep saying that Beach School was built in the 1930s. Beach School was actually built in the early 1940s. Beach School was also renovated in 1969, and a new addition was built in 1998. There were also renovations in 1998 and 2004. [see Beach School image below]

