

A Public Hearing will be held at
7:00 PM on Monday, March 21
at the Nokomis Regional High School cafeteria.

The RSU #19 REFERENDUM
is
Tuesday, March 29, 2016

NEW HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

RSU19 has recommended building a new High School/Middle School and performing minor alterations to Sebasticook VMS and Somerset VMS to accommodate PreK-4 students. Etna-Dixmont will become a PreK-4 facility. This decision was made after significant community input at numerous public forums.

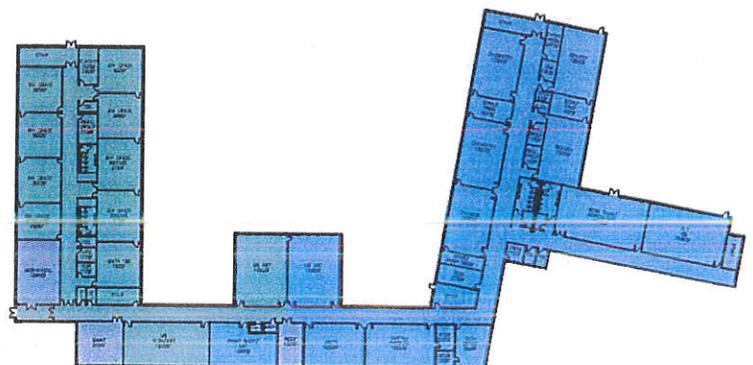
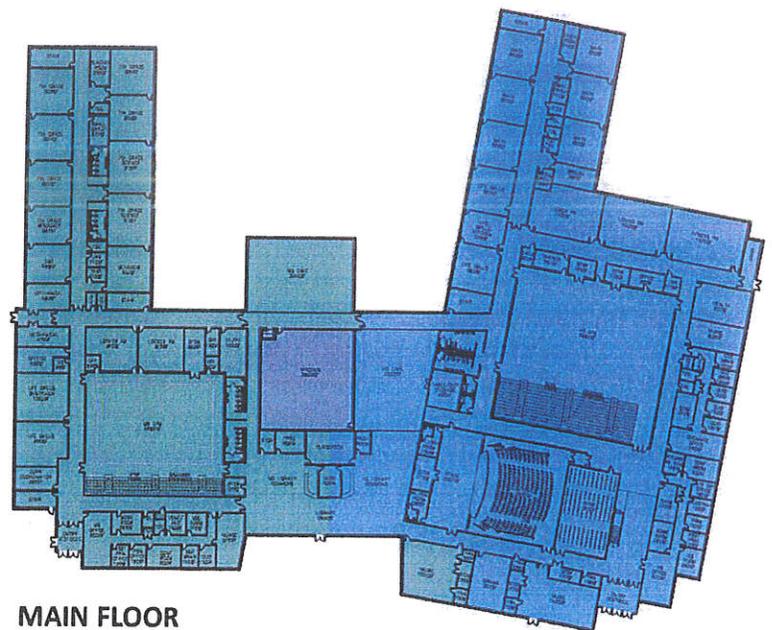
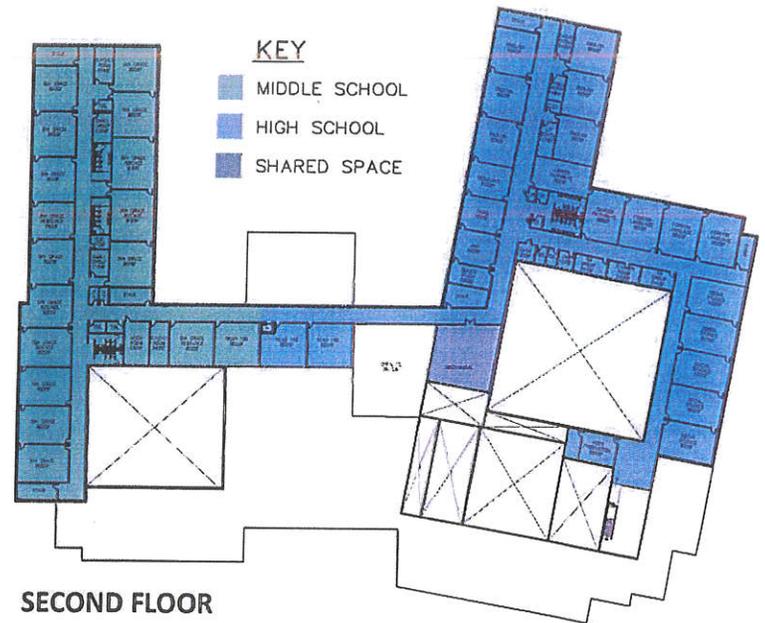
The new High School/Middle School will be separate schools within one building. Each will have its own entrance, classroom wings, cafeteria with separate serving lines, media center/library area, gymnasium and locker rooms, nurse, and administration suite. The design will unify the middle school curriculum and promote equity in the transition to high school for all students.

The project will be **100% state funded** and will include:

- Site Development
- Design and construction of a new High School/ Middle School
- New furnishings and technology
- Minor modifications to Somerset and Sebasticook Schools that will accommodate Kindergarten and Pre-K students (i.e. play structures, bathrooms)
- A new wood-chip boiler that will serve the new High School/Middle School as well as the Sebasticook Valley School
- Demolition of existing Nokomis Regional High School

The district will consolidate from eight school buildings to four, providing significant operational savings.

Visit www.RSU19.org



LOWER LEVEL

TO THE VOTERS OF RSU 19:

You are hereby notified that the Regional School Unit No. 19 REFERENDUM for the Town of Palmyra will be held on March 29, 2016, for the purpose of determining the articles listed below. Voting will take place at the _____, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Yes

No

ARTICLE 1:

Do you favor authorizing the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 19 (the “RSU”) to construct and equip a new grade 5 through grade 12 school on the site described below and to make renovations that will retrofit and convert Seabasticook Valley Middle School and Somerset Valley Middle School to grade K through grade 4 schools, all at a total cost not to exceed \$67,997,549 (the “Project”); to issue bonds or notes in the name of the RSU for school construction purposes in an amount not to exceed \$67,747,549; and to fund the balance of the Project costs of up to \$250,000 from non-tax revenues such as grants and donations?

- A. Description of Project Sites. The grade 5 through grade 12 school shall be located on the existing site of the Nokomis High School facility in the Town of Newport. The new main building will be located on the easterly side of Williams Road and other facilities and improvements will be located on both sides of the road on that site. The two grade K through grade 4 schools shall be located on the existing sites of Seabasticook Valley Middle School and Somerset Valley Middle School. The RSU may also acquire and convey easements and other real estate interests if necessary for the development of the Project.

General Site Information:

- The bus loop will be separate from the middle school and high school parent drop-off loops.
- The existing lagoon and spray field wastewater system will be replaced by a subsurface wastewater disposal system. The existing lagoons will be cleaned and re-purposed as storm water treatment areas.
- A request will be made to DOT to lower the speed limit on Williams Road to 35 MPH. Raised and signalized speed table style crosswalks will be installed at two locations on Williams Road.

High School

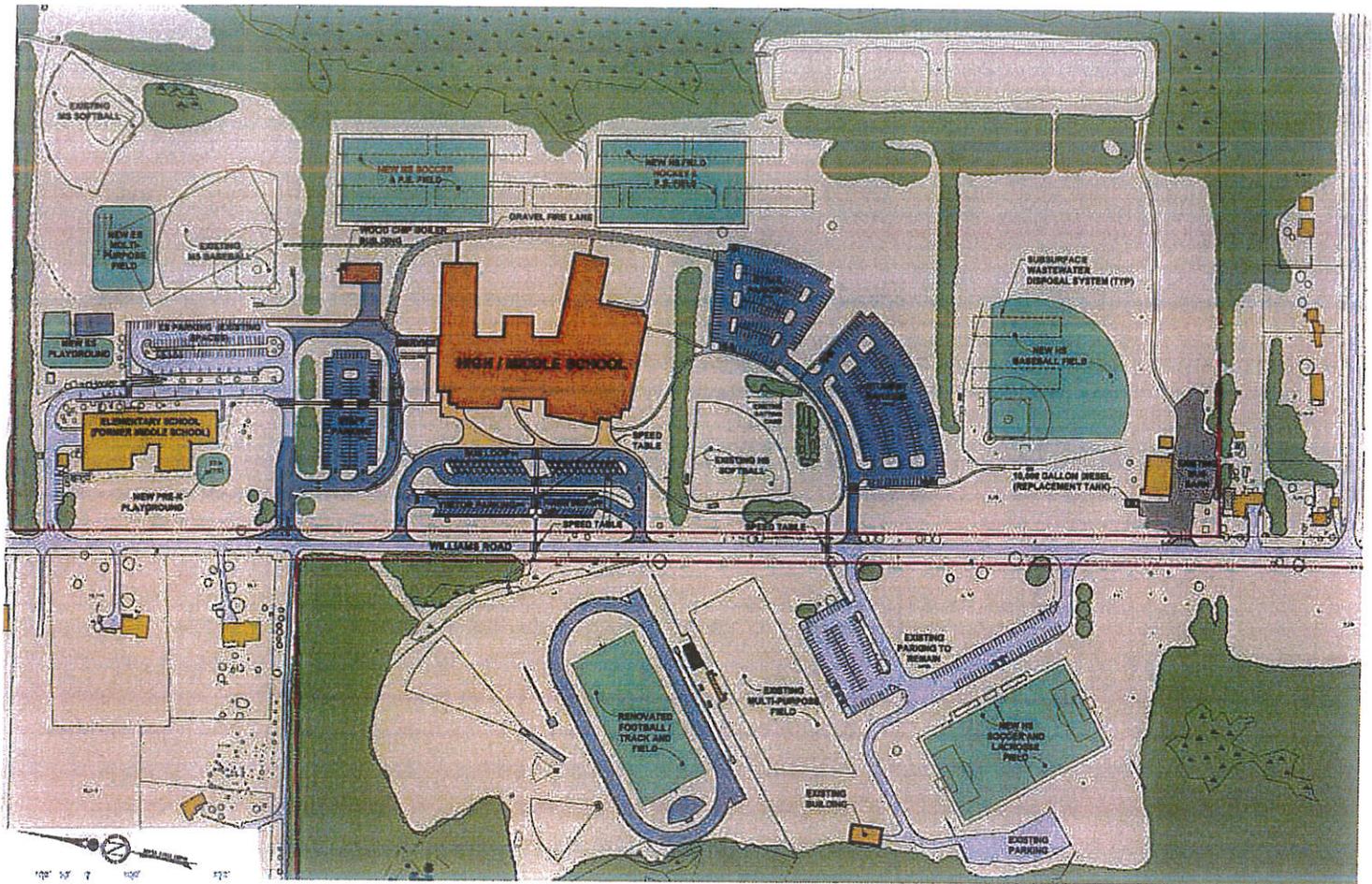
The existing track and football field will be completely reconstructed. A new high school soccer field will be constructed on the westerly side of Williams Road. New baseball and field hockey/P.E. fields will be constructed on the easterly side of Williams Road. The existing high school softball field will remain in place.

Middle School

The existing middle school softball and baseball fields will remain in place. A new middle school soccer/P.E. field will be constructed.

Elementary School

Pre-K and elementary school playgrounds will be constructed. Portions of the existing middle school field will be re-purposed as an elementary school multi-purpose field.



- B. Demolition of High School and Closure of Elementary Schools. The Project includes the demolition of the existing Nokomis High School building. The Project also includes the closure of four existing elementary schools, as follows: (i) Corinna Elementary School in the Town of Corinna, (ii) Hartland Consolidated School in the Town of Hartland, (iii) Newport/Plymouth Elementary School in the Town of Newport, and (iv) St. Albans Consolidated School in the Town of St. Albans.
- C. Statements Required by State Law. It is estimated that there will be no additional operating costs attributable to the Project during each of the first two years. Regional School Unit No. 19 is responsible for the local share of annual principal and interest payments for this school construction project included in the total cost of education appropriated pursuant to Title 20-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, section 15690, subsection 1.

