



Weekly News

TREMONT COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 702

REFERENDUM - MARCH 2024

At the Board of Education meeting held on October 12th, the Tremont CUSD 702 Board approved a resolution to place a referendum on the ballot at the March 19, 2024 election. The purpose of the referendum is to generate revenue to maintain and enhance educational programming and facilities.

The timing of this referendum coincides with the expiration of building bonds from the 2007 high school building upgrade. As these bonds are paid off, the taxes collected to pay for them are no longer collected, which results in a decrease of the tax rate. Because the taxes are no longer collected, the district cannot simply re-allocate those funds for other purposes.

The expiration of the bonds will result in a sizeable decrease to the tax rate of approximately \$0.70 over a two-year period in 2025 and 2026. The referendum the Board is seeking is for \$0.40, so the overall school tax rate will still decrease from its current level even if the referendum passes. Tremont already ranks 28th out of 30 area communities in school district tax rate and that rate is expected to decrease further next year as well.

If passed, it's estimated that the referendum could generate \$700,000 of additional revenue for the school district for the 2025-26 budget and set a new revenue base for future years. Over the past 10-15 years, shortfalls in state revenue have resulted in deficit spending by the district despite some cuts to programming and tightened expenditures in several areas. This referendum would resolve revenue issues for the long-term and provide an opportunity for the district to maintain, enhance, and expand programs for students, attract and retain quality staff, maintain and improve facilities, and achieve overall long-term financial stability while still lowering the school district tax rate.

The Board is planning a public meeting for mid-November to present more information about the referendum. Details on that meeting will be shared soon. We also have created a page on our district website www.tremont702.net for easy access to referendum information. In the meantime, you can click the link below to access a fact sheet about the referendum.

[Fact Sheet Link](#)

ROBOTEERS

Saturday, October 28th, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Come cheer on the Roboteers! This Saturday, October 28th the Tremont Roboteers are hosting an off-season robotics competition at the Tremont High School with several top tier teams competing!

The event is free admission so come and go as you please. Come hungry as concessions are provided. Competition is from 9:00am-approximately 5:00pm with a 30 minute lunch break around 1:30. If you want the inside scoop, let the greeters know and we'll send a Roboteer your way to show you around! We hope to see you!

Also, if you haven't had a chance to see our new building by the middle school entrance, it will be open during the event so come check it out

Did You Know...?

Halloween Tradition

From the November 7, 1913 *Tremont News*:

"Halloween comes but once a year and some wish it did not come that often. The boys take advantage of the occasion to have a little fun and Tremont was no exception this year. There were extra police on this year, but the boys waited until the wee hours of the morn to do the tricks and at that time the police had given up that there would be anything doing and had turned in for the night. This is just what the boys had waited for and then they got busy.

"The center of Sampson Street looked like they were preparing for an auction and in front of one business house enough jugs and barrels were piled up to start a saloon. Placards were posted upon them announcing that hot drinks would be served, etc. No damage was done to anything, and no one has any kick coming for the boys having a little fun."

As indicated by this old news article, Halloween had become an excuse for kids to do relatively harmless tricks or to do worse: break windows, damage property and play tricks on people. This was about the time the saying "trick or treat" first became popular, quite literally meaning, "Give us a treat or we'll give you a trick."



1880s Lumber Mill

In the 1930s, costumes were mass-produced and shifted from witches, goblins, and ghosts more towards characters and professions. A group of children might be dressed as a nurse, Little Red Riding Hood, a ball player, or a pirate.

It is thought that the trick or treat of today may have started when children went door-to-door singing songs for treats, but by the 1930s and 40s, children were given treats which such as homemade goods, fruit, small toys, and coins. By the 1950s, candy companies began selling their items specifically for Halloween.

During WWII, Halloween parties became more common, helping to relieve what was called, "war strain." By the 1950s, Halloween became more of the family-friendly holiday. Holiday parties were held in homes and schools. At first, trick-or-treating was seen as begging by many, but this way of thinking changed as time passed.

Safety fears led to more recent changes. Commercially wrapped candy has completely taken the place of home-made treats and many trick or treaters now even do their trick or treating in church parking lots, where church members pass out treats from the decorated trunks of their cars.

October 31st has undergone many transformations just since the early 1900s, and

thankfully today the phrase, "trick-or-treat!" is just for fun and sweet treats.

Tremont Museum and Historical Society
Lori Fuoss

Tremont Museum

The Tremont Museum is open 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month, March through mid-December, with the exception for holidays.

Individual or group tours are available by calling Kay at 419.296.2323.

Admission is free. Come and see the story of our community!



Tremont District Library News

S.T.E.A.M. Lab (ages 4-6)

Monday, October 23th, 3:30 - 4:30pm

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math are some of the building blocks of life and learning. To foster curiosity in preschoolers ages 4-6, we created S.T.E.A.M. Lab! These afternoons will consist of educational play and is suited for beginning learners. Think marble runs, LEGO physics kits, Lincoln Logs, and other building blocks!

CLOSED for Staff Development/Award Ceremony

Tuesday October 24th, 9:00am

Tremont District Library will be closed Tuesday, October 24th so that staff may attend the Illinois Library Association Conference for training and to attend the award ceremony to see Youth Director Lizzi receive the Croman Memorial Award.

Baby & Me Group (ages 0-3)

Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am

A support group for new and experienced parents.

Story Hour

Thursday, Oct 26, 10:30 - 11:00am

Story hour is perfect for ages 3-6. Miss Maddie reads stories, sings songs and rhymes, and does activities that all encourage early literacy and improves socialization skills in the youngest of library patrons. We know a group setting is new for lots of kiddos this age, so wiggles are welcome! Make Story Hour a step you take in preparing your child for life-long learning!

Movie Night: Hocus Pocus (PG)

Friday, October 27th 6:30 - 8:15pm

Join us after hours on Friday, October 27th for a special showing of "Hocus Pocus"! Com in costume, or wear something cozy, and enjoy this seasonal movie on the big screen in our YA section. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. All ages are welcome, no registration required.

Minecraft Day

****Saturday October 28th

Starting at 9:30am: ages 10+

Starting at 11am: ages 7+

Program end: 12:30pm

Starting at 9:30am, ages 10+ can join Miss Lizzi in the Meeting Room for Minecraft. Then, at 11am ages 7+ can join in until the end of the program at 12:30pm. Ask Lizzi ahead of time if you have any questions about our weekly Minecraft days. Continue reading to learn more about this program!

We started our library Minecraft Realm back in November 2021 and it was a huge hit! Kids ages 7+ are invited to come help it grow! Bring your own device and connect to our library Realm. First-time participants and their parents will need to sign a Code of Conduct before joining.

Tremont Area Park District***Turk Gear available at TAPD***

Various sizes in t-shirts, long sleeve t-shirts, and hoodies

Prices range from \$10 - \$25

JOIN TREMONT FITNESS

Cardio, weights, and classes offered. Workout hours 5 AM - 10 PM.

Rates: \$25.00 per month

-Additional member living in household: \$5.00

***All minors must have parents signature to obtain a membership. Must be 16 to work out without a parent. Ages 14/15 must work out with an adult.*

Fitness Class 10 Punch Pass: \$40.00

Tremont Community Senior Meals



Meals are served every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11pm at the Tremont Community Center. These are for anyone 60 and up, there is no cost! If you want to join us you can stop in and sign up or call 309-674-1131 ext 231 for more information or to sign up.

If you would like to help support these meals, there are a few ways to get involved!

1. You can volunteer. Help us serve food and clean up from 10:45-12:15 in a relaxed and fun environment.
2. You can donate. Donations of disposable dinnerware (plates, cups, silverware, dessert plates, large and small take-home containers, rectangular tablecloths and napkins) can be dropped off at the [Tremont Share Closet](#) during their open hours. If you want a more detailed list of our current needs, you can see our Amazon wish list [here](#).
3. You can entertain. We like to host fun activities from 11:45-12:15 on Fridays and are always looking for creative and fun ideas to fill that time.

If you have any questions about donations or want to get involved, you can reach out to Braden at scsoulmanager@gmail.com.

Community Calendar

Monday

HS Volleyball @ Regional - TBA

HS Cross Country HOME Tremont JV Invite vs PND, Dee-Mack, Eureka - 4:00 PM

MS Girls Basketball HOME vs Rankin - 5:00 PM

Tuesday

MS Girls Basketball HOME vs Beverly Manor Elementary - 5:30 PM

Wednesday

No Events

Thursday

MS Girls Basketball @ Illini Bluffs Middle School - 5:00 PM

Friday

No Events

Saturday

HS Cross Country @ Sectional - TBA

MS Boys Basketball @ Chillicothe - 9:00 AM

Tremont Roboteers Off-Season Competition - 9:00 AM

Around Town



Please send us your news stories and they will be included in upcoming emails. Deadline to include information is Friday, 6:00PM for the following Monday.

We accept information from official Tremont, IL businesses, organizations, and advertisers. We will also post Public Auctions and Open Houses.

Tremont Winning Communities | info@tremontil.com | <http://tremontil.com>

Tremont Winning Communities | P.O. Box 76, Tremont, IL 61568

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