



Early College Academy Investment Plan



5590 W. 11th Street
Greeley, Colorado

Number of students: 286

Number of staff: 33*

Student grade levels: 9-12

* Includes Aims Community College employees

Square footage of main building: 27,000

Number of temporary portable classrooms: 0

Early College Academy was established in 2015 in partnership with Aims Community College. Aims Community College owns the building where Early College is located. Structural upgrades to the building are done in partnership with the college.

PROPOSED REPAIRS AND RENOVATION IN THE 2019 BOND ISSUE

- Enhance safety and security with improved security cameras and secure entries.
- Replace aging door hardware for improved function and security

PROJECTED BUDGET:

\$187,000 - \$210,000*

**Final budget will be developed in the design phase*

INSTRUCTIONAL/CAREER AND COLLEGE PREPARATION UPGRADES

Each school will be provided funding for instructional upgrades to be determined through a collaborative process that will include the school community. Improvements could include STEM labs, project-based learning spaces, furniture, classroom modifications, fine arts equipment and supplies, health and wellness equipment and spaces, or other capital improvements that support programs and students.

PROJECTED BUDGET:

\$250,000

Expenditure of these dollars will be unique to each building and will be overseen by the District 6 Department of Finance and the Bond Oversight Committee.



Arguments for:

- Greeley-Evans School District 6 schools are currently 5,000 students over capacity district-wide.
- District 6 has not constructed any additional, non-charter schools since 2003. The District has grown by 7,000 students in the past 20 years.
- The money from this ballot measure will provide much-needed funding for repairs and renovations of public schools, including charter schools.
- This ballot issue will also begin to address capacity issues by constructing a new K-8 and adding capacity to some schools.
- The State of Colorado does not provide specific funding to school districts for capital improvements, including new schools, major renovations and repairs, upgrades to security and safety, upgrades to systems such as heating and cooling, or renovations for programs. The only funding available for capital projects comes through state grants, which require significant matching funds and don't cover all needs.
- It is the responsibility of District 6 and the community to do everything possible to ensure students and staff are safe. This measure would pay for additional security measures, such as safe entryways, updated locks and door hardware and the removal of some portable buildings.
- A Bond Oversight Committee will be appointed to ensure that District 6 uses the money from the Bond to fund programs and learning opportunities as promised.

Arguments against:

- Taxes should not support schools because they only serve students, which is a small segment of the population.
- This measure would increase property taxes. Due to the Gallagher amendment, this puts a larger burden on business owners in the communities of Greeley and Evans.
- District 6 doesn't need additional revenue. It should make cuts to fund facility needs.
- There is not sufficient accountability or oversight on how this money will be used.
- It is the responsibility of the state to fund public education. This measure asks local property owners to take on some of that responsibility.
- Some may not agree with how District 6 has spent its money to this point, and believe there is room for better financial management.
- District 6 should find money from other sources, such as charitable organizations and grants.