# Wappingers Central Schools: Investing Wisely in Our Children and Our Community's Future

#### The Purpose

The primary purpose of the Wappingers Central School District is to provide a safe environment for students to grow and learn together. To achieve this goal it is essential for a school district to maintain their buildings and through regular maintenance checks make necessary repairs to keep them in service. In addition, the District must improve its educational facilities to keep up with changing

standards and required improvements to the educational program. The Board of Education and its committees have reviewed the needs of the District and proposed a Capital



Project designed to improve the District's school buildings, increase accessibility to the handicapped in its buildings, and provide updated athletic and arts program improvements to serve best our students.

#### **The Recent History**

In 2013, The District voters approved a \$38.715 Million Capital Project, which provided improvements at every building, replaced a dilapidated Transportation Facility and eliminated expensive rentals for bus repair. The intent was to also eliminate the cost of rental space for District Offices and Orchard View AHS by constructing or reconstructing space in the District. This did not occur and instead a proposition was offered to the voters to purchase property for District Offices and Orchard View AHS. The purchase of 25 Corporate Park Drive proposition was defeated by the voters. The full savings potential was not realized. The District's prudent planning of the 2013 Capital Project led to savings that resulted in the completion of other necessary improvements identified as priorities. Design and construction of new baseball dugouts at John Jay HS and a new Press Box and Concession Stand at Roy C. Ketcham HS are in progress and examples of how the District was able to save the taxpayer money while providing improvements for our students and community. Wappingers CSD Capital Project information is available by going to www.wappingersschools.org/Page/221.

# Facility Condition Needs

Every five years, NYSED requires school districts to survey its buildings for deficiencies and report the findings to the NY State Education Department. In 2015, all of the District's buildings and sites were surveyed. The findings were reviewed with the Board of Education and the Capital Improvement Committee, who then selected the priorities that make up the needs of this 2016 Capital Project. The Building Condition Survey identified significant needed improvements throughout the District's buildings and sites to ensure that they would continue to appropriately serve our students and the community's educational programs. The Building Conditions Survey needs were identified as follows:

#### **Replace Aging Building Components**

Most of the buildings in the District were built in the 1950's and 60's. These buildings have their original inefficient windows, well-used interior finishes, and antiquated mechanical and electrical systems. Many of these components have lived long beyond their useful life, are costly to maintain, and should be replaced.

Many sites have roads, parking areas and walkways that have begun to crumble and fall apart, threatening injury and added stress on vehicles as well as improper drainage.

The District's maintenance staff has done well in keeping the District's buildings safe and operable. However the type of repairs required are taking longer, cost more, and parts are difficult to find.

#### Accessibility for All Community Members

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991 required that all public buildings, such as schools, to provide access to all programs to those with disabilities. The 2015 Building Condition Survey identified 11 school buildings that require either elevators and/or accessible toilet rooms at each floor level to meet the requirement of this law.

#### Sports

The Capital Project includes upgrading the feature athletic fields at **Roy C. Ketcham HS** to turf with new lights, ADA Accessible pathways, portable bleachers, improved soccer and baseball fields, re-sodding of the practice football field. At **John Jay HS** the improvements include upgrading the feature athletic fields to the turf, upgrading the lighting, adding a new scoreboard, new sod at the soccer and baseball field, regrading the baseball field with new fencing, renovating toilet rooms, field house improvements and adding storage for equipment.

### Arts

Both High School Auditoriums are scheduled to receive aesthetic improvements, additional lighting, sound systems, and acoustical treatment. The Music and Arts programs at both high schools will receive improvements to art rooms and practice areas. **Roy C. Ketcham** will receive new recording equipment. Other improvements include the band room, new sound and video recording systems and production labs, video monitors for Green Rooms, renovations for the ceramic classroom and sink replacements in art room. **John Jay High School** is scheduled for renovations to the 3D Art Classrooms, including the art sinks.

## **Unique Funding Opportunities**

The Wappingers Central School District has a unique opportunity to minimize the cost of these improvements to District voters. These funding opportunities include:

- 47.2% of the approved project costs are reimbursed to the District by NYS Building Aid.
- The cost to borrow funds for this work remains at historic lows.



## **Project Scope Per Building**

#### Roy C. Ketcham High School

- Sports Improvements
- Arts Program Improvements
- Paving, Walks, and Drainage Improvements
- HVAC Systems Upgrade

#### Wappingers Jr. High School

- Elevator and ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior Stair Repairs
- Electrical Upgrades
- Ventilation Upgrades
- Replace Windows
- Replace Auditorium Flooring

#### **Evans Elementary School**

- Paving and Drainage Improvements
- Elevator and ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior and Interior Stair Repairs
- Provide ADA Access to Stage
- Remove and replace Vinyl Asbestos Floor Tiles
  with new VCT

#### **Myers Corners Elementary School**

- Elevator and ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior and Interior Stair Repairs
- Provide ADA Access to Stage
- Paving and Walks Improvements
- Outside Basketball Court Improvements

#### **Oak Grove Elementary School**

- Drainage Improvements
- Exterior Stair Repairs

#### Provide Access to Stage

#### Sheafe Road Elementary School

- Exterior Stair Repairs
- ADA Accessible Toilets
- Provide ADA Access to Stage

#### Vassar Road Elementary School

- Paving and Walks Improvements
- ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior Stair Repairs

#### John Jay High School

- Paving and Drainage Improvements
- Outside Basketball Court Improvements
- Sports Improvements
- Arts Program Improvements
- Replace Corridor Ceiling Tiles

#### Van Wyck Jr. High School

- ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Replace selected Corridor lockers

## Replace Boys Gym Lockers

- Brinckerhoff Elementary School
  - Exterior Caulking

## Fishkill Elementary School

- ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior Stair Repairs

## **Project Scope Per Building**

#### **Facilities and Operations Building**

ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms

#### **Fishkill Plains Elementary School**

- ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior Stair Repairs

#### **Gayhead Elementary School**

- Paving, Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements
- Outside Basketball Court Improvements
- Elevator
- ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms

#### Kinry Elementary School

- Paving, Walks, and Drainage Improvements
- Exterior and Interior Stair Repairs
- Provide ADA Access to Stage

#### Bus Garage 1 (at Wappingers Jr HS)

- ADA Accessible Toilet Rooms
- Exterior Stair Repairs
- Window Replacement

#### District Wide

- Security Vestibules at School Entrances
- Stage Curtains

## **Project Cost**

Total Amount to be harmound.	¢26 722 000
Art Improvements	\$3,719,000
Sports Improvements	\$5,916,000
Accessibility Improvements	\$1,912,000
Facility Improvements	\$15,176,000

Total Amount to be borrowed: \$26,723,000

# Impact Per Household for Capital Project

Home Assessed Value	Annual Cost	Monthly
\$100,000	\$13.50	\$1.12
\$300,000	\$40.49	\$3.37
\$500,000	\$67.54	\$5.63

## **Informational Meetings**

The District's representatives will be reviewing the proposed project at several locations and times prior to the Referendum.

Additional information may be obtained by attending one of the many Informational Meetings, or at the District's website: <u>www.wappingersschools.org</u>

Or by contacting:

Wappingers Central School District

25 Corporate Park Drive Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 (845) 298-5000



# Proposed Capital Project Vote May 17, 2016







Voter Registration & Absentee Ballots If not already registered, you may register to vote at the District Offices.