



Windsor

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECT: *"Preserving and Improving Our School Facilities"*



Our District takes great pride in our facilities. Our responsibility as stewards of the community's assets is taken very seriously. The scope of the proposed capital project will impact all school buildings and will benefit the community. Improvements address multiple facets of our program, which will enable us to better prepare our students for college and careers in an increasingly competitive environment. Additionally, safety, health, and security are a priority within all projects, and investments in energy efficiency upgrades will provide long-term operational cost savings.

Due to the long-range financial planning practices of our District, along with state aid and other fiscal factors, the \$14.15 million project is projected to have no additional tax impact.

SPECIAL VOTE: TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017 10:00AM-8:00PM

A message to the community



Dear Residents:

The Windsor Central School District is pleased to offer a proposal that aligns with the goals set forth by the Board of Education. As the global market places greater demand on our youth, Windsor remains committed to creating strong facilities rooted in 21st century programming intended to produce a college and career ready student body.

As stewards of our facilities, we are pleased to tell you about our proposed capital improvement project, proposition one. Some highlights include:

- S.T.E.A.M. (Science Technology Engineering Art/Agriculture and Mathematics) room
- Music recording studio
- Multi-purpose artificial-turf athletic field
- Playground upgrades
- Technology and safety upgrades

Proposition two establishes a capital reserve fund to allow the district to set aside savings at the end of each school year to pay down debt for future capital projects and help finance other facility repairs. This responsible fiscal management will allow the district to continue to maintain its facilities, as well as create upgrades in the future with no additional tax impact on the community.

Through our long-range financial planning we are able to do this with no projected tax levy impact. We invite you to:

- read this newsletter
- attend the public hearing on March 28th at 6pm at Windsor Central Middle School
- contact me directly at (607) 655-8216 or jandrews@windsor-csd.org

Sincerely,

Jason A. Andrews, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education

Peter Nowacki
President

Margo Kibbler
Vice President

Stephen Feehan

Carin Shaffer

Kathy Swezey

Kevin Truman

Rhea Deyo

Dr. Jason Andrews
Superintendent of Schools

CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

- Tuesday, April 11, 2017
- 10:00AM-8:00PM
- Windsor High School (District 1)
- C.R. Weeks Elementary School (District 2)
- Floyd L. Bell Elementary (District 3)



PUBLIC HEARING

- Tuesday, March 28, 2017
- 6:00PM
- Windsor Middle School

What is in the bond referendum?

WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL

- New Multi-Purpose Artificial Turf Athletic Field
- Lower Athletic Fields Reconfiguration/Improvements and New Parking Lot
- New Baseball Field Dugouts
- New Softball Field Dugouts
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) Room Renovations to Support the Engineering and Agriculture in the Classroom Program
- Large Group Instruction Rooms Renovations
- Music Suite Upgrades - Music Recording Studio
- Main Entrance Reconfiguration (Improved Security)
- Classroom Technology Upgrades
- Toilet Room Renovations
- Men's and Women's Locker Room Renovations
- Cafeteria Audio/Visual Improvements
- Elevator Car-Shaft Reconstruction
- Sign and Way-Finding Improvements
- Select Corridor Lighting and Ceiling Replacement
- Corridor Smoke-Fire Door Replacement
- Carbon Monoxide Detection System Installation
- Emergency Generator Replacement

C.R. WEEKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- New Playground
- Gymnasium Renovation
- Classroom Technology Upgrades
- Collaborative Space Renovation
- Sign and Way-Finding Improvements
- Carbon Monoxide Detection System Installation
- Emergency Generator Installation

A.F. PALMER ELEMENTARY/WINDSOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Elementary Gymnasium Renovation
- Address Student Learning Environment (Seasonal Overheating/Air Conditioning)
- Auditorium Seating Replacement
- Classroom Technology Upgrades
- Sign and Way-Finding Improvements
- Carbon Monoxide Detection System Installation
- Emergency Generator Installation

FLOYD L. BELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- New Playground
- Gymnasium Renovation
- Classroom Technology Upgrades
- Locker Room and Storage Space Reconfiguration
- Corridor Floor Replacement
- Sign and Way-Finding Improvements
- Carbon Monoxide Detection System Installation
- Emergency Generator Installation

WINDSOR BUS GARAGE

- Replace Bus Wash Bay Equipment
- Carbon Monoxide Detection System Installation

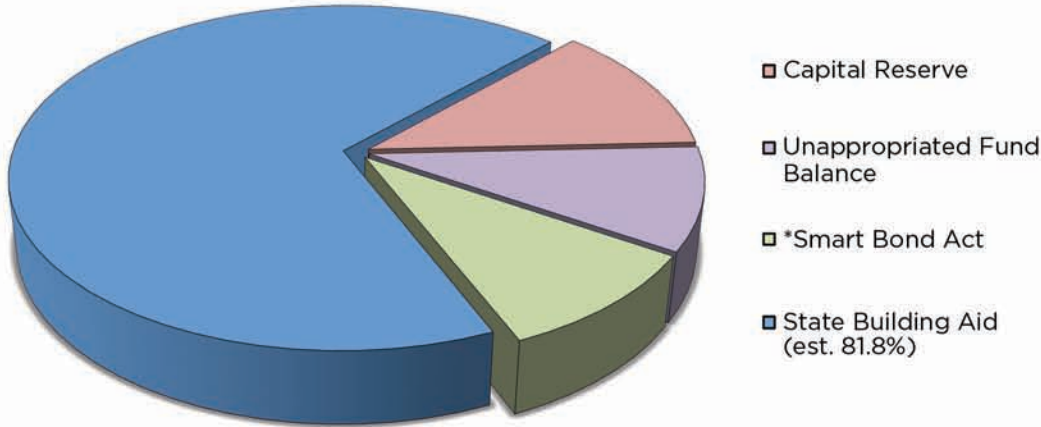


The existing High School athletic field requires an excessive amount of maintenance and has drainage issues.

How will the project be funded?

FUNDING

The revenue necessary to fund this proposal is shown in the chart below. The majority of funding will be provided by New York State in the form of building aid (estimated 81.8 percent). The District will utilize \$1,895,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund and \$1,505,000 of Unappropriated Fund Balance, so there will be no additional impact to local taxes for this project.



**NOTE: An additional \$1,508,000 will be allocated and funded through the New York State's Smart School Bond Act. These Funds are in addition to the \$14,150,000 referendum and will have NO impact on the tax levy.*

Referendum At-a-Glance

Project total
\$15,658,000

Referendum total
\$14,150,000

Portion covered by Capital Reserve
\$1,895,000

Portion covered by Unappropriated Fund Balance
\$1,505,000

Portion covered by Smart Schools Bond Act
\$1,508,000

Portion covered by state aid
\$10,750,000

Impact on District tax levy
0%

PROJECT GOALS

- Protect our investment in district buildings and campus facilities
- Improve safety and security
- Reduce energy usage
- Enhance educational and community use of facilities

FUNDING QUESTIONS

Q: Why is money being funded by Capital Reserve and the Unappropriated Fund Balance? Do we usually fund the Capital Reserve with Unappropriated Fund Balance?

A: We could fund the Capital Reserve, however, this would count against our Capital Reserve maximum limit. In addition, funding a Capital Reserve and using those funds in the same year is not allowed. Even though the funds in question would not be expensed in 2017, a successful vote would necessitate an intrafund transfer from the Capital Reserve to a capital account. There is a current debate as to whether this transfer constitutes "use" of the Capital Reserve. This would be the most conservative approach.

Q: What impact will this project have on the local share?

A: The District has responsibly funded its Capital Reserve over several years in order to have funds available to apply to a capital project in order to help offset the impact to the tax levy. As a result, based on the current conditions the District is able to complete this project with no further impact to the tax levy.

Q: What is building aid?

A: New York State Building Aid is available for expenditures incurred in voter-approved construction of new buildings, additions, alterations or modernization of District-owned buildings. The District's current State aid ratio for approved capital improvements is 81.8%.

Questions and Answers

CAPITAL PROJECT BOND PROPOSITION 1

Q: *If we are taking good care of our school buildings, why do we need a capital project?*

A: Your home gets constant wear and tear, both outdoors from the sun and snow and indoors from your daily activities. The same is true for school buildings only multiplied by over 1700 active students, faculty, staff and community members daily. Although facility care and maintenance is addressed on a daily basis, years of use and changing demands in security, energy efficiencies, and technology integration within the classroom and building infrastructure require capital improvement outside the scope of routine facility stewardship. A Capital Project allows us to keep pace and get ahead of changing demands and needs.

Q: *How can a \$14.15 million capital project referendum have no impact on the tax levy?*

A: The project will be funded by \$1,895,000 from the District's Capital Reserve Fund and \$1,505,000 from Unappropriated Fund Balance which the District has been strategically setting aside to offset the local share of capital projects.

The remaining \$10,750,000 from the local tax levy will be bonded and offset by state aid over 15 years. In the event of a change in the District's financial factors (i.e. State aid ratio), the District may also use money from its debt service reserve and appropriated fund balance to ensure that the project does NOT impact the tax levy.

**NOTE: An additional \$1,508,000 will be allocated and funded through the New York State's Smart School Bond Act. These funds are in addition to the \$14,150,000 referendum and will have NO impact on the tax levy.*

Q: *How does the proposed capital project affect the District's 2017-2018 budget?*

A: The capital project proposal and the District's operating budget for the 2017-18 school year are completely separate.

CAPITAL RESERVE PROPOSITION 2

Q: *What is a capital reserve fund?*

A: A capital reserve fund allows the district to set aside money for future construction projects and major purchases. It can be likened to a savings account. The capital reserve fund is established with voter approval. Voter authorization is also required to make expenditures from this fund. The fund can be used to off-set future construction, reconstruction and renovation of district facilities. Please note that the district is NOT asking voters to immediately place money into this reserve - it is only asking for voters to authorize the creation of the reserve fund.

Q: *Why create a Capital Reserve Fund?*

A: Creating a Capital Reserve Fund allows the district to set aside savings at the end of the school year to pay down debt for the Capital Project and help finance other facility repairs. In fact, the purpose of a capital reserve fund is to mitigate future tax increases.

Q: *Will my taxes go up due to the establishment of a capital reserve fund?*

A: No. A capital reserve fund can only be established with voter approval; therefore its establishment must be placed on a ballot. The advantage of the capital reserve fund is that it allows the district to conduct a future capital project without a tax impact on local taxpayers, since the money would already be placed aside. A separate vote at a later time would still be needed to conduct any capital projects.

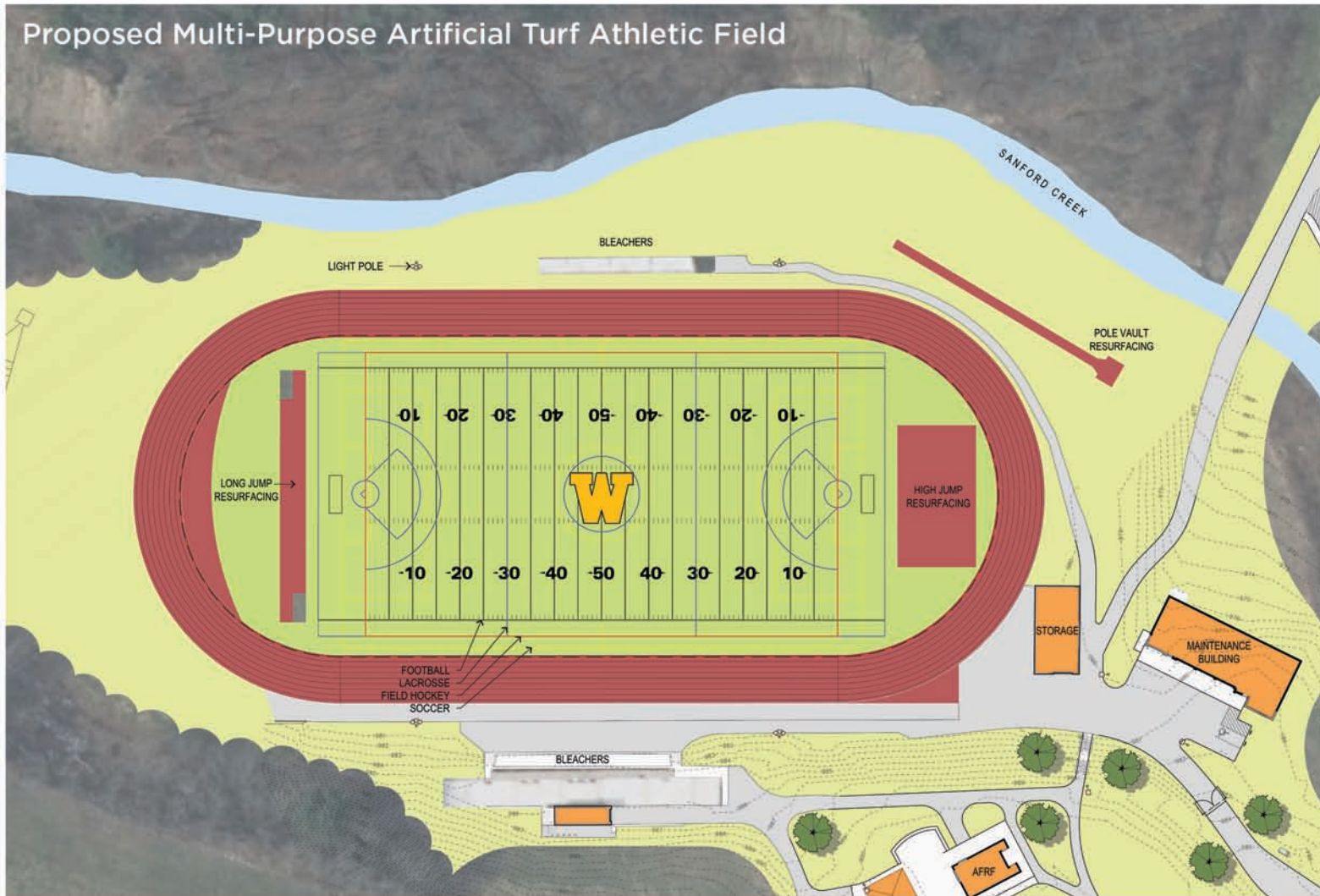
Q: *How does a capital reserve fund help lessen the tax impact of capital projects?*

A: In order to undertake repairs and renovations to ensure that buildings are operating safely and efficiently, school districts need to take on debt from time-to-time. This is especially true as buildings age and programming needs change. When the time comes to address infrastructure needs, if money has been set aside in a capital reserve fund, it reduces the need to borrow. Otherwise, the school district could have to make principal and interest payments on a dollar-for-dollar basis out of its general fund, which would have a direct effect on taxes. The capital reserve fund can help provide a degree of stability when funding capital improvements.

Q: *Could the Capital Reserve Funds be used for anything other than a Capital Project?*

A: No, the Capital Reserve Fund was set up specifically for a capital project and money from the Fund CANNOT be used for any other purpose including the General Operating Budget. Funds from this reserve may only be used for a capital project such as the proposed project. The District has other reserve funds that may be used for other purposes.

High School Artificial Turf Stadium Plan



WHY A MULTI-PURPOSE ARTIFICIAL TURF ATHLETIC FIELD?

- A multi-purpose artificial turf athletic field will accommodate field hockey, football, lacrosse, and soccer for both contests and practices.
- A multi-purpose artificial turf athletic field will not only meet the needs of our student athletes but will also better meet the needs of the community. The District has given availability of its athletic facilities to community youth groups and associations thus increasing the use and wear and tear of the current fields.
- The latest generation of turf fields provide a safer, consistent playing surface. Dependent on weather conditions, the current field can become hard or muddy jeopardizing player safety.
- A multi-purpose artificial turf athletic field can be used during and immediately after inclement weather leading to fewer canceled games and practices.
- Our student-athletes are at a competitive disadvantage. Currently, virtually every opponent faced by our student-athletes play on a home turf surface. In addition, post-season play is almost exclusively on turf fields.
- A multi-purpose artificial turf athletic field provides a near-perfect surface for years, with limited maintenance. There is no downtime, recovery time, watering, mowing, drainage concerns or pest issues associated with a natural field.
- A multi-purpose artificial turf athletic field will be accessible by our teams and community earlier in the Spring, later in the Fall and used more frequently throughout the year.

Project Scope of Work Highlights



Floyd L. Bell and C.R. Weeks Elementary Schools Proposed New Playgrounds. The project would remove the existing outdated and non-compliant playground equipment and construct a new accessible and code-compliant "age based" playground.

STEAM ROOM RENOVATIONS



Renovations will include transforming the existing Technology and Shop rooms into a state-of-the-art STEAM program. STEAM is Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics and will support our Engineering and Agriculture in the Classroom program. Working with our teachers and staff, we will develop a reconfiguration of the existing 6,600 square foot Shop/Drafting/Technology space into a lecture, innovation, and technology area. The above images are inspirational images/examples of what the STEAM space design may incorporate.

MUSIC SUITE UPGRADES



New recording equipment will be incorporated into the existing Music/Band/Choral area.

WINDSOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
1191 NY ROUTE 79
WINDSOR, NY 13865

POSTAL PATRON
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BINGHAMTON, NY
PERMIT 237

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL



PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 | 6:00PM
Windsor Middle School

CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

Tuesday, April 11, 2017
10:00AM-8:00PM

Absentee Ballots: Applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the office of the School District Clerk. Any such application must be received by the School District Clerk at least seven days before the date of the aforesaid Special District Meeting if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before such Special District Meeting, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee voters ballots shall have been issued shall be available for public inspection in the office of the School District Clerk not less than five days prior to the date of the Special District Meeting (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) during regular office hours until the date of the aforesaid Special District Meeting. In addition, such list shall also be posted conspicuously at the places of voting during the hours of such Special District Meeting. Absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 P.M. on date of election in the office of the School District Clerk.

PROPOSITION NO. 1 - Bond Proposition

RESOLVED, that the Windsor Central School District, Broome County, New York, is hereby authorized to construct improvements to and reconstruct various School District facilities in and for said School District, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, and site (including athletic field and playgrounds) and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$14,150,000, and that \$1,895,000 of Capital Reserve Fund monies and \$1,505,000 other monies of the School District shall be expended therefor and the remaining \$10,750,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary after receipt of State aid, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

PROPOSITION NO. 2 - New Capital Reserve Fund

RESOLVED, that the Windsor Central School District, Broome County, New York, is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be designated "Buildings and Facilities Improvement Reserve Fund" in order to pay the cost of the construction of improvements to and reconstruction and construction of various School District buildings and facilities, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, and site and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at an ultimate amount of \$10,000,000, plus accrued interest and investment earnings, with a probable term of ten (10) years, the source of funding to be surplus dollars when it closes its books every June 30 and/or legally available funds available to the District.