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Capital Improvement Project vote set for Tuesday, Dec. 6

Ballot will include two separate propositions for voters to consider

Just like a home, school facilities need regular attention and upkeep to continue to operate year after year as originally intended. The cost of keeping up with the daily wear and tear caused by thousands of students, staff, and visitors can rise above what the annual school budget can support. Renovation projects, also referred to as capital improvement projects, are a way for school districts to access state aid to complete a larger amount of facilities work than possible within the scope of the annual school budget. New York State Aid will cover approximately 53% of the district's expenditures to offset the cost of these improvements.

Propositions protect the community's long-term investment into our school facilities:

Proposition 1, at a cost of \$25.2 million, seeks to meet the current and future needs of our growing school community. Through reconfiguring existing space at the elementary school, the project would allow for programmatic upgrades that would improve the health, safety, security, and ADA-compliance of the building. Plans include, but are not limited to:

- Reworking existing space to create multiple general instructional spaces, including new music and arts classrooms, a guidance suite, a library makerspace and science labs
- Installing a secure vestibule building entrance
- Centralizing the administrators' and health offices
- Replacing the elementary stairwell to include ADA-accessibility

- Creating a new cafeteria in the existing transportation facility space, that will double as self-contained community space
- Utilizing green space to create an outdoor instructional classroom
- Fixing the failing drainage system on the district's soccer field
- Constructing a free-standing transportation facility at the rear of the high school

Proposition 2 at a cost of \$2 million, aims to achieve energy efficiency and cost-saving measures district-wide through an energy performance contract (EPC). This proposal does not impact the district tax levy, and is paid for through state funding and energy cost reductions.

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CAPITAL PROJECT at a Glance...

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022 2-9 p.m.

Voorheesville Middle School 432 New Salem Road Voorheesville, NY







Questions & Answers

Q: Why are we voting on this now?

The Board of Education seeks to continually make investments in our school buildings to provide a safe, competitive, and innovative environment for students to learn.

One of the major contributing factors in the district's decision to propose this project is growing enrollment. The district recently underwent two enrollment studies to examine its growing population and the effect that may have on school use. The findings of both reports include the potential for the addition of 350 new students into the district over the next 10+ years. In order to meet the current and future needs of our school community, our buildings need to be able to accommodate more students, while also meeting their instructional needs. Revisioning the elementary school will allow the district to maximize space, while modernizing instructional classrooms, and better support student safety and security.

Q: How would this project benefit the school community?

This project would benefit Voorheesville faculty, staff and community members, however, the group that would see the biggest impact is current and future students.

The two propositions would provide our students with more comfortable, safer, and secure learning environments through modernized learning spaces and infrastructure updates.

In addition, the energy performance contract (EPC) is expected to reduce the district's greenhouse gasses and energy consumption to the equivalent of 1,302 cars removed from the road annually.

Q: How much would the project cost taxpayers?

If voters approve the project on Dec. 6, 2022, the district would be reimbursed for approximately 53% of the total project cost through state building aid. The capital project proposition authorizes the district to use \$4.5 million in capital reserve funds to pay for this project. The remaining cost would be financed for a 30-year period. Taxpayers would see an estimated maximum 2.5% increase in the tax levy through 2040. After that time, the tax impact would be reduced by 1.1% for the remaining 15 years of the borrowing. The estimated annual cost for a homeowner who has a home with a true value of \$300,000 is \$120 per year for the life of the loan, or \$0.40 per \$1,000 of true home value, which decreases to \$0.22 per \$1,000 of true home value in years 16-30.

CAPITAL PROJECT Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022 2-9 p.m. Voorheesville Middle School

STAY UP-TO-DATE

Leading up to the Dec. 6 vote, follow along for updates and more information by visiting our Capital Improvement Project website at https://www.voorheesville.org/departments/budget-and-finance/capital-improvement-project/.



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