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CLARENCE SCHOOLS
9625 Main Street
Clarence, NY 14031
716.407.9100

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Proposed Capital Project

General Maintenance & Athletic Fields Upgrade



Proposed Capital Construction Project



Citizens' Task Force

Vic Martucci, Chair
Melissa Boglioli
Tom Burns
Scott Bylewski
Jim Callahan
Barry Chubb
Jim Dentinger
Elizabeth Dunne
Mark Layer
Keith Parwulski
Jim Powers

Public Vote

Tuesday, November 18, 2014
7 am - 9 pm
CHS Gymnasium
9625 Main St.

Voter Qualifications

- 18 years of age
- U.S. citizen
- School district resident for 30 days



www.clarenceschools.org

The Clarence Board of Education established a Citizens' Task Force that met from November 2013 through June 2014 to examine capital improvement needs, determine if a capital project was necessary and recommend a scope for the project. The eleven community members on the Task Force made their recommendations to the Board of Education on June 16, 2014.

The first recommendation was to maintain the current configuration of four elementary schools. The Task Force determined that slight enrollment declines were not sufficient to consider closing an elementary school or reconfiguring grade levels. The Task Force further recommended that it should be reconvened should elementary enrollment drop below the benchmark level of 1,650 students. Elementary enrollment in Clarence currently stands at 1,954 and five year projections maintain enrollment within 100 students.

The main resource used by the Task Force was the Building Conditions Survey, a mandatory document revised every five years that lists prioritized elements in every school building that are past their useful life cycle, need repair or replacement, and/or fail to meet current code requirements.

The Board of Education reviewed and debated the Citizen's Task Force report and subsequently made some revisions. The Board of Education then held a special public meeting on August 18, 2014 to explain the capital project scope and to solicit community input. The Board also listened to public feedback at their August 25, 2014 regular meeting. Throughout the process, from the first meeting of the Citizen's Task Force in November 2013 until the Board of Education vote on September 22, 2014 to put two capital bond initiatives on the ballot for voter approval, the District insisted on total transparency with all documents, reports, studies and meeting minutes published on the District's website.

On November 18, 2014 residents will have the opportunity to vote on two proposed projects. First, a repair and maintenance project that will touch all six school buildings and the bus garage is recommended. The scope of the project will include safety and security upgrades, general repairs, flooring, roof replacements, electrical, HVAC and technology upgrades. Second, an athletic field renovation project that will install state-of-the-art synthetic turf in the existing football stadium and on the baseball and softball fields is recommended. The athletic field project is contingent upon the first repair and maintenance project being approved.

New York State will provide state aid for approximately 70 percent of the project. In order to qualify for the 70 percent state aid reimbursement, voters in a school district must approve the borrowing of funds for the capital project, which are then paid back over 15 years. If approved, the District will allocate \$3 million of fund balance toward the local share. The estimated annual cost on a home valued at \$200,000 would be \$46 per year for 15 years.

Community members can download presentations, view architectural drawings, examine specific work that is scheduled, and watch video of the special Board of Education meeting that was devoted to the proposed capital projects at our website.

Maintenance Project Rationale

- Annual budgets cannot cover the costs of major repairs and maintenance and without a bond the district has to cover all costs.
- Some systems and elements in the buildings are past their useful life, and preventative maintenance is essential in order to protect investments and save money in the long term.
- Capital project bonds for Clarence are aided at 70% by NYS and we can leverage a modest district investment into a much larger project.
- There are historically low rates for borrowing which makes the local share of a capital project smaller.
- Many of the systems being upgraded are over 40 years old.

Athletic Field Project Rationale

- Athletic fields are overused and do not get a chance to recover, maintaining them is a challenge
- Poor weather limits contests and practices especially in late fall and early spring.
- Synthetic surfaces allow for extended usage regardless of weather and in some ways are safer than regular turf.
- The fields can be used by community teams and high school physical education classes.
- Synthetic fields provide additional teaching stations to promote health & wellness.

General Maintenance & Repair Recommendations

Project Cost: \$27,895,000 (Local Share = \$8,368,500)

Code Mandates:

- Standby generator - emergency lighting all buildings
- Handicapped lever door handles
- Fire alarm system upgrades - all buildings
- Handicapped bathroom entrances
- Ventilation for locker rooms & other areas - all buildings

Security & Safety:

- CCTV security cameras - all buildings
- Intruder type door locksets - all buildings
- Football stadium bleachers & pressbox
- PA system at CHS

General Repairs

- Stair treads and risers - all buildings
- Exterior doors & frames - all buildings
- Parking lot repairs - CHS
- Sidewalks - all elementary schools
- Flooring - all buildings
- South gym wood floor replacement - CMS
- Roofs - CMS, Ledgeview, Clarence Center
- Septic system - bus garage

HVAC

- Pool dehumidification - CHS
- Pool filtration unit - CMS
- Ventilation, exhaust fans - all buildings

Technology

- Virtual device implementation
- Student & faculty computers - all buildings

Electrical

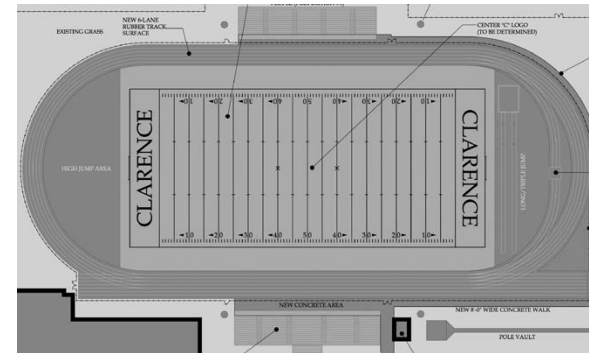
- Panel boards, switchgear, lighting, computer cabling- all buildings
- Battery backup for server center - CMS
- Wireless network & fiber optic cable - all buildings
- CMS gymnasium lighting

Building	Investment
Clarence High School	\$6,552,000
Maintenance Building & Storage	\$1,185,000
Clarence Middle School	\$1,783,000
Clarence Center Elementary	\$4,863,000
Harris Hill Elementary	\$1,210,000
Ledgeview Elementary	\$5,690,000
Sheridan Hill Elementary	\$2,290,000
Bus Garage	\$839,000
District-wide Technology	\$3,483,000

- Total Current District Debt: \$42.7 million
- Total NYS Aid on Current Debt: \$31.5 million
- Total Local Share of Current Debt: \$11.2 million
- Total Allowable Debt - District Can Borrow: \$286.7 million

Athletic Field Upgrade Recommendations

Athletic Stadium: \$2,200,000 (Local Share = \$660,000)



- Remove existing grass football field
- Install artificial turf with underdrainage
- Replace all-weather track surface
- Replace perimeter fencing
- Replace scoreboard
- Existing lights remain

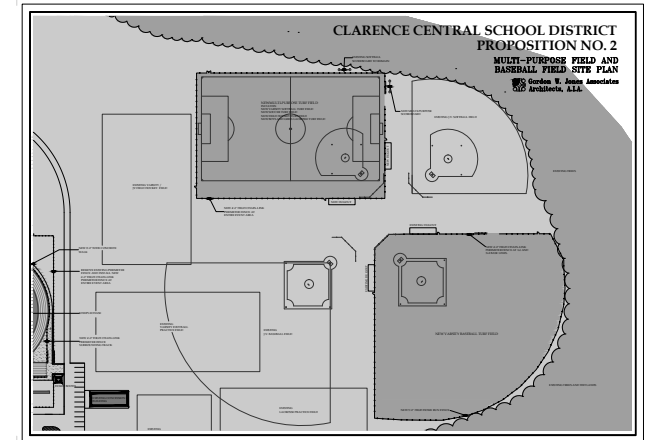
Baseball/Softball & Multiuse Fields: \$2,800,000 (Local Share = \$840,000)

Install regulation size multi-sport synthetic turf field located in the varsity softball outfield

Install artificial turf with underdrainage system at varsity baseball & softball fields

Existing scoreboards & dugouts remain

Visit www.clarenceschools.org for full color renderings of the athletic fields



Financial Plan Estimates

General Maintenance Project Cost.....	\$27,895,000
Athletic Field Project Cost	\$5,000,000
Total Project Cost	\$32,895,000
Less Appropriated Fund Balance	\$3,000,000
Bond Amount.....	\$29,895,000
State Aid Rate	70%

Estimated Tax Rate Impact

Assessed Property Value	\$0.23 per \$1,000 Assessed Valuation	
	Average	Annual Payment
\$100,000	\$23	
\$150,000	\$35	
\$200,000	\$46	
\$250,000	\$58	
\$300,000	\$69	

Basic Construction Timeline

November 18, 2014	Public Referendum
January 2015 - December 2015	State Approval Process
January 2016	Advertise for Bids
March 2016	Bid Awards
April 2016	Construction Begins