

PROPOSED 2019 CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

First Meeting: Media Release 12/12/18

A Kick-Off Meeting of the Hancock Central School District Facilities Planning Committee was held December 12 in the District Offices. Ten committee members, the Clerk of the Works and the Architect were in attendance.

The introduction of the project was given by Dr. Terrance Dougherty, Superintendent of Schools. He reviewed the values present in the District and elements of the Strategic Plan, including the Wildcat Pledge, the District Vision and our Core Beliefs.

The District is targeting the school facilities being "30 Years Ready."

Dr. Dougherty reviewed the strategy of more frequent, smaller projects constructed every 5 years to keep the facilities up to date and to meet educational, safety, security and infrastructure needs of all District students.

David Gilmore of Highland Associates gave a review of the past Capital Projects of 2008 and 2014. Elements that were constructed in these projects at the Elementary School and the Middle/High School included classroom and gym additions, lighting replacement, roof replacement, athletics fields renovations, paving and sidewalk replacement, blue stone plaza replacement, playground upgrades, secure entrances, window replacement, boiler and HVAC replacements, technology upgrades, weight room renovation, music suite renovation and hazardous material abatement.

If the District chooses to propose a project, there will be no additional tax impact on the taxpayers and the scope of work will focus on Safety, Security, Building Infrastructure and Technology.

One of the driving forces for the project is the State Education Department mandated Building Conditions Survey and 5 Year Capital Plan. This document allows each New York State school district the ability to plan and project future facility needs in the District. Another driver is a report compiled by Mauro Enterprises on the safety and security evaluation of the school facilities.

The potential Capital Project will include work at the Middle/High School, Elementary School, Bus Garage and the Public Library as the District is tasked with the upkeep of that facility. The anticipated Capital Project scope of work to be reviewed includes:

Elementary School phone system replacement, additional security cameras, door hardening, supplemental window security, serving kitchen renovation, technology upgrades and continued hazardous materials abatement.

Middle/High School phone system replacement, additional security cameras, main entrance cross hallway security doors, ground floor window hardening, cooking kitchen renovation, technology upgrades and continued hazardous materials abatement.

Bus Garage paving, fence, storm drainage replacement, bus bay expansion, bus lift replacement, bathroom and conference room upgrades, building slab replacement, HVAC and HW heating systems replacement, lighting, emergency and exit lighting replacement, masonry and miscellaneous steel repair, window and door replacements, roof repair, finishes upgrades and security upgrades

Public Library interior lighting replacement, bluestone sidewalk replacement, drinking fountain replacement.

Other elements to be reviewed include site drainage and building generators.

The design team will initially conduct preliminary reviews of the facilities to put together concepts for review by the Facilities Committee. The Committee will begin meeting in February of 2019 to discuss the specific areas of the project and tour the areas of consideration. Specific meetings will be conducted to review Kitchens/Cafeterias, Safety and Security, Technology, Telephone/Communications, Public Library, Bus Garage, and Financials.

The District is strongly considering a September 2019 public vote for the Capital Project, pending a recommendation from the Facilities Planning Committee to the Board of Education.

In the questions-and-answers portion of the meeting, Rob Wrighter asked if the team had reviewed demolition and replacement of the transportation facility. The team had reviewed this and determined that replacement would be more expensive than renovating. The existing structure is in sound condition and looks to be a very good candidate for renovation. C&S has recently completed a transportation facility renovation similar to our facility and will forward photographs of the project. The District will nevertheless explore the cost of building a new garage during the upcoming review process.

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