2018 Bond Planning



Annual Budget & Bonds

Annual Budget

- Subject to voter approval each year
- Inclusive of all operating costs
- Subject to state tax cap (limits amount of annual increase)
- About 75% teacher/staff salaries, benefits, pensions, technology, supplies/materials, etc.
- Limited funds for capital repairs

Bonds

- Require separate voter approval from budget (majority of voters)
- Used to spread cost of project/repairs over time
- Subject to state building aid reimbursement
- Recent examples: HS locker room renovation, Colonial Expansion, MS Construction

Bond Background and Timeline

- July 2016: Cracks/bulging found in Hutchinson façade, sidewalk bridges and safety measures put into place
- Fall 2016-Winter 2017: District analysis of Hutchinson repairs and other district needs
- December 2016:
 Recommendation to completely replace
 Hutchinson facade

- May 2017: Bids awarded to KGD & Calgi for pre-bond work
- July-October BOE meetings: Deeper analysis of Hutchinson and district-wide needs
- October 2017: Deliberation regarding Hutchinson options and decision on Hutchinson School
- October-Present: Further deliberation regarding district-wide needs

Why a New Hutchinson School?

- Professional Cost Estimator quoted façade/building envelope replacement at \$8 million
- Level of work triggers need for accessibility upgrades (elevator, lift, bathrooms, ramps)
- Portable Classrooms nearing end of useful life/recommended to be part of permanent extension
- Minimal cost = \$18 million

- Study and review of Hutchinson found other concerns:
- Capacity
 - 3 suboptimal classes in basement
 - Increased enrollment projected in demographic study
 - Lack of sufficient relatedservices space
- Safety
 - Portables not connected to main building
 - Configuration of current building

Why a New Hutchinson School?

- Board reviewed 7 options for renovation/expansion of Hutchinson as well as concept of new Hutchinson School
- Worked with Architects, Construction Manager & Capital Markets on preliminary costs/debt service implications
- Used Decision Analysis to "score" options

- Decision Analysis led the majority of the Board to support the new school option
- Ranked Highest in:
- Addressing capacity
- Supporting educational program
- Providing safety
- Providing stewardship of resources
- Cost: \$42 million + interest over 30 year period

Research and Community Engagement

- In-depth study began in July
- 13 Regular BOE Meetings/Work Sessions on Bond
- 2 Tours/Town Halls at Hutchinson School to Discuss options
- 5 more Town Hall Meetings (Colonial, Siwanoy, Prospect Hill and MS/HS)
- Multiple BOE Coffees

- Focus Groups & Outreach to various community groups
- Review of 2 demographic/ capacity studies (Western Suffolk BOCES & Ross Haber Associates)
- Consultation with Architects/Construction Manager & Capital Markets
- Refinement of options/costs by Bond Steering Committee

Key Decisions/Next Steps

- Over past several months, Board has focused on District-wide needs
- December 2017 Board narrowed preliminary scope for State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)
- December-March: Due diligence/initial design/environmental review
- March 2018 presentation of final scope/costs/referendum question(s)
- Final bond vote May 2018

What else will be in the bond?

- Board studying a variety of needs across the District
- Input has been solicited from administrators, community and experts
- Key considerations: capacity, infrastructure, systems, cost to taxpayers
- A variety of options were looked at to determine the most practical and efficient way to address issues over the short and long-terms

Addressing Capacity

- District has done two demographic/capacity studies
- Colonial & Prospect Hill are at capacity and expected to grow in next few years
- HS/MS is over capacity and rooms are over-utilized
- No dedicated rehearsal space for HS/MS Orchestras
- Options discussed:
- Converting District offices to HS/MS classroom/ orchestra space

- Moving self-contained special ed. Class from Colonial
- Using push-in approach to art/music
- Allowing families to opt-in to new school
- Creating special programming at the new school to attract students from other elementary districts
- Rezoning new developments
- Elementary building extensions

Projects Reviewed for SEQRA

- New Hutchinson School
- Create 6 additional classrooms at Hutchinson beyond original proposal
- Create 6 additional classrooms and an orchestra rehearsal room at PMHS (replacing District offices)
- Classroom addition at Prospect Hill
- Funds for possible property acquisition at Colonial
- Science lab upgrades at PMHS

- Electrical panel/systems upgrade at Colonial, Siwanoy, Prospect Hill (necessary for A/C & technology)
- Field upgrades
- Roof/parapet replacement on PMHS annex/repointing at annex and MS
- Replacement of MS HVAC Units
- Playground upgrades at Colonial/Siwanoy
- NOT ALL PROJECTS WILL BE IN FINAL SCOPE!!!

District Finances/Cost

- AAA Rated by S&P
- Low debt to market-value ratio. (1.2% debt compared to total market value)
- Almost all current debt drops off in about 12 years
- Net debt service is 2.1% of current budget after building aid applied
- Building Aid Ratio of 39.7% on aidable portion
- NO final cost of bond scope yet
- Cost of new school approx. \$42 million = \$1.9 million in debt service per year for 30 years (approx. \$480 per home valued at \$810,000)

Questions?

More info at www.pelhamschools.org/bond

