



# MOUNT PLEASANT

## Central School District

FROM THE HEART

SPECIAL BOND EDITION MARCH 2022

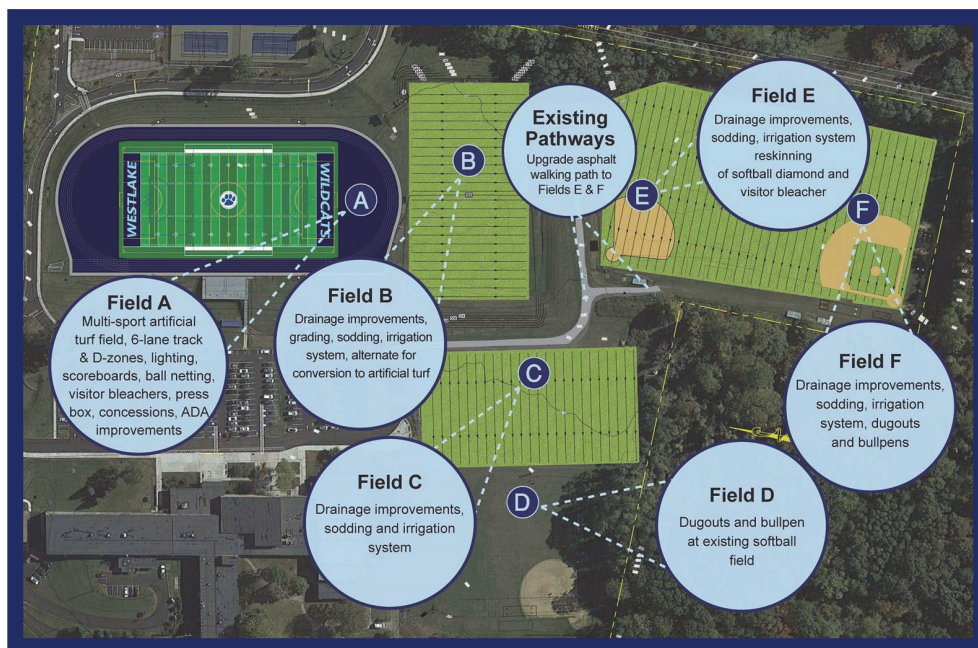
## IN MOUNT PLEASANT, OUR WILDCAT PRIDE RUNS DEEP

Athletics are both a key component and extension of our instructional program, and also a source of community pride. Similar to our classroom spaces, it is essential that our athletic spaces be reliable for use and of high quality. Throughout the year and weather permitting, all 965 students who attend Westlake High School and Westlake Middle School utilize the fields on the Westlake campus. In addition, our 28 teams in 11 different sports programs, as well as many community youth sports programs share our one regulation field, two practice fields, and a combination of three baseball/softball diamonds.

On Tuesday, March 29, 2022, the community will be asked to vote on a \$9,777,745 bond to fund key improvements to all six fields located on the Westlake campus.

If approved, our existing Westlake athletic complex will undergo a complete renovation. It will include the replacement of the main competition grass field with artificial turf suitable for the multiple sports that are played at the high school, a resurfaced track, LED lights, a press box, and a concrete pad for utilities, which will enable us to offer mobile concessions. The five other grass surfaces will also get important upgrades including new drainage systems, sodding, irrigation systems as well as new dugouts, bullpens, and backstops. Bleachers will be added at multiple locations. Mount Pleasant will then have three regulation fields to support our programs. These improvements have the potential to provide our schools and the community with venues for us to come together to support our entire student body at varsity, junior varsity, modified, youth, and community events.

Established contingency plans will enable our programs to run uninterrupted during construction as the project will be broken into three phases. If we break ground in



**TUESDAY • MARCH 29, 2022 • 7AM TO 9PM**

Westlake High School Gym  
825 Westlake Drive  
Thornwood, NY

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT  
[www.mtplcsd.org](http://www.mtplcsd.org)



November 2022, as is our intention, the project will be completed in September 2023.

The timing of this bond is unique, because the principal and interest payments will be paid with retiring debt. In other words, the funding associated with this project is structured to have no additional impact on our residents' taxes.

We encourage you to educate yourself about this proposal by carefully reviewing this newsletter and visiting our District's website: [www.mtplcsd.org](http://www.mtplcsd.org) for more information including videos. Please reach out to me with any questions.

**Go Wildcats, Go!!**

Best regards,  
Dr. Peter Giarrizzo  
Superintendent of Schools



## WHAT WILL YOU SEE ON THE BALLOT?

Shall the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Central School District be authorized to (1) reconstruct school buildings and construct and reconstruct athletic fields, tracks and related facilities, including site work, and acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which buildings, athletic fields, tracks and facilities are to be used, at a maximum cost of \$9,777,745, (2) expend such sum for such purpose, (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid, and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the School District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$9,777,745, and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

☐ YES

☐ NO



## Who can vote in the election?

Please see complete details on page 4 of this newsletter regarding who can vote in this election. If you have additional questions, please contact District Clerk, Mary Beth Mancuso at [mmancuso@mtplcsd.org](mailto:mmancuso@mtplcsd.org) or call the District Office at 914-769-5500.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What is the total amount of the March 29, 2022 bond?

The total amount of the bond is \$9,777,745.

## What is the timeline for the project?

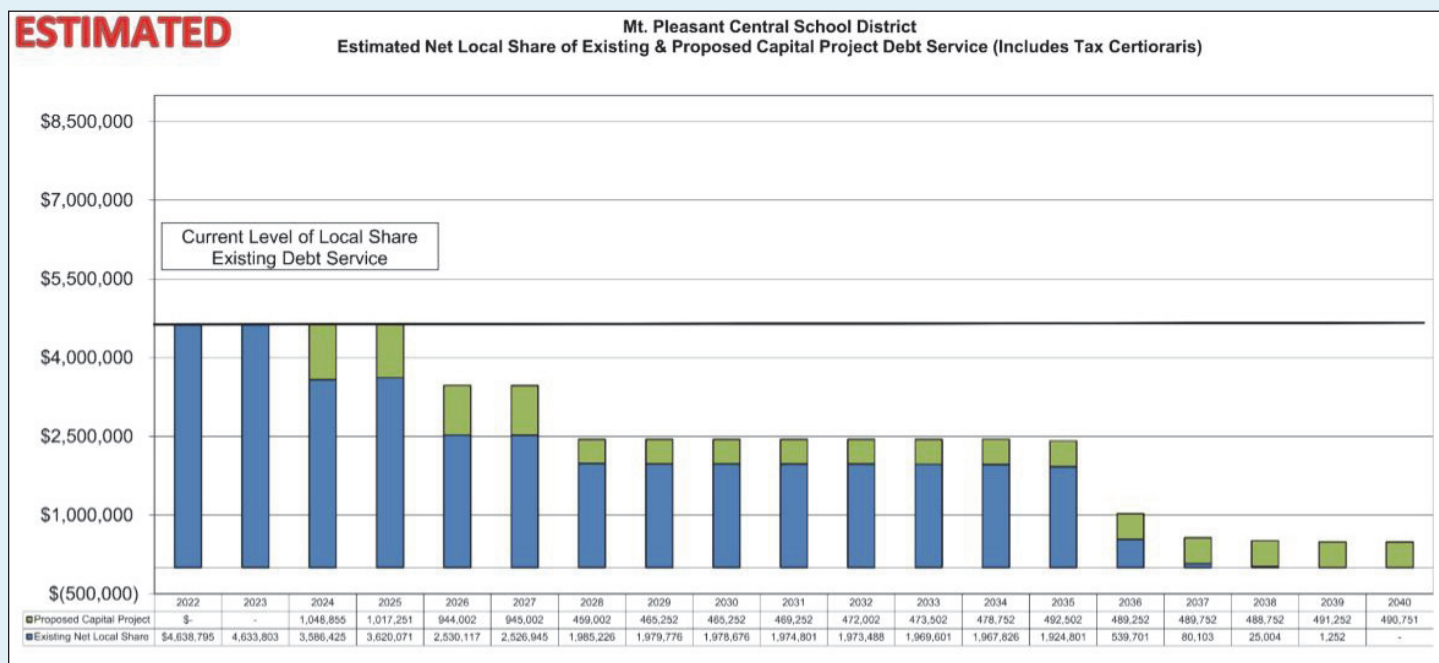
If approved by the voters in March, we expect to break ground in November 2022 with an intended completion date of September 2023. The project will be broken into three phases so that other fields can be used while construction occurs.

## Will the passage of the bond raise my property taxes?

No. Because the principal and interest payments will be paid with retiring debt, it is structured to have no additional impact on our residents' taxes. Please see below for a chart from our Financial Advisor, Bernard P. Donegan, Inc., which shows that the current level of debt never goes above the existing payment schedule.

## If the bond does not pass, will taxes go down?

If the bond does not pass, the average annual savings in 2023-24 would be \$216.05 (based on an assessed value of \$8,500), or \$18 per month. The average savings over the life of the bond would be \$123.35/year, or \$10 per month.



## What is the scope of the project?

It will include the replacement of the main competition grass field with artificial turf suitable for the multiple sports that are played at the high school, a resurfaced track, LED lights, a press box, and a concrete pad for utilities, which will enable us to offer mobile concessions. The five other grass surfaces will also get important upgrades including new drainage systems, sodding, irrigation systems as well as new dugouts, bullpens, and backstops. Bleachers will be added at multiple locations.

## What if I have additional questions about the bond election and voting?

Visit our bond website, or reach out to Dr. Giarrizzo at 914-769-5500 or at [pgiarrizzo@mtplcsd.org](mailto:pgiarrizzo@mtplcsd.org) to speak or meet with him directly.

## Why is the bond issue important?

Athletics in Mount Pleasant are a key component and extension of our instructional program and source of community pride. Similar to a classroom space, it is essential that our athletic spaces be reliable for use and of high quality. Weather, maintenance, and drainage issues often preclude us from using our grass fields to their fullest capacity. This results in the loss of opportunities for our students and community. Of the 72 high schools in Section 1, Westlake is one of only seven districts without an artificial turf field.

## What if I won't be in Mount Pleasant on March 29, 2022?

If you are registered to vote, but will not be in Westchester County, you may be eligible to apply for an absentee ballot. An application must be completed no more than 30 days before the vote. The application is available on the District's website or at the District Office, 825 Westlake Drive.



Mount Pleasant Central School District  
825 Westlake Drive  
Thornwood, NY 10594

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Dr. Peter Giarrizzo

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## VOTER INFO

**VOTE**  
**TUESDAY**  
**MARCH 29, 2022**  
**7AM TO 9PM**

### Who is eligible to vote?

Any resident of the School District who is registered to vote in general elections is qualified to vote at said meeting without having their name placed upon the School District register of voters provided they voted at a general election at least once within the last four calendar years. Further, provided that any person who has previously registered to vote in any annual School District meeting or election or special School District meeting or election and who has voted at an annual School District meeting or election or special School District meeting or election held during the past four years (2021, 2020, 2019, 2018) shall not be required to re-register. The Board of Education has also provided for registration of qualified voters at the District Office, Westlake Drive, Thornwood, New York, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM on any regular school day through March 23, 2022.

*\*\*Please note that if you are registered to vote in Westchester County but have since moved to the Mount Pleasant Central School District, you must be registered with the County at your Mount Pleasant address to be eligible to vote.*

### Registration Information

Download the Voter Registration form and return the completed application to the Westchester County Board of Elections: <https://citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com/images/stories/pdfs/vrformeng.pdf>

### Absentee Ballots

Absentee Ballot Applications cannot be received more than 30 days before the vote. If you are registered to vote and will not be in Westchester County on March 29, 2022, you may be eligible to apply for an absentee ballot.

To receive an absentee ballot, an application first must be completed. An application can be requested from the District Clerk. The absentee ballot application must be completed and returned to the District Clerk either in person or by U.S. Mail prior to receiving the actual absentee ballot. If the ballot is to be mailed, the application must be received seven (7) days before the vote. If the ballot is to be picked up, the application must be received one (1) day before the vote. The District Clerk must receive the completed absentee ballot by 5:00 pm on March 29, 2022.

**For more information, visit: [www.mtplcsd.org](http://www.mtplcsd.org)**