



PEARL RIVER

SCHOOL DISTRICT - ANNUAL REPORT

135 West Crooked Hill Road
Pearl River, New York 10965
(845) 620-3900
www.pearlriver.org

Message from the Superintendent

MARCO POCHINTESTA

As we wait for the visible signs of spring to arrive, we can look forward to the many spring celebrations that mark the season and the closeness to the end of another school year. Our preparations for the new school year have already begun and in addition to the development of a school budget, the district will be seeking taxpayer approval for a capital improvements bond to address infrastructure and security needs, as well as improvements to the learning environments that serve the academic and athletic programs of our schools.

At the March 28th Board of Education meeting, EI Associates, an Architectural and Engineering firm contracted by the district, made a presentation to the Board of proposed capital improvement plans for their consideration. This presentation was the culmination of work that began last school year with the 5-Year Building Conditions Survey, a review required by the NYS Education Department, and the Pearl River Capital Improvements Committee, a broad-based stakeholders group that made recommendations for improvements in our facilities.

The presentation outlined a scope of work that spans all school buildings and our athletic fields. These plans not only address the infrastructure needs of maintaining buildings that are over 50 years old in a safe and energy-efficient manner, but also meets the teaching and learning

needs of our students and staff through improvements and upgrades to learning environments.

The presentation was posted the day after the meeting, but in order to provide a detailed explanation of the work proposed we have created a new webpage, *Capital Improvement Bond Proposal*, to provide you with links to detailed explanations of the projects, financial information and a Frequently Asked Questions page. Please go to our website at www.pearlriver.org to access the page.

The total cost for what is being proposed is \$32,182,000. The district currently has \$3,182,000 in a capital improvements reserve line which would reduce the bond to \$29,000,000. The district would receive 39% of the total cost of approved projects via State Building Aid funds. We have estimated that over the next 23 years district taxpayers will see an increase of \$49.05 annually for a home assessed at \$200,000 for this comprehensive capital projects bond.

Over the next six weeks, I will be attending PTA meetings in all of the schools and we will be hosting two Community Forums in Pirate Cove in order to provide our parents and school community information regarding both the 2017-18 School Budget Proposal and the Capital Improvement Bond Proposal. Information regarding the dates, times and locations of these presentations can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support of the district.

District Welcomes New Coordinator of School Transportation

The Pearl River School District welcomes Mary Cinelli as our new Coordinator of School Transportation. Mrs. Cinelli comes to us with over 15 years of experience in public school transportation. Mrs. Cinelli is replacing Mr. Shawn Frederick who retires on April 27th after 20 years of dedicated service to Pearl River School District. We thank Mr. Frederick and wish him well in his retirement.



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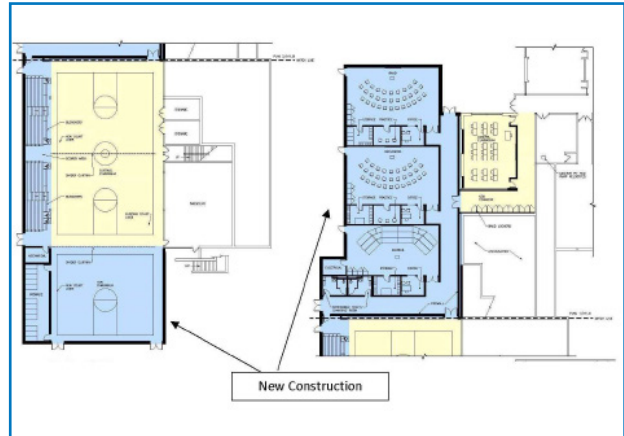
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Pearl River Capital Improvement - Planning for the Future

- * Redesign of learning spaces to provide expanded opportunities for flexibility in teaching and learning.
- * Redesign of Pearl River High School Media Center.
- * Expanded learning environment for music and visual arts at PR High School and PR Middle School
- * Enhanced security at each elementary school.
- * Enhancements to athletic facilities at the high school.
- * Infrastructure improvements at each building based on the 2016 Building Conditions Survey.

Proposed capital improvements for the middle school include:

- Expand gymnasium to allow for three teaching stations.
- New music wing.
- ADA compliance in accessing the gymnasium.
- Renovation of old music rooms to add classrooms.



Proposed capital improvements for the athletic fields include:

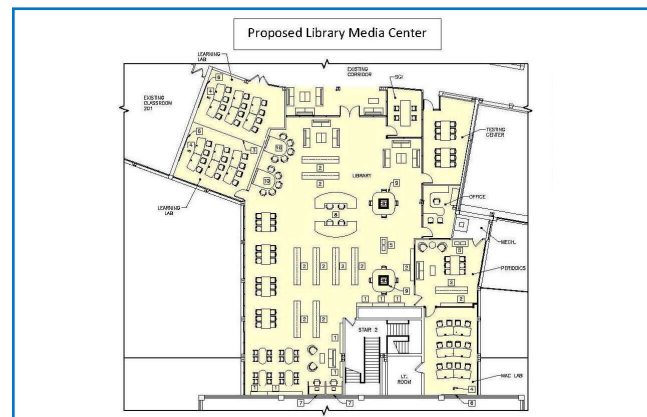
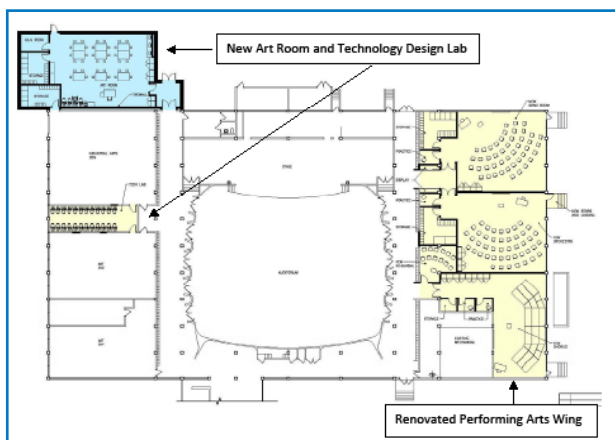
- New synthetic field with lights.
- Bathroom facilities.
- Resurfacing of tennis courts, track and service road.
- Upgrades to field house and bleachers.

Proposed capital improvements for the elementary schools include:

- Security upgrade in school entrances and vestibules.
- Infrastructure repairs to ventilation units.

Proposed capital improvements for the high school include:

- Renovation of science classrooms.
- Renovation of music wing.
- Renovation of library into a library media center with Research, Innovation and Collaboration lab.
- New stairwell to ease hallway congestion.



For more detailed information about the capital improvement projects visit our website at www.pearlriver.org

Budget Planning 2017-18

Once again this year, as in so many recent years, the district moves through the winter and into the spring planning a budget that will support our student learners for the next year and into the foreseeable future. In addition to this year's annual budget we have spent a great amount of time preparing for a capital project bond, details of which are outlined in this newsletter.

In 2017-18 we have developed a budget totaling \$65,880,252, an increase of \$1,295,491 from last year. This represents an overall increase of 2.01%. Revenues include a tax levy increase of \$1,006,651 or 1.90%.

The district's revenue sources are primarily the tax levy, which accounts for 83% of overall revenue and state aid. Although the district receives only 15% of its revenue through state aid these funds are both critical and necessary for planning the future. This year the discussion centers on Foundation Aid and how it should be increased throughout the state. We are hopeful that the distribution of this aid will be directed, by student, and reflect basic aid, not targeted to particular districts or locations.

On the expense side of the ledger, the Pearl River School district budget, like all other school districts in the state is driven by personnel costs, both salary and benefits. While we have spent the past several years restoring positions that had been eliminated, this year's staff increase of 5.4FTE is a reflection of both program enhancements and staff increases associated with Special Education placements.

In this budget year overall salary and benefits will increase by just over 1.84% and all other expenses will increase by 2.45%. The primary increase in the "Other" category is \$200,000 in additional capital spending. These funds will be used to address some of the needs outlined in the Building Conditions Survey from last year. While most of the larger items identified in the report will be funded through the capital project bond we have identified items that we believe can best be addressed by the district in the normal operation and maintenance cycles.

As we continue to develop this year's budget, the District web page, www.pearlriver.org, will carry the various presentations, as well as the approved budget and any items associated with the May 16th budget vote.

PRSD Capital Improvement- Planning for the Future

- * 2016 Building Conditions Survey - outlines necessary infrastructure improvements/replacements/repairs to heating, ventilation, electrical, roofs, etc.
- * May 2016 - Formation of Capital Improvement Committee. Membership includes faculty, administrators, parents and community stakeholders.
- * Fall-Winter 2016-17 ~ focus meetings with faculty at each building.
- * December 2016 - Board of Education selects EI Associates as lead Engineering/Architectural firm.
- * Spring 2017 ~ Board of Education considers proposed plans.
- * March 28, 2017 - Board of Education Capital Improvement Presentation

2017 School Budget & Bond Presentations

April 6	Parent Advisory Council	
April 19	Evans Park PTA	9:30 am
April 19	Community Forum - Pirate Cove	7:00 pm
April 20	Franklin Avenue PTA	9:30 am
April 25	PR Middle School PTA	9:30 am
April 26	Community Forum - Pirate Cove	7:00 pm
May 11	PR High School PTSA	7:00 pm
May 15	Lincoln Avenue	7:00 pm

Pearl River School District

135 West Crooked Hill Road

Pearl River, NY 10965

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2016-17 Board of Education

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Postal Customer Local**2015-16 Year at a Glance**

See PRSD's performance in key measures under each of three goals

Goal 1: Improve academic performance.**NYS Examination Results:**

Percentage meeting or exceeding standard

	ELA	Math
Grade 3:	70%	75%
Grade 4:	73%	71%
Grade 5:	54%	66%
Grade 6:	49%	74%
Grade 7:	59%	74%
Grade 8:	63%	25%
Grade 8:	CC Algebra 100%	

	Science
Grade 4:	95%
Grade 8:	96%
Grade 8:	Earth Science 100%

PRHS Regents Examination Results:

	Passing (65+)	Mastery (85+)
English	99%	86%
Global Studies	98%	65%
US Hist/Govt	99%	95%
CC Algebra	98.5%	39%
CC Geometry	92%	19%
Alg II/Trig	90%	36%
CC Algebra 2	88%	14%
Earth Science	94%	59%
Living Env	100%	76%
Chemistry	98%	43%

SAT Results: Average score for all seniors

Reading	Math	Writing
549	563	552

AP Results: 240 students took 408 AP exams
69% scored at levels 3, 4, or 5

District 2016 Post Graduation Results: (213 students total)

Percentage of Class Graduating	96.7%
Graduating with Regents Diploma	96.1%
Graduating with Advanced Regents Diploma	76.1%
Special Ed Students w/Regents & Advanced Reg	69%
Attending 4-Year College	77%
Attending 2-Year College	22%

Goal 2: Improve perception of the district.**Parent Survey Results:**

Percentage ranking average, good, and excellent

Safety	97%
Equipment	89%
Facilities	89%
Curriculum	95%
Communication from District	94%
Would Recommend District	81%
Overall Satisfaction	97%

Goal 3: Improve cost efficiency and fiscal stability.**Parent Survey Results:**

Percentage ranking average, good, and excellent

Budget Process	97%
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Budget Vote Results: May 2016

Yes: 1108 No: 201 85% Plurality

Per Pupil Expenditure Third Lowest in Rockland County