

What's New in WANTAGH

A publication of the
Wantagh Union Free School District

www.wantaghschools.org



ANTICIPATED BOND VOTE DEC. 6

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS UPGRADES

Following an extensive review of Wantagh School District facilities by the Capital Improvement Committee, the Board of Education is planning to hold a bond referendum on Tuesday, Dec. 6. District residents will be able to vote on a tax-neutral project that would provide major infrastructure upgrades at all five schools.

The Capital Improvement Committee was formed to help the district meet the goals in Pillar II of its Strategic Plan: creating exceptional learning environments. The district has created a long-range vision for enhancing and maintaining its existing spaces. The Committee consisted of central office administrators, the director of facilities, building administration, teachers and parents as well as the district's architects and construction manager. During tours of each school, they identified potential projects and later made recommendations to the Board of Education.

The anticipated bond referendum would consist of two propositions. The first would focus on needed

infrastructure upgrades at every school, including new windows, roof replacements, brick and façade repairs, asphalt and sidewalk repairs, ceiling and lighting replacements, HVAC upgrades, and classroom renovations, including elementary STEAM labs. All instructional spaces would be air conditioned.

The work would be completed over several years. Due to retiring debt and state aid reimbursement of approximately 62%, approval of the first proposition is expected to carry little or no additional tax burden.

The second proposition would include other improvements such as the refurbishment of the Wantagh High School auditorium and athletic field enhancements. Projects not financed by either proposition would still be addressed through the annual school budget and capital reserve funds.

"Our buildings are getting older and need significant infrastructure upgrades," Superintendent John McNamara said. "With existing debt coming off the books, this will allow

us to make these necessary improvements while remaining mindful of our taxpayers."

Community members can learn more about the proposed bond referendum during three informational meetings, which will feature presentations by central administration and the district's architect. The meetings are scheduled for Sept. 28, Oct. 17 and Nov.

14 at 7 p.m. at Wantagh High School.

"It was a goal of the Board of Education to invest in our buildings in a fiscally responsible manner," added Board of Education President Laura Reich. "We invite our residents to attend the community forums and learn more about the proposed capital improvements."



IMPORTANT DATES

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Wednesday, Sept. 28
Monday, Oct. 17
Monday, Nov. 14
7 p.m.
Wantagh High School

ANTICIPATED BOND VOTE

Tuesday, Dec. 6
7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Forest Lake, Mandalay and Wantagh elementary schools

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BOND 2022

WANTAGH

Union Free School District

RENOVATE • REFRESH • REPAIR



Asphalt and sidewalk repairs

ANTICIPATED PROJECTS

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COMMUNITY SURVEY

Wantagh residents are invited to share their opinions on the anticipated bond and capital improvement needs.

Visit the district website at www.wantaghschools.org and click on "Bond Survey"



Mandalay and Forest Lake exterior facelift



Fix cracking brickwork



New ceilings and lighting



HVAC system upgrades. All instructional spaces would be air conditioned



Roof repairs



Window and wall system replacements

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Bond 2022



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