



Mount Vernon City School District

Smart Schools Investment Plan Amended Version

The Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) was presented and approved by the Board of Education on Tuesday May 16th, 2017 and was posted on the School Website for public comment for at least 30 days and then a Public Forum was held as part of a BOE meeting to receive feedback from the community on June 20th.

This amended version is being posted on May 10th, 2019 and will remain posted for a minimum of 15 days.
Please use the link below to provide any feedback or ask questions:

[Feedback Form](#)

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I. PLAN OVERVIEW

The Smart Schools Bond Act was passed in the 2014-15 Enacted Budget and approved by the voters in a statewide referendum held during the 2014 General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA) authorized the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure to improve learning and opportunity for students throughout the State. As a result, the Mount Vernon City School District (MVCSD) has been allocated to receive \$7,961,129. In alignment with the Mount Vernon City School District approved Instructional Technology Plan by NYSED for 2015-2018 and subsequent NYS approved revisions the district will apply these funds to the following Investment Plan:

- Upgrade/Replace wireless infrastructure appliances (Access Points) districtwide
- Upgrade/Replace current wired network infrastructure and controller's appliances to support Wireless connectivity.

The following items were added to the plan as part of the amendment:

- **Provide for a districtwide intrusion detection system to safeguard our schools when not in use.**
- **Provide for a PA system at the Mount Vernon Steam Academy, the former NMHS site, and MVHS**
- **Provide for Security systems including installation, wiring and configurations of cameras, door access controls and sensors at the Mount Vernon Steam Academy, the former NMHS site, and MVHS**
- **Provide for a components and installation of a classroom intercom system using VOIP telephones at the Mount Vernon Steam Academy, the former NMHS site, and MVHS**
- **Install and replace network wiring with a strong focus on the Mount Vernon Steam Academy, the former NMHS site, and MVHS**

Working in collaboration with all stakeholders, District leadership, school building administrators, teachers and receiving input from parents, our technology plan survey provided the overarching goals for Instructional Technology in 16 school buildings at the Mount Vernon City School District. The IT investments presented are in alignment with the goals expressed in our NYSED approved Technology Plan Survey and revisions contained in the amendment have been specifically made to reflect changing needs in conjunction with communications with the board of education.

The SSBA funding opportunity requires that a Review Board reviews and approves districts' Smart Schools Investment Plans before any funds may be made available for

the program.

II. JUSTIFICATION OF NEED

Our technology plan identifies gaps in infrastructure that need to be addressed for the development of instructional technology integration to occur. Some of our IT infrastructures is approaching the end of life status and will need to be upgraded/replaced to be able to accommodate the rapid growth of instructional technology needs in the classroom. In conjunction with the infrastructure upgrade, a newly upgraded/replace wireless IT infrastructure will be in place to support instruction as outlined in our District Technology Plan. Our Instructional Technology Plan also includes a priority and objective provide an appropriate instructional device replacement and refreshment program for student classroom instruction and testing.

Therefore, in alignment with this objective, we will use the Smart Schools funding to procure upgrade/Replace wireless infrastructure appliances (Access Points) districtwide, upgrade/Replace current wired network infrastructure and controller's appliances to enhance capabilities and support for Wireless connectivity this will ensure ubiquitous student access to cloud-based instructional materials, digital citizenship, and anytime anywhere access to collaboration for teaching and learning.

III. PRECONDITIONS:

As a precondition for utilizing SSBA incoming funds, the District has ensured adequate internet access of at least 100 Mbps per 1000 students to expand the wireless connectivity and increased number of devices in the classrooms. Currently, the district has a service contract with the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center for 500 Mbps that provides burstable connectivity of up to 1Gbps at any time of demand such as Computer Based Testing or instructional technology infused lesson delivery in classrooms.

IV. SMART SCHOOLS INVESTMENT PLAN GOALS

The following are The Mount Vernon Vision and Goals as established in the NYSED approved Technology plan:

The Mount Vernon City School District (MVCSD) will be a high- quality educational system where all students receive a well-rounded education that educates the whole child – attending to their academic, social and emotional strengths and needs. The MVCSD will be a safe, nurturing, invigorating, challenging, respected, and supportive environment where all stakeholders – community members, board, parents and families, students, staff, administrators, and teachers work together in the best

interests of our children. MVCSD will have consistent leadership that engages in ongoing communication with all district stakeholders and community members on decision-making.

To implement its Strategic Instructional Technology Plan and move forward into implementing the 21st-century learning environments called for in our district technology plan, the district will need to reform the way in which technology is overseen and managed by the district. The key to this new organization is the creation of a stronger connection between technology management and the district's curriculum and instruction infrastructure, and the placement of considerably more instructional and technical resource people at the building level. Initially focusing on infrastructure, professional development and technical support the district will establish the supports and understanding necessary to begin the transformation process. Establishing desired student learning outcomes will be the first step before prescribing software and lastly prescribing and delivering the necessary hardware to meet the needs of our students.

V. PURCHASE PLAN:

The submission of the SSIP will concentrate investing on school connectivity. This initial Phase will utilize the total allocation of \$7,961,129 for Upgrade/Replace wireless appliances (Access Points) districtwide as well as providing for Upgrade/Replacement of appliances in the wired network to support wireless connectivity. The Smart School Investment plan does not consider using Smart Schools Bond Act funding to procure items in the classroom learning technology category. This category includes computers, Chromebooks, laptops and Large interactive screen devices among other devices.

The District plans to purchase approximately 2100 Wireless Access Points, and 375 supporting Cisco Switches and Appliances such Controllers to replace/upgrade our Wireless Network in all School Buildings Districtwide. This upgrade replace will provide for an increase in the capabilities and throughput between the infrastructure closets throughout the District, from 1GB to 10GB port capabilities and to support projected an increase of network traffic and end user devices when needed. The Upgrade/Replace will extend network capabilities and maximize use of instructional space providing access anytime, anywhere on school premises.

Critical to the delivering of digitally rich education is a secure, robust and scalable technology infrastructure that supports a constantly changing horizon in instructional technology. A solid infrastructure must support initiatives like 1:1 computing, blended learning, software simulations, multi-media rich instruction and wireless access to online resources throughout the district.

The district maintains a strong professional development program that supports our staff and encourages collaboration through professional learning communities,

innovative teaching methods, and capacity building.

The SSBA funds will assist the District in upgrading our current wireless infrastructure to support access to the internet via a mobile device for every student and staff member. The SSBA funds will also assist the District in upgrading the current fire alarms to support a safe learning environment for our students.

V. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

TABLE 1: SSBA ALLOWED EXPENDITURES

SSBA Budget Category	Allocations
School Connectivity	<u>\$5,044,000</u>
Connectivity Projects for Communities	\$ 0.00
Classroom Technology	\$ 0.00
Prekindergarten Classrooms	\$ 0.00
Replace Transportable Classrooms	\$ 0.00
High-Tech Security Features	\$ 2,761,879
Unallocated Funds	\$ 155,250
Total Allocation	<u>\$7,961,129.00</u>

VI. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional development is coordinated via our district leadership teams as well as building leadership including principals, assistant principals, etc. we follow a Professional Learning Community (PLC) model.

Professional development is planned annually to meet the needs of faculty and staff in response to emerging technologies and/or needs assessment. Professional learning includes embedded modeling, in-service workshops, local Model Schools (BOCES/RIC) offerings, department/area workshops, and online PD resources. The district supports both outside consultant expertise and in-house expertise to meet the needs of faculty, administrators, and staff.

VII. SUSTAINABILITY

The District will integrate the Smart Schools Bond purchases into the existing district's technology plan to upgrade our school connectivity and IT Infrastructure. The District is committed to upgrading our infrastructure to support current and new devices as well as connectivity and bandwidth needs in the future.

We use local funds, and grants to finance our instructional technology investments as well as IPAs to properly provide for a replacement cycle for devices. This financing strategy will allow the District to extend and sustain the initial investment in school connectivity by using The Smart Schools Bond Act funding

VIII. TIMELINE

Once the Mount Vernon CSD Smart Schools Bond Act Investment Plan is approved

by the state, equipment/appliances will be purchased in accordance with the District's purchasing policy. The District will input new equipment in its existing inventory database and monitor it to ensure that equipment is securely maintained in its designated locations and accounted for.

The Amended Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) will be available on the district's website for a minimum of 15 days beginning May 10, 2019. After 15 days, the amended plan will be submitted to NYS . A link to an online form for public comment is available at : <https://www.mtvernoncsd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1544>