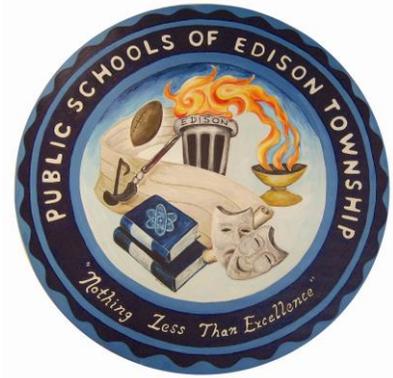


PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Edison Township Public Schools Presents The End of Overcrowding

EDISON, NEW JERSEY – Edison Township Public Schools will begin a three-year building plan to end overcrowding in the district’s schools.

On Wednesday night at the Board of Education Committee of the Whole Meeting for Facilities Improvements, Dr. Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, presented an ambitious and thorough capital improvement plan involving additions/alterations at thirteen of the district’s schools. Superintendent Bragen stated, “We are grateful for the actions of this Board of Education and previous Boards who had the foresight to dedicate the requisite funds to our capital reserve accounts to make this initiative possible.” The district plans to use these monies along with annual allocations for capital projects to fully fund these projects without the need to further burden Edison residents with the costs of a referendum. Dr. Bragen further asserted, “The significant increases in state aid the district received over the last several years, coupled with the Board of Education’s decision to dedicate these funds to capital improvements, enables the district to bring this plan to fruition in a relatively short period of time.” The plan has a rapid timeline with projects possibly going out to bid early this summer with construction beginning during the 2022-2023 school year. The plan includes site renovations, classroom additions, large group area enhancements, Gymnasiums/Auditorium additions, HVAC upgrades, and other needed building upgrades. The district also plans to utilize some of its ESSERS III allocations for these projects.

Board of Education President, Douglas Schneider, noted, “We are grateful to have this opportunity to come together as a unified Board of Education and endorse a plan that will end the current overcrowding situations in many of our schools. It should also be noted that this is being done with a **ZERO-Tax Levy increase**, meaning all these projects will be completed without any additional tax burdens being placed on our community. This is simply an astounding accomplishment.” These proposed enhancements coupled with the current \$9 million addition being completed at the Lincoln Elementary School will positively impact the children of Edison Township for years to come.

The district is also seeking to contract with an energy company to develop an Energy Savings Investment Plan (ESIP). The plan will use anticipated energy cost savings to finance improvements in lighting, boilers, univents, HVAC equipment, solar, and other devices used in supplying electricity and heating/cooling to our schools. This program will enable the school district to upgrade its equipment with much more efficient devices at no increased costs to the taxpayers. The Edison Public Schools seeks to begin this process by the end of this school year.

Nothing Less Than Excellence

The Edison Public School District is the fifth largest school district in the state, approaching 17,000 students in grades PreK-12 across 19 schools. The district recently announced plans to implement full-day kindergarten in September 2022 and also approved a **ZERO-Tax Levy** increase School Budget for the 2022-2023 School Year for the second year in a row. Graduates of the Edison Public Schools regularly attend some of the prestigious universities in the country and many have excelled in careers ranging from astrophysics to the performing arts. The district remains committed to doing everything possible to best serve the needs of the children of Edison Township.

A detailed list of the renovations can be found on the district website at the following [link](#).

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