

DECEMBER 12, 2023 PROPOSED INSTRUCTIONAL BOND

WHAT IS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2023 PROPOSED BOND?

The total amount of the bond will be \$35,957,772.

WILL THE PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSED BOND ISSUE 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. The chart to the right is from our Financial Advisor, Bernard P. Donegan, Inc., and shows that the current and proposed level of debt (blue and green bars) never goes above the existing payment schedule. A much more detailed analysis of the financial aspects of the bond will be provided in our upcoming communications.



WHY IS THE PROPOSED BOND ISSUE IMPORTANT?

Passage of the 2023 bond is important to fund key improvements to our instructional spaces and programming. In Mount Pleasant we recognize that as strong as our academic programs already are, we are limited by our current physical spaces. It is essential that our classrooms be updated to accommodate our current and projected enrollment as well as the changing needs of our students. In spite of dated and targeted space constraints across the District, Mount Pleasant students continue to excel in academics and our fine and performing arts annually receive accolades. However we cannot become complacent. By redesigning and reconfiguring our STEAM and arts classrooms, as well as enhancing the physical atmosphere of many original and/or older spaces, our students will have access to resources and experiences that our current buildings currently cannot offer.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

If approved by the voters in December, we expect designs to be sent to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) in June, 2024, bids to be awarded in May 2025, and construction to start in summer 2025. Once started, the project is expected to be completed by spring 2027.

WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

Throughout the district, safety and security projects, modernization of lighting, and the addition and enhancement of HVAC offerings, including air conditioning in all four gymnasiums, will be undertaken. The proposed project includes enhancements on all four schools.

<u>Hawthorne</u>

- A secure entrance vestibule will be constructed, along with multiple enhancements in safety and security.
- Complete reconfiguration of the current Kindergarten classrooms and a four classroom addition.
- Reorganization of the school to cluster students by grade level and to centralize special area instruction and services.
- A new center for performing arts, visual arts, STEM and a new Library and Media Center for school-wide events and community-use.
- Bathrooms will receive long-overdue renovations.





Rendering of a secure entrance vestibule



Rendering of an updated K-2 classroom

WHAT IS THE SCOPE? (CONTINUED)

<u>Columbus</u>

- A secure entrance vestibule will be constructed, along with multiple enhancements in safety and security.
- Several classrooms will be renovated to support small group instruction.
- Music spaces will be enlarged and transformed to accommodate group collaboration and instruction, including band, chorus, and a future orchestral program.
- A new Makerspace/STEM Lab and three classrooms will be added.

Westlake Middle School

- A secure entrance vestibule will be constructed, along with multiple enhancements in safety and security.
- All four science labs will receive renovations.
- Both original locker rooms will be remodeled.
- Shared Westlake Middle School High School Library
- Completely redesigned into a modern media center in which students will have the flexibility to research, create, learn, and innovate.

Westlake High School

- Multiple safety and security enhancements including the creation of a secure entrance vestibule and common space for continued student use.
- Gut renovation of the theater: lighting, rigging, acoustical and aesthetic improvements.
- All science labs will be reorganized and/or renovated.
- Studio art classroom will be fully renovated, and a new STEM Lab/Makerspace to support innovation, engineering, and robotics will be constructed.
- Cafeteria and kitchen renovations.

WHO CAN VOTE IN THE ELECTION?

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 (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019) shall not be required to re-register.

For more information please contact District Clerk, Mary Beth Mancuso mmancuso@mtplcsd.org.

WHAT IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BOND ELECTION AND VOTING?

We will be holding information sessions, sending emails, and meeting with community groups. Please stay tuned on how you can get more informed or reach out to Dr. Giarrizzo at 914-769-5500 or at <u>pgiarrizzo@mtplcsd.org</u> to speak or meet with him directly.

Please note, pictures are for demonstration only. Actual renderings will be forthcoming.



Rendering of Westlake studio art room







