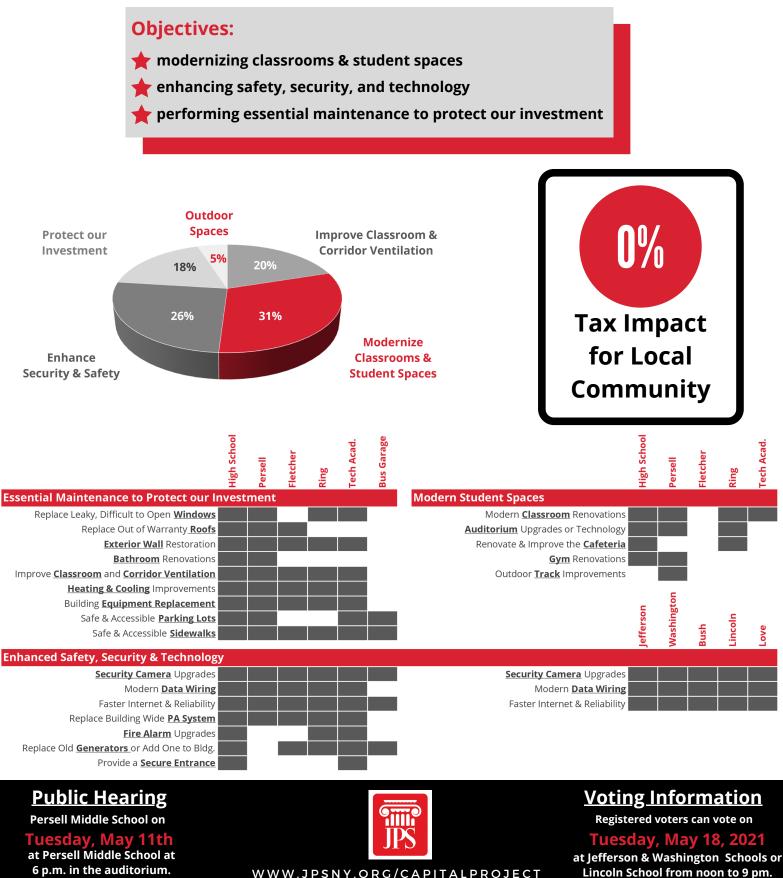
#### 2022-27 Vote on JPS CAPITAL May 18! **IMPROVEMENT PROJEC**



On Tuesday, May 18, 2021, you will have an opportunity to show your support for our district and vote on a Capital Improvements Project to address critical needs for our district. We encourage you to learn more about the proposed Capital Improvement Project at www.jpsny.org/capitalproject.



WWW.JPSNY.ORG/CAPITALPROJECT



### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### Q. Why is it important to do this work now?

We need to preserve an educational environment that will help all children to learn and grow by maintaining, protecting, and enhancing our facilities. The last capital improvement project was approved in 2011, and the improvements needed at that time have been completed in phases since then. Based on a recent assessment of our building conditions, it is clear that there are **many critical needs to be addressed**. The scope of work is significant and cannot be funded by the local budget alone, without an undesirable impact to local property taxes. The upgrades, renovations, and replacements outlined in the 2022 Capital Project are needed improvements to keep our students **warm, safe, and dry** in a positive learning environment, with no additional burden on local taxpayers.

### Q. How will this capital project be funded?

This capital improvement project will be funded through borrowing to be paid over a period of time. In order to repay the loans used for this project, debt payments will be offset by New York State building aid. The New York State building aid ratio for JPS is 98% - which means, **for every dollar spent** on capital improvement work, **the district receives 98 cents in aid**. The remaining 2% will be funded by district reserve funds (a savings account for a specific purpose) and other state funds specific to capital improvement work. These funding sources enable the district to complete \$86.5 million in necessary improvements with **no additional cost to the local taxpayer**.

## Q. How was it determined which improvements to include in the capital project?

The planning process for the proposed project began in 2019 with a Building Condition Survey (BCS) as **indepth evaluation of our facilities** with input from principals, custodians, and district staff. We also sought input from several committees, including parents and staff, to recommend the improvements they would most like to see in our schools. The district planning team has worked with architectural firm Young & Wright, along with engineers and other consultants, to prioritize the scope of work based on information from the BCS and committee recommendations.

### Find more FAQ at <u>www.jpsny.org/capitalproject</u>

# Q. Why not fund repairs & improvements through the regular budget & why not use this money for staff and programs?

Under New York State law, the district cannot borrow money to fund personnel or other operational costs. However, money can be borrowed to invest in modernization and improvement of learning spaces that better support students, teachers, and staff.

Large building projects such as roofs, plumbing, and structural renovations are too costly to include in a school district's annual operating budget. Through a bond vote, we are able to borrow funds to be repaid with state building aid that may only be used for capital projects, and cannot be used for operational expenses. By spreading the cost over several years through a capital project, and maximizing available building aid, we are able to complete millions of dollars of essential repairs and renovations with no impact to the local taxpayer.

## Q. How does this project benefit the community?

A school district's facilities are a reflection of its educational program. A quality school district helps to protect and increase property values while enhancing marketability to attract future homeowners. Not only can the proposed project be completed with no increase to local taxes, it has the **potential to improve property values** by improving the overall condition of our school buildings and the appeal of our community.

### Public Hearing

Persell Middle School on **Tuesday, May 11th** at Persell Middle School at 6 p.m. in the auditorium.



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### **Voting Information**

Registered voters can vote on

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

at Jefferson & Washington Schools or Lincoln School from noon to 9 pm.