

PM RAIDER CONNECTION

PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL BOND 2024 ISSUE

AIR QUALITY. CLIMATE CONTROL. HEALTH. SECURITY.

Plus high school athletic fields/gyms and secondary schools audio/visual upgrades

A PANDEMIC LESSON LEARNED - AIR QUALITY IS ESSENTIAL TO STUDENT HEALTH AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

We are a bit over two and a half years out from the height of the pandemic. *What was made absolutely clear during that time was that air quality is essential to the well-being of our students and staff.* Stagnant air, air that is not continuously refreshed in our classrooms and large building spaces, and air that is not continuously filtered through CDC-recommended HEPA 13 filters, poses a danger to health and can inhibit student learning and academic performance.

We also know that opening windows to accomplish these critical air quality functions is not an adequate answer. *Open windows are a security risk.* We have spent millions on Districtwide state-of-the-art security systems, and *open windows seriously compromise these systems and pose a potential danger to our students and staff.*

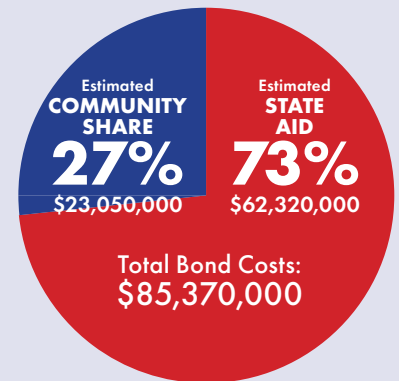
WHAT IS A SOLUTION? UPGRADED HEATING/COOLING/VENTILATION SYSTEMS IN OUR SCHOOLS.

The Bond 2024 Plan, if approved by the community, will upgrade our building air quality and climate control HVAC systems so that heating and cooling can be controlled in real time in classrooms and large space settings. These upgraded HVAC systems will also ensure that the air our students and staff breath throughout the day will be constantly refreshed and purified while providing for closed building windows that support overall District security and student/staff safety.

THE "PLUS" OF THE PROPOSED BOND 2024 PLAN

The District is also proposing an investment in the music education and performance assets at our secondary buildings, as well as upgrades to the high school's athletic spaces, that will expand student and community opportunities in both areas.

This newsletter and the "Bond 2024" section of our website at www.patmedbond2024.org provide detailed information to help you make an informed vote on May 21.



- NY State to pay for 73% of total bond plan costs
- The Districts' Moody Rating is Aa3, making this a favorable time to bond
- Retiring District debt will offset the estimated tax impact of Bond 2024 approval



BE INFORMED. KNOW THE FACTS. VISIT WWW.PATMEDBOND2024.ORG
BOND VOTE: TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024



THE RESEARCH IS CLEAR... AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE CONTROL INCREASE STUDENT PERFORMANCE AND HEALTH

As reported in major media outlets across the country, AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE CONTROL – the constant intake and circulation of fresh air in our school buildings as well as the control of classroom temperature year-round – play a significant role in student academic performance as well as teacher effectiveness.

STATE-OF-THE-ART UNIT VENTILATORS AND HVAC SYSTEMS DISTRICTWIDE PROPOSED IN BOND 2024 PLAN

The Bond 2024 Plan, if approved by the Patchogue-Medford community, will:

- Replace all of the District's 60-70+ year old, outmoded and inefficient unit ventilators with modern, energy-efficient ventilators in all classrooms and large meeting areas such as cafeterias, gymnasiums and auditoriums.*
- Upgrade all building HVAC systems to provide for real-time, individual classroom and large space area climate control. This will eliminate the recurring problem of overheating in certain parts of a building and the lack of heating in other parts of a building in winter months, and the need to open windows during high heat days in late May, June, throughout the summer and September, compromising building safety and security.

THE BENEFITS:

- Student health and well-being: Proper ventilation, air quality and climate control reduce the spread of airborne illnesses, allergens, and pollutants. This is especially important for individuals with respiratory conditions or allergies.
- Student concentration, focus, cognitive performance and engagement are all enhanced with proper room temperature and air quality.
- Reduction in student irritability and restlessness caused by inconsistent classroom temperatures and poor air quality.
- Improved teacher health and satisfaction resulting from consistent and controlled room temperatures, ventilation and air quality.
- Elimination of inefficient window air conditioners that pose a security risk.



Decades old unit ventilators are cost-inefficient and costly to maintain



New unit ventilators will significantly lower building energy costs

*New unit ventilators were already installed in South Ocean Middle School using capital reserve funds. If the Bond 2024 Plan is approved by voters, South Ocean will have a cooling function added to its HVAC systems, providing the same year-round climate control as proposed for all other District school buildings.



UPGRADED HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELDS AND GYMNASIUMS ASSETS - EXPANDING STUDENT AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PROPOSED ATHLETIC FIELD UPGRADES

Patchogue-Medford was a pioneer on Long Island in installing a turf field. Since that time, districts across Long Island, including our neighbors in Longwood, William Floyd, Middle Country, Connetquot and Three Village, have followed our example – and gone beyond – and installed multiple turf fields on their campuses (see listing in sidebar at right). This has greatly expanded the practice and playing time of their sports teams and increased opportunities for those districts’ physical education programs and community use. In Patchogue-Medford, we still only have our original single turf field. The Bond 2024 Plan provides for the installation of a new, multipurpose turf field west of our stadium field and directly adjacent to our high school building.

Benefits of a new multipurpose turf field:

- Increases physical education instruction time and opportunities.
- Creates greater equity across boys/girls sports for both practice time and competition.
- Provides for increased middle school and JV program usage.
- Increases community access.
- Conserves water usage.
- Reduces maintenance costs.
- Better aligns the District in terms of athletic field assets with comparable Conference I districts.



Plus these additional field upgrades:

- Addition of lights to the new turf field.
- New dual-sided press box – one press box for both fields.
- New bleacher system between fields.
- Installation of new LED scoreboards and a JUMBOTRON for the main stadium.



Installation of the LED scoreboards and Jumbotron will also eliminate the significant costs of renting jumbo screens for graduation ceremonies and other large-scale community events that take place in our stadium.

In addition, approval of Bond 2024 will provide for updated sound systems and new scoreboards in both high school gymnasiums.



TURF FIELD ASSETS AT NEIGHBORING SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Longwood High School

- Two turf fields
- Two turf infields

William Floyd High School

- Two multipurpose turf fields
- Baseball turf infield
- Softball turf infield

Middle Country

(two high schools)

- Four multipurpose turf fields
- Two softball turf fields

Ward Melville High School

- Three multipurpose turf fields
- One full baseball turf field
- One full softball turf field

Connetquot High School

- Two multipurpose turf fields
- Two baseball turf infields
- Two softball turf infields



UPGRADED AUDIO/VISUAL ASSETS TO ENHANCE AND EXPAND MUSIC AND THEATRE PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

At our secondary schools, a major portion of the lighting and sound technology in our auditoriums and performance spaces are outdated, inefficient and below what today’s industry standards are for musical and theatre productions. Updates are proposed for the following:



Exemplary professional-grade soundboard and mixer

At Patchogue-Medford High School:

- new LED lighting to replace remaining old incandescent lighting fixtures
- new sound system

At Oregon Middle School

- new LED lighting system
- new sound system

At South Ocean Middle School

- new LED lighting to replace remaining old incandescent lighting fixtures
- new sound system

At Saxton Middle School

- new LED lighting
- new sound system, including upgrade to Board meeting sound system



Benefits

- Industry standard lighting and sound for all musical and theatre performances. New equipment will also provide students with the opportunity to develop light and sound technical skills on equipment used in the professional field.
- LED lighting providing color options, visual effects, longer shelf life, and more efficient power usage.
- Elimination of equipment rental costs.
- In-house, state-of-the-art technology allowing for student-run productions.
- Creation of tech crews in each of the District’s secondary schools to support all student performances as well as extra-curricular activities in all District performance spaces.
- Enhancement of all performance and ceremonial assemblies, such as Honor Society inductions, award ceremonies, building assemblies, Volunteer Recognition Night and others scheduled in secondary rehearsal spaces.
- Enhanced facilities for community use.



**BOND 2024 VOTE – MAY 21, 2024
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.**



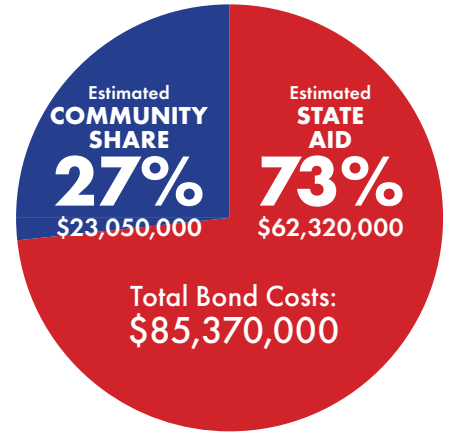
RETIRING DISTRICT DEBT MITIGATES TAX IMPACT OF BOND 2024

Significant District debt is being retired over the next four school years. As the chart below illustrates, after a minimal increase in District debt in the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years, annual District debt payments actually **fall approximately \$1.5 million below current levels**.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

There will be a small uptick, which for the average Pat-Med homeowner with a home assessed at \$2,800 amounts to an additional annual tax impact directly related to District debt payments of \$74.28. After the 2027-2028 school year, **that portion of your school taxes directly related to District debt payments will actually fall below current levels!**

Simply stated, Bond 2024 approval will not result in any long-term increase to school taxes.



School Year	Current Debt*	Bond 2024 Debt*	Total District Debt Payments Factored Into Annual Budgets**
2023-2024	\$ 9,595,150	\$ 0	\$ 9,595,150
2024-2025	\$ 9,632,513	\$ 0	\$ 9,632,513
2025-2026	\$ 9,672,575	\$ 0	\$ 9,672,575
2026-2027	\$ 9,250,000	\$ 1,575,000	\$10,825,000
2027-2028	\$ 6,022,750	\$ 4,385,000	\$10,407,750
2028-2029	\$ 0	\$ 7,945,825	\$ 7,945,825
2029-2030	\$ 0	\$ 7,947,725	\$ 7,947,725
2030-2031	\$ 0	\$ 7,951,075	\$ 7,951,075

*It is anticipated the District will issue 15 year bonds in three phases. From the 2028-2029 school year forward, annual District debt payments will remain approximately \$1.5 million LESS than current District debt payments, with a final debt payment in 2043 anticipated at \$4,692,050. Visit www.patmedbond2024.org for information on the full schedule of estimated payments related to Bond 2024 approval.

**Includes principal and interest. State aid pays an estimated 73% of principal and interest.



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VOTE DATE AND VOTER INFORMATION

Voter Qualifications:

To be eligible to vote in school district elections, a person must:

- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Be a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to May 21, 2024;
- Be a citizen of the United States, and;
- Be a registered voter with the Board of Registry or with the Suffolk County Board of Elections.

Voter Registration:

- Any school day at the Administrative Center, 241 South Ocean Avenue, Patchogue, New York
- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Contact the District Clerk (687-6370) for further information.
- Deadline to register with the School District Board of Registry is Monday, May 13, 2024 by 4:00 p.m.
- Contact the District Clerk at 631-687-6370 for further information.

Absentee Ballots and Early Mail

Voting Ballots:

Absentee ballot applications and early mail voting ballot applications may be obtained at the Administrative Center, 241 South Ocean Avenue,

Patchogue or via the District website (www.pmschools.org). Ballots will be issued upon the satisfactory completion of the application form. Absentee ballot applications and early mail voting applications may not be filed prior to April 22, 2024. The deadline for filing absentee ballot applications and early mail voting applications, if the ballots are mailed to the resident, is May 14, 2024 by 4:30 p.m. The deadline for filing absentee ballot applications and early mail voting applications, if the ballots are to be personally delivered to residents or their authorized representative, is May 20, 2024 by 4:30 p.m. All absentee ballots and early mail voting ballots must be filed with the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Information regarding Military Ballots may be obtained by contacting the District Clerk.

District Polling Places:

- District No. 1: South Ocean Middle School
- District No. 2: Medford Elementary School
- District No. 3: Saxton Middle School
- District No. 4: Tremont Elementary School
- District No. 5: Eagle Elementary School



Qualified voters with disabilities who seek information about access to polling places may, in advance of the day of the vote, contact the District Clerk at (631) 687-6370 for information about accessibility.

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