

## **CAPITAL PROJECT NEWSLETTER**

Dear Community Members,

Our new physical education and athletics facilities plan is ready. We've been working on the plan and saving for years. After considering all affordable possibilities, we're confident that our plan provides the best outcome for students, taxpayers and our community. Our proposal will be placed before the voters on Tuesday, June 25 from noon to 8 pm at Dansville High School.

A new artificial turf complex will replace our existing varsity soccer field and track behind Dansville High School. We'll build 6 new tennis courts next to the new facility and we'll provide lights to both venues. During the school day, the new track, field and tennis courts will be used by physical education students. After school, the complex will become the new home of Mustang soccer, track, football and tennis teams.

The project also includes new playgrounds for primary and elementary school children.

Importantly, this project will have zero impact on local property taxes. Our local share will be paid from the capital reserve fund and state building aid will cover the remaining 75% of project costs.

Our new facilities will rival the best PE and athletics facilities anywhere in the region and will serve our students and families for generations to come. Our campus will be a source of pride and encourage families to live here. Please review the newsletter, peruse the images, read through our Q & A pages and call me with any questions and comments.

Yours in Education,

Dr. Paul J. Alioto

Wednesday, June 12 6:00pm HS Library





### **PROPOSITION**

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake certain capital improvements consisting of construction and reconstruction of school buildings and facilities, including, without limitation, various site and athletic field improvements, and the acquisition of certain original furnishings, equipment, and apparatus and other incidental improvements required in connection therewith for such construction and school use, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$8,225,000; and to appropriate and expend from the existing capital reserve fund \$2,000,000 for such costs, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$6,225,000 shall be issued.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the text of the aforesaid proposition may appear on the ballot labels in the following abbreviated form:

Shall the proposition set forth in the legal notice of this special voter meeting, authorizing construction, reconstruction and equipping of school buildings and facilities, including, without limitation, various site and athletic field improvements, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$8,225,000; with the expenditure of \$2,000,000 from the existing capital reserve fund for such costs, the issuance of not to exceed \$6,225,000 of debt obligations of the School District therefore, and the levy of a tax in annual installments therefore, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefore, all as more fully described in said notice, be approved?

Page 2 CAPITAL PROJECT 2019

## **Playgrounds**

The EBH Elementary School playground equipment has exceeded its life span. The original equipment was intended for younger children but is absent of equipment for older children who need a greater challenge in grades 5 & 6. The climbing chains in the picture below right were removed this past winter.



The DPS playground (below right) was constructed thanks to the generosity of the Dansville Rotary. The equipment remains in good shape despite being almost 20 years old. Pieces that we don't reuse may be donated. We've already had inquiries about donating equipment to local parks.



Your schools, your community. Please vote on Tuesday, June 25.

Page 3 CAPITAL PROJECT 2019

# frequently asked questions

Why do we need new fields and tennis courts?

- 1. It's important for our physical education students to spend more time outdoors. Our tennis courts were across town, unsafe and unusable. Our current fields are prone to soggy, wet and muddy conditions. This forces kids inside. A new artificial turf field will drain well and allow more PE students to spend more time outdoors. They'll be outside sooner in the spring and later in the fall.
  - 2. It's important to centralize after school activities as much as possible. With new facilities out back we can invest more time practicing and playing and spend less time traveling.
  - 3. We have 6 soccer teams. It's important for our soccer teams to play on safe fields. Last year we couldn't finish our soccer season on our home field because conditions were so muddy and slippery. The artificial turf complex is designed to drain well and provide a safe and secure playing surface despite wet weather.
  - 4. We have 3 football teams. The boys tend to wear out their practice field and then compete across town. It's important for them to practice on the field that they compete on. The new field will hold up to weather, wear and a stampede of cleats.
  - 5. Our tennis team has been forced to practice and compete on the road for two years now. We need them home as soon as possible.
  - 6. It's important for soccer, football, tennis & track athletes to practice and compete close to locker rooms, equipment and drying rooms, the trainer's room, weight-lifting room and storage.
- I thought we were building tennis courts across the street from the school campus?
- Our initial plans were to place the tennis courts across the street. We've modified this plan and placed the tennis courts behind our schools for two reasons:
  - 1. Closer proximity for PE students which is better for kids.
  - 2. Increased state aid which is better for taxpayers and the bottom line.





Page 4 CAPITAL PROJECT 2019

- Will the tennis courts be available for public use?
- A Yes. We're as excited for our pickleballers and adult tennis players as we are for the kids!
- Will the tennis courts and field have lights?
- A Yes. The lights are LED and shed very little light beyond the playing area.
- Will the artificial turf field and track be available to the community?
- A Yes. The District will develop field use guidelines and publish them.
- The pictures show a new road coming onto campus from North Clinton Street. Will this road be a new entrance for the public?
- No. This is a gated service road. It will be used by District owned service vehicles and by emergency response vehicles. The gate will remain closed.
- $\mathbf{Q}$  What will you do with the land purchased by the District across the street?
- A The District will move forward with a soccer/multi-use field for after school activities as planned. However, that work is not part of this capital project. We plan to begin clearing and excavating the new property this summer.
  - The District Offices will move to the office building at 337 Main St. this summer to free up much needed instructional space in Dansville Primary School.
- What will the District do with Ralph Clements Field?
- The District will continue to use Ralph Clements field throughout the state approval and construction phases. We are considering a variety of options for what happens afterward. The District's Facilities Committee will come together to review those options and make a recommendation to the Board of Education. Possibilities include but are not limited to:
  - Re-purposing Ralph Clements Field for softball and baseball.
  - Including the property in an economic development project with our municipal partners.
  - Evaluating the location for solar development to cover existing utility costs.
  - Selling the property for private or corporate development.

Each of these options requires voter approval.

- How will the District handle additional traffic to athletic contests?
- A In addition to the existing parking lots in front of DHS and next to DPS, the project will add over 100 parking spaces between the tennis courts and the soccer/football/track complex. This should provide relief from the congestion that occurs on Weidman Lane during soccer games and around Ralph Clements Field during football games.

Page 5 CAPITAL PROJECT 2019



The courts and field are aligned running north to south. This prevents PE students and student athletes from contending with sun glare. Bathrooms will be accessible from both sides of perimeter fencing. A concession stand will serve visitors. Over 100 parking spaces will be added. The tennis courts and field are lighted. Fans will sit facing picturesque East Hill. This will be a beautiful scene in the fall!





282 MAIN STREET DANSVILLE, NY 14437 **DESIGN SCOPE:** SITE PLANNING

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAY 2019

LaBella
Powered by partnership.

Page 6 CAPITAL PROJECT 2019





# Zero percent tax increase? Really?

Our purpose from the start was to prepare a capital project with a zero % tax impact. We balanced the need to improve facilities with the goal of zero %. In consultation with our attorneys at the Ferrara Law Firm, our financial advisors from Bernard P. Donegan, Inc. and our architects from LaBella Associates we have achieved a project budget with a zero % local tax impact. The local share will be paid from Capital Reserves which were approved by the voters in 2016 and 2018.

Our facilities are used all year, 7 days/week from 6AM until late in the evenings. We are pleased to serve civic groups, adult education, community members and BOCES.

Importantly, a campus that has not been maintained, updated and improved will become more expensive. We need to do this work now while we have the capacity to get it done. To delay the improvements will cost more later and the longer we wait, the more we'll have to pay.

Page 7 CAPITAL PROJECT 2019

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOLS 284 MAIN STREET DANSVILLE, NY 14437 PRE-SORT
Nonprofit Org.
US Postage Paid
Dansville, NY
Permit #22

# DCS DISTRICT RESIDENT

## **Board of Education Long Range Facilities & Transportation Goal**

The Board of Education aspires to improve student achievement by ensuring facilities and transportation systems that are safe, healthy and conducive to learning. The Board will ensure updated and improved facilities that are future-proof and meet the demands of 21st century learners.



PUBLIC HEARING Wednesday, June 12 6:00pm HS Library

VOTE TUESDAY JUNE 25
Dansville HS Gym Foyer
Noon To 8:00pm