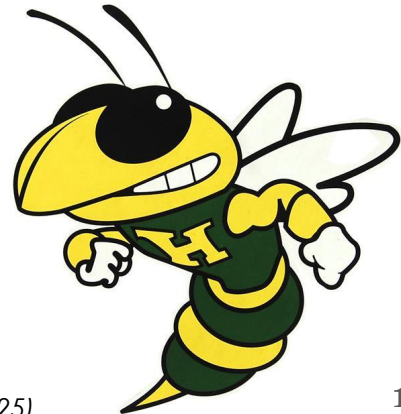


# Bond Update

As of May 16, 2025

William McKersie, Ph.D.





**HASTINGS**  
**Capital Bond**  
**June 17, 2025**



**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

"Our schools are the heart of our community, a place where students learn, grow, and prepare for their futures. To ensure they have the best possible environment, we are proposing a capital bond that addresses three critical areas: essential building upgrades, athletic field improvements, and instructional space expansion."

*~Maureen Caraballo, Business Official*



# **Capital Bond Referendum – Three Parts**

## **Bond Proposition #1 – District-Wide Infrastructure Improvements**

**(\$11,254,780)**

This proposition proposes critical upgrades across district facilities, including mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and masonry work. The focus is on replacing outdated equipment and systems, enhancing building performance, and addressing infrastructure deficiencies to extend the life and efficiency of our schools.

## **Bond Proposition #2 – Instructional Space and Accessibility Enhancements**

**(\$19,049,465)**

Contingent upon the approval of Proposition #1, this measure supports the expansion and modernization of the Farragut Middle School/High School complex. Key components include constructing new classrooms and special education spaces, 1 cafeteria renovations and relocation, a redesigned main entrance, and compliance upgrades to meet current accessibility and safety codes.



# Capital Bond Referendum – Three Parts

## **Bond Proposition #3 – Athletic and Recreational Facilities at Burke Estate (\$8,171,250)**

Contingent upon the approval of both Proposition #1 and Proposition #2, this proposition funds improvements at the Burke Estate. Planned work includes the installation of a synthetic turf field, construction of a synthetic turf softball field, bleachers and dugouts, as well as site grading, irrigation, drainage, and retaining wall upgrades. These bond propositions represent a comprehensive investment plan developed through community feedback and facilities assessments. They are structured to be fiscally responsible while addressing urgent and long-term needs across the district.



# Why The Vote Is Structured This Way

The Board chose to present the bond in three separate propositions because we listened to concerns from the community. We understand that different parts of the bond carry different priorities for different people.

- **Proposition 1** includes **essential maintenance and critical system upgrades**—things like masonry restoration, ventilation, HVAC, electric, and other critical maintenance, and safety systems. These are basic, necessary repairs to keep our school buildings running properly and safely. That's why **it had to come first**. Without these foundational upgrades, the rest would not be possible.
- **Proposition 2** focuses on **instructional and special education spaces**. These are high-priority educational needs that directly support our students' learning and inclusion.
- **Proposition 3** is for **athletic field improvements**, which are also important—but we understand that some community members are concerned about overall costs. The reason Prop 3 depends on Prop 2 passing is that, while fields matter, the **district believes educational space and student support services must take priority** over interscholastic sports facilities if choices need to be made.



# All Votes Will Be Counted

The community will have the opportunity to vote on each proposition individually, with Propositions #2 and #3 dependent on the approval of the prior propositions.

Every vote matters, and **every vote will be counted**, no matter what.





# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Farragut Entry Overall





# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Farragut Entry Approach



# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Entry Circulation Plan





# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Cafeteria Exterior

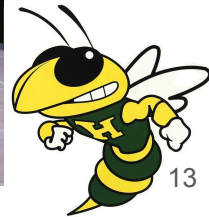


# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Cafeteria Interior

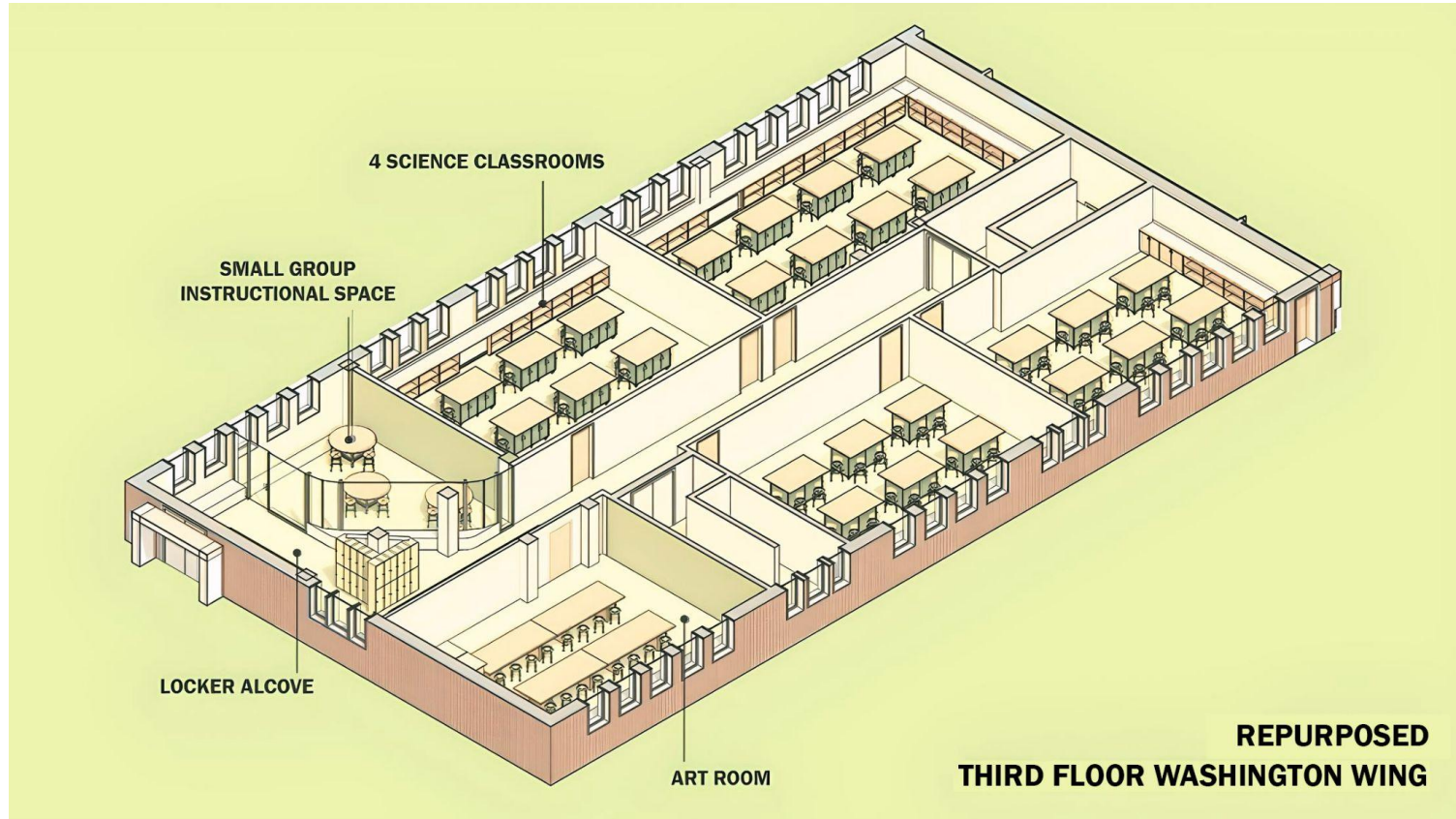




# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Cafeteria Interior

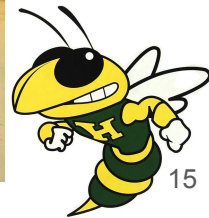


# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Washington Wing



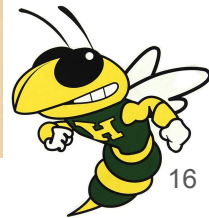


# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Classroom Interior





# Proposed Architectural Rendering - Lockers



# Instructional Space Benefits from Cafeteria Relocation & Renovations

Relocating the cafeteria at FMS & HHS is a smart, student-centered solution to long-standing space and circulation challenges. The current cafeteria is too small, outdated, and poorly located, limiting dining time and occupying space needed for classrooms. The new, larger cafeteria in the central Courtyard will unlock five modern classrooms and two additional instructional spaces, ease a 20% instructional space shortage, and improve student flow. With better access, natural light, and adjacency to the play yard, this project creates a vibrant hub for both middle and high school students—advancing the school’s vision for a more efficient and future-ready campus.

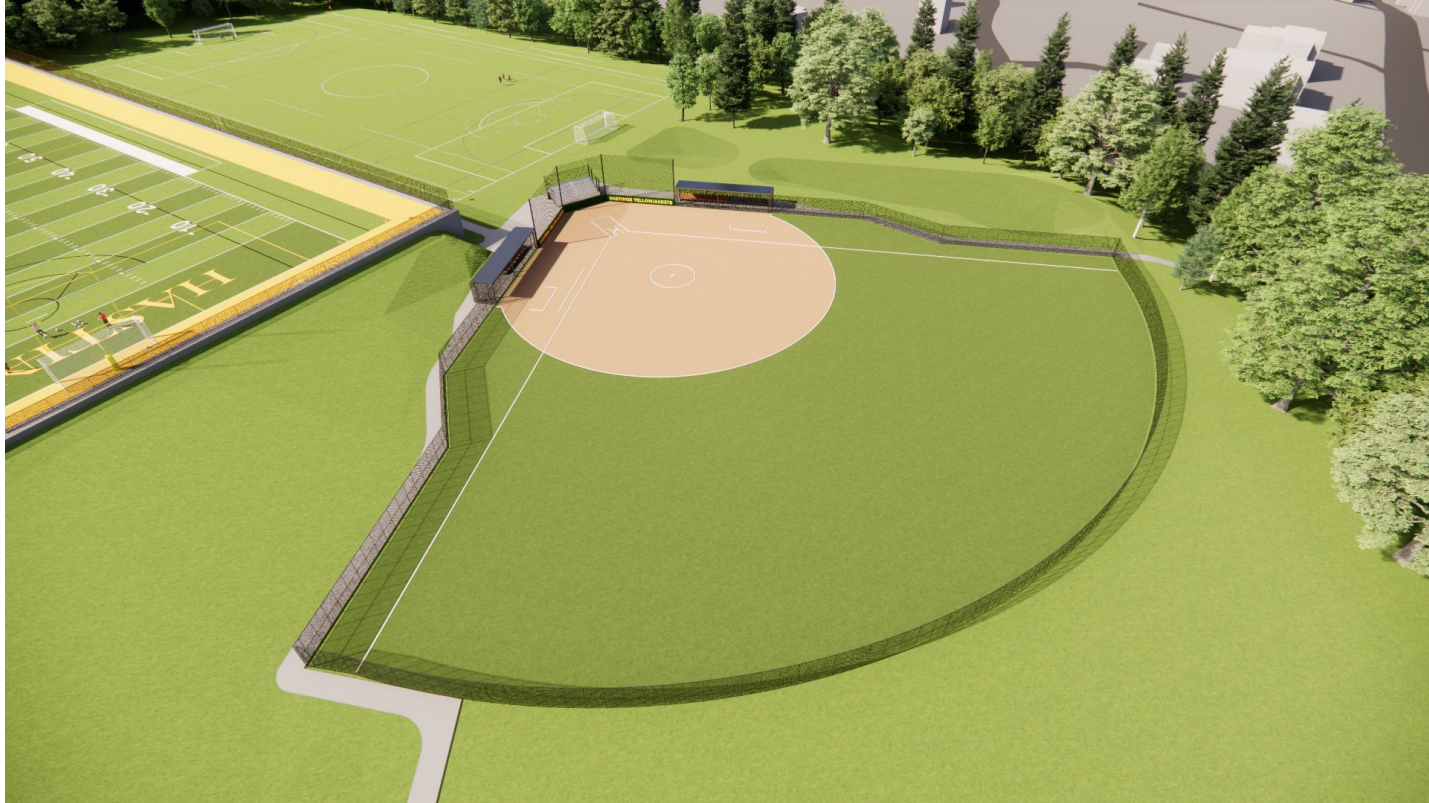


# Proposed Rendering - Synthetic Turf Multi-Purpose Field



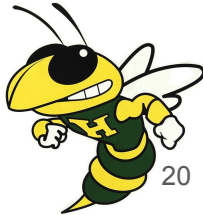


# Proposed Rendering - Synthetic Turf Softball Field



# What is in the bond proposal?

- 1) Renovation of the current cafeteria to create 5-6 Middle School classrooms
- 2) Construction of a new, larger cafeteria in the unused courtyard
- 3) Critical building system and building envelope repairs/replacements
- 4) Addition of an ADA-compliant and secure entryway
- 5) Conversion of two grass fields to two turf fields (out of seven fields)



# Why is the bond prioritizing this work?

## Farragut Middle School: Urgent Facility Needs

- **Severe Overcrowding:** Same student population as Hastings High School, but 40% less space.
- **Inadequate Classrooms:**
  - 19 of 24 classrooms below NYS size standards.
  - Entire departments lack compliant rooms.
  - Shared spaces and increased class sizes limit learning and inclusive education.
  - Some classes canceled due to lack of space.
- **Special Education Shortfalls:**
  - SPED population nearly doubled.
  - Students forced to take tests in hallways due to lack of proper spaces.
- **Undersized Cafeteria:**
  - 50% smaller than State standards.
  - Overcrowding leads to students eating in stairwells, hallways, and libraries.
- **Deteriorating Infrastructure:**
  - Poor ventilation, lighting, and temperature control.
  - Frequent ceiling failures and costly repairs.



# **FMS has become hard to teach in, hard to learn in, and hard to lead**

How do we know this?

- Student data we track
- Grades and test scores
- Parent concerns
- Behavioral issues
- Upstream teacher reports from the High School
- Revolving door of leadership turnover





# Why We Need to Act Now

- **State Aid:** NYS reimburses 47% of project costs — a drop is imminent, which could cost Hastings residents millions more.
- **Growing Enrollment:** Middle School population has grown 25% since prior space decisions; further growth expected with new housing.
- **District Growth:** Hastings is one of few districts in Westchester/Putnam to grow over the last decade; crowding will worsen without action.
- **Investment Gap:** Hastings has invested \$30M less in schools than neighboring districts (Ardsley, Irvington, Dobbs Ferry) over the past 30 years.
- **Aging Facilities:** The Farragut Complex (95–120 years old) faces major, costly repairs if not addressed.



# Testimonials:

## BOE

## Students

## Faculty





**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

"I'm here today because I want to give Hastings residents perspective from a board member.

We are stewards of a system, and we try to maintain it and also leave it better than we found it. No bond is easy. No bond is cost free. But this bond would be a thoughtful commitment to our schools."

*~Alexander DalPiaz, Board of Education President*





**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

“As the principal here at FMS, I can attest to the fact that this is truly a special school, a place filled with inquisitive and invested students along with high quality, dedicated staff members. However, the state of our facility does not match the quality of what takes place within its four walls.

The proposed bond referendum begins to address the many structural issues here at FMS, the instructional home for our adolescents here in Hastings.”

*~Scott Wynne, Farragut Middle School Principal*





**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

“My hope is that this bond will pass so that we can provide safe conditions for our students, as well as additional opportunities for more individualized and collaborative instruction for our students.”

*~Melissa Shandroff, Science Teacher*







**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

“Our existing baseball field will see major improvements, including new dugouts, a backstop, and better drainage to ensure optimal playing conditions.

A brand-new synthetic turf softball field will be constructed with designated dimensions and shared batting tunnels, offering our athletes a dedicated space to train and compete at their best.”

*~Bobby Jennemann, HHS Student*





**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

“I have lived in Hastings for 40 years of my life. I've been a student in the Hastings School as a teacher and a coach. A turf field is just really something that should be part of a 21st century athletic program.

The kids would be proud of it. The coaches would be proud of it. We want to give our kids the best chance to succeed, and I think this is something that's really important for our Hastings community.”

*~Joe Vaccaro, FMS Science Teacher*



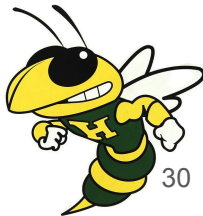




**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

“With your support we can make sure athletes across many sports get the resources they deserve. Turf fields aren’t just a luxury—they’re safer, they drain better, and they allow teams to keep playing when weather conditions are less than ideal. It is a consistent, reliable playing surface, free from the interruptions caused by weather. Turf also helps prevent injuries by offering better traction, reducing the wear and tear that natural grass fields can cause on athletes’ bodies.”

*~Siri Rosenberg, HHS Student*





**HASTINGS**  
Capital Bond  
June 17, 2025

"This facility is a grand old facility, but it needs a lot of attention to this point. We need attention for instructional space, our fields, and our cafeteria. This Capital Bond is a chance for all of us to come together and support what's best for our children now and our children of the future."

*~Superintendent Dr. William McKersie*



# Thank You!

Any questions?

