2026 Capital Project Edition

SchoolGram

KENMORE-TOWN OF TONAWANDA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

Proposed 2026 Capital Project









MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT & BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT

On Dec. 15, 2026, Ken-Ton School District residents will have the opportunity to vote on a proposed $67,249,100 capital project. This project focuses on expanding instructional and enrichment opportunities, maximizing health and safety, and investing in the community by enhancing wellness and recreation spaces.

This project is being timed so that new capital borrowing will coincide with old debt service retiring in order to minimize the impact on district taxpayers. This project is also being timed to leverage significant New York State Building Aid that is available now for specific buildings, which would otherwise go to another district.

With most of the cost coming from New York State Building Aid, the anticipated tax impact is only $16 per $100,000 of full market value annually. For a $250,000 home, this amounts to $3.33 per month.

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ANTICIPATED TAX IMPACT: $16/$100,000 OF FULL MARKET VALUE ANNUALLY

PROJECT PRIORITIES

ENRICHMENT
Expand instructional and enrichment opportunities through enhancements to classrooms, music rooms, and OT/PT spaces

WELLNESS
Invest in the community with new playgrounds and improvements to wellness/recreation spaces

SAFETY
Maximize health and safety through drop-off/pick-up improvements, consolidated health centers, and more

CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday,
December 15, 2026
at Hoover Middle School (use the Sheridan Drive entrance)

PUBLIC FORUMS

6 p.m. Tuesday,
December 1
at Kenmore East High School (enter through Door #1)

6 p.m. Thursday,
December 10
at Kenmore West High School (enter through Door #1)

For more information and to participate virtually in the public forums, visit www.ktufsd.org/CapitalProject

SCOPE OF WORK

FRANKLIN:



Instruction & Enrichment: Music room upgrades, enhanced occupational therapy/physical therapy (OT/PT) space, and science classroom upgrades

Community, Wellness & Recreation: New playground, pool repair or conversion to a wellness room, existing wellness room upgrades



Health & Safety: Consolidated health center, drop-off/pick-up connection to Lincoln Park road, auditorium air conditioning, new smoke detectors, new generator

HOOVER:



Instruction & Enrichment: Music room upgrades, Family & Consumer Sciences room upgrades, enhanced OT/PT therapy space, science classroom upgrades, art/business classroom upgrades, assistant principal/ counselor office rehab

Community, Wellness & Recreation: New playground, pool repair or conversion to a wellness room, new grass softball field



Health & Safety: Consolidated health center, expanded drop-off/pick-up loop, auditorium air conditioning, new smoke detectors

HAMILTON:



Instruction & Enrichment: Enhanced occupational therapy/ physical therapy space

Community, Wellness & Recreation: New wellness room



Health & Safety: New drop-off/pick-up loop, new bus unloading and loading lane, new secured entrance/main office layout, new water pipes, new smoke detectors, roof replacement, window replacement

LINDBERGH:

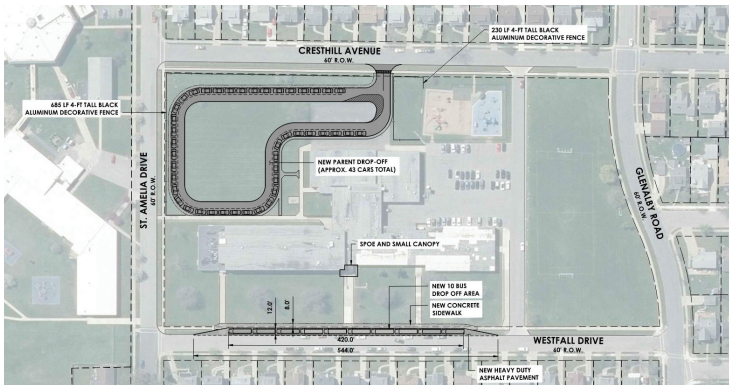


Instruction & Enrichment: Library renovations (LED lighting, paint/ flooring, new shelves)

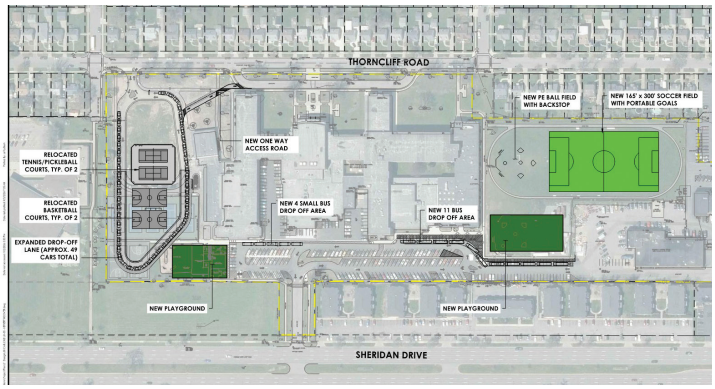
Health & Safety: New smoke detectors

Note: Buildings were selected for this project based on the availability of New York State Building Aid, which is dependent on factors such as enrollment, the number of classrooms, and how many years have passed since previous construction.

HAMILTON SITE PLAN*



HOOVER SITE PLAN*



**Modifications may be made as the project progresses. You can find high-resolution versions at www.ktufsd.org/CapitalProject*



$67,249,100 CAPITAL PROJECT

ANTICIPATED TAX IMPACT: $16/$100,000 OF FULL MARKET VALUE ANNUALLY

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Capital projects are designed to meet the extensive capital needs of the district's aging school buildings, which are between 60 and 100 years old. Just as homeowners must make investments and repairs in their own home as time goes by, so too does the school district need to make investments and capital improvements in its schools. By organizing this work into a voter-approved capital project, it is able to be funded primarily through New York State Building Aid, offsetting much of the cost.

This project will build upon the work of previous ones, which included upgraded athletic facilities/auditoriums, enhanced technology infrastructure, more secured entrances, new water pipes, modifications for safer drop-off/pick-up, and critical maintenance projects that have preserved the life of our school buildings for years to come. The proposed project is focused on three priorities: expanding instructional and enrichment opportunities, investing in the community through improved recreation and wellness spaces, and maximizing health/safety.

We will host public forums at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1 at Kenmore East and at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10 at Kenmore West. All residents are invited to participate in order to ask questions and comment on the project. The public forums will be broadcast over YouTube Live with residents able to take part via the Chat feature. The link will be posted at **www.ktufsd.org/CapitalProject**.



Sabatino Cimato, Superintendent



Matthew Chimera, Board President

With strong institutional traditions and a proud history dating back 130 years, Ken-Ton is known for its outstanding programs and services, talented and dedicated staff, and strong community partnerships. With the continued support of the Ken-Ton community, we will achieve our vision of a community that creates dynamic learners who possess social awareness, confidence, and a belief in their power to succeed.

VOTING INFORMATION

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

- Voters must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote.
- Those who are not registered to vote will need to complete an affidavit confirming that they are a qualified voter.
- Photo ID and proof of citizenship, age, and residency are required for those who are not registered.

EARLY MAIL/ABSENTEE BALLOTS

- Contact the District Clerk at (716) 874-8400 ext. 20342 for an early mail or absentee ballot application. Those on the permanent absentee ballot list do not need to apply for an absentee ballot. Applications that are sent through the mail must be received no later than Dec. 8, 2026. Early mail/absentee ballots must arrive no later than 5 p.m. the day of the vote on Dec. 15, 2026.

CONCEPTUAL RENDERINGS*

Franklin Playground







Hoover Playground (Elementary Side)





Hoover Playground (Middle Side)





**Conceptual renderings only. Designs will be further refined/finalized. Find high-resolution versions at www.ktufsd.org/CapitalProject.*





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Superintendent of Schools

Sign up to receive the Ken-Ton Weekly Connection, a weekly update from Superintendent Sabatino Cimato for the Ken-Ton School District community, at www.ktufsd.org/connection

Ken-Ton
A First Rate Community
Where Community Counts!

VOTE 7 A.M. TO 9 P.M. TUESDAY, DEC. 15 AT HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL (USE THE SHERIDAN ENTRANCE)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is the district pursuing a capital project?

The Ken-Ton School District is committed to providing a safe learning environment and well-maintained facilities for students and families as well as the community. Just as homeowners have to invest in maintaining their homes, so does the district need to invest in maintaining its schools. Additionally, there is significant New York State Building Aid available for improvements at certain buildings which would otherwise go to another school district.

How will the project be funded? What will the tax impact be?

A large portion of the project will be funded through New York State Building Aid, a source of funding that can only be used for capital work. The remainder will be funded through low-interest 15-year bonds. Because so much of the project will be covered by NYS Building Aid, the estimated tax impact is only $16 per $100,000 of full market value annually.

How were the buildings selected?

Buildings were selected in large part based on how much New York State Building Aid is available for them. The state has a complex system for determining how much funding specific buildings are eligible for. This changes over time and is dependent on factors including enrollment, the number and layout of classrooms, and how much funding was received over the past few years. For example, Hoover currently has a great deal of available building aid while a school like Lindbergh has very little.

How were the items selected?

Items were selected based on the district's goal of expanding instructional and enrichment opportunities, maximizing health/safety, and enhancing the community. Other items were identified through our Building Condition Survey (BCS), which is required by the state every five years to assess and prioritize critical safety upgrades and building preservation needs.

What is happening with the pools at Franklin/Hoover?

Both pools are in need of significant repair, especially the Franklin pool which recently had to be closed and emptied. The cost of repairing the pools is currently unknown but expected to be very high (well in excess of $1 million per pool). If the cost is prohibitively high, an alternate option being explored is converting the pools into wellness/recreation spaces.

How will the project impact arrival/dismissal?

Enhancements to improve traffic flow/safety during arrival and dismissal are a major component of the project. At Hoover, the parent loop will be expanded and connected to the bus loop while improvements will be made to the rear parking lot to better accommodate buses. At Franklin, the rear parking lot will be connected to the road that runs through Lincoln Park to alleviate traffic issues along Parkhurst. And at Hamilton Elementary, a new parent loop and bus unloading/loading lane will be constructed.

How can I learn more about the project?

Participate in one of two public hearings (6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1 at Kenmore East and 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10 at Kenmore West) or visit **www.ktufsd.org/CapitalProject**.





