

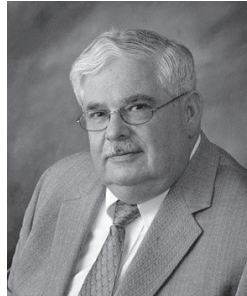
SPECIAL CAPITAL PROJECT EDITION

Letter from the Superintendent & Board of Education President

On Tuesday, December 9, 2014, you will have the opportunity to vote on Phase II of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District Capital Project. This proposal is designed to maintain our aging buildings, assess the role learning environments have in supporting our student success, and address the prioritized identified needs of our facilities. Phase II will continue the work that was accomplished as part of Phase I, which is scheduled to be completed on time by the end of the year, and under budget.



Dawn Mirand,
Superintendent



Bob Dana,
Board President

For the past several months, we have been engaged in a collaborative process to assess improvements needed for the learning environments in our district. Addressing buildings and facilities needs while minimizing the financial impact on our residents and businesses remained an important factor in this process. Our study team was comprised of Board of Education members, teachers and administrators, with assistance from our architectural and construction partners. This will be presented to community residents in two separate propositions.

Both propositions will be voted on separately. Proposition 1 includes new and emerging capital priorities that were not addressed in Phase I, as well as work identified by a detailed architectural review of our building conditions. Areas addressed in Proposition 1 include building envelope improvements, health and safety upgrades, technology improvements, and academic program enhancements. By using state aid

that is available for capital projects and our Capital Reserve, Proposition 1 will have **no tax impact**. Areas addressed in Proposition 2 include upgrades to our athletic facilities and auditoriums. Proposition 2 will result in a small tax increase of about \$1 a month, for a \$100,000 market value house. It is

important for voters to know that Proposition 2 cannot pass without approval for Proposition 1.

Please review the information in this newsletter to learn more about the project and the vote on Tuesday, December 9. If you have questions regarding the project that are not answered in these pages, please visit the District website at www.kenton.k12.ny.us to find the link to the "Capital Project" page in the main navigation bar.

Phase II of the Capital Project is aligned with the Board of Education's goal of achieving financial and capital sustainability while supporting learning environments so that all of our students achieve mastery. Your participation in this important vote is appreciated. Thank you for your continued support for Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda School District.

Sincerely,
Bob Dana,
Board of Education President

Dawn Mirand,
Superintendent



VOTE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014 FROM 7 A.M. TO 9 P.M. AT HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

CAPITAL PROJECT: PHASE II

Phase II of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD Capital Project consists of two propositions: Proposition 1 and Proposition 2. **Proposition 2 cannot pass without approval for Proposition 1.**

PROPOSITION 1

FACILITY AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

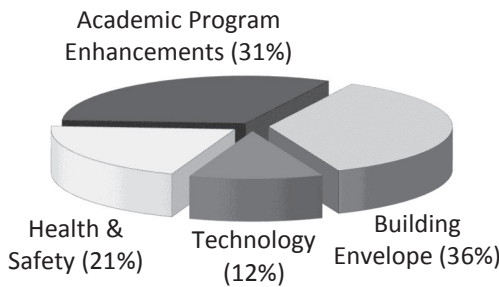
Project Scope Highlights:

- Building envelope upgrades (e.g. doors, windows, masonry, roof)
- HVAC, Life Safety System upgrades
- Computer lab upgrades
- Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades for increased accessibility
- New gym/locker room addition at Ken-East
- New parking lot at Ken-East (on Fries Road) and Ken-West (on Highland Parkway)
- Locker replacements at Ken-West
- Additional room renovations at Ken-East and Ken-West to support new grade level configuration (8-12) beginning in 2016
- New bus loops at Ken-West and Lindbergh
- Sewer system upgrade at Edison

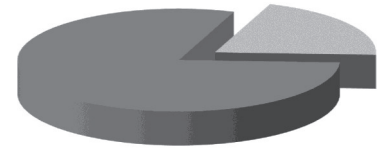
Breakdown by Location:

Edison Elementary	7%
Franklin Elementary	6%
Hoover Elementary	11%
Lindbergh Elementary	13%
Franklin Middle	11%
Hoover Middle	13%
Ken-East	25%
Ken-West	14%

Breakdown by Function:



Financial Plan:



- State Aid (79.8%)
- Capital Reserve (20.2%)

Total Cost: \$29,890,000
State Aid: \$23,840,000
Local Share: \$ 6,050,000

NO TAX IMPACT

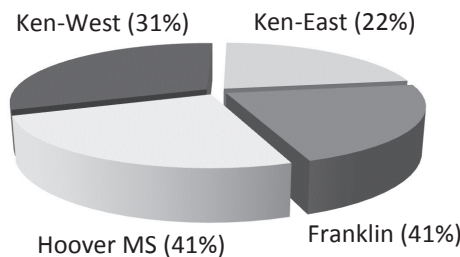
PROPOSITION 2

ARTS AND ATHLETICS IMPROVEMENTS

Project Scope Highlights (Auditoriums):

- Interior façade (e.g. walls, carpet, doors)
- Seating
- Stages and control booths
- Sound systems, acoustics and lighting

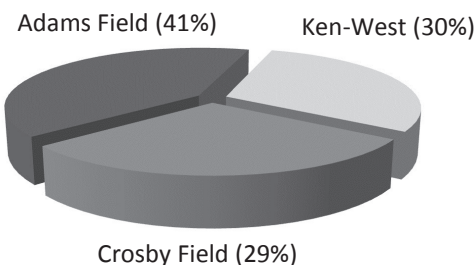
Auditoriums by Location:



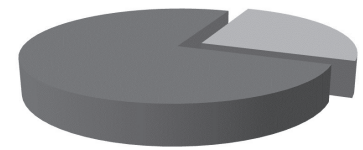
Project Scope Highlights (Athletics):

- Artificial turf at Adams, Crosby and Ken-West fields
- Re-grading and re-sodding of practice fields
- Concessions, restrooms and seating

Athletics by Location:



Financial Plan:



- State Aid (75%)
- Local Share (25%)
- Total Cost: \$21,671,000
- Financing totally from borrowing
- 75% reimbursed by state aid
- Tax rate increase of \$0.26/ thousand

COST TO \$100,000 MARKET VALUE HOUSE: ABOUT \$1/MONTH

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why is the District having a bond vote?

A. Ken-Ton Schools is committed to providing a safe learning environment and well-maintained facilities for students and public use. Just as one's home ages and needs upkeep and repairs to keep it in good shape, so too do our schools. Many routine repairs and projects are funded within the annual District budget, with local taxpayers bearing the full cost. Large repairs and educational upgrades, such as those included in Proposition 1, would have a major impact on the tax rate if included in the annual District budget. A bond issue is a fiscally responsible alternative, because the State reimburses Ken-Ton UFSD approximately 79.8% of the cost and the expense is spread out over a longer period of time.

Q. How were the project's components chosen?

A. Every five years, all school districts are required by the State to have a certified architect review the condition of their buildings and grounds. In 2008, our architectural consultant, Gordon W. Jones Associates, examined Ken-Ton's facilities and "red flagged" a significant portion of renovations that were needed throughout the District. That became the basis of a multi-phased capital construction program. Phase I was undertaken following a successful community referendum vote in December 2009. Construction work on this initial phase will be complete in the next few months.

Planning for Phase II started in 2013 with a detailed architectural review and became more focused when the District's consolidation plans were enacted in spring of 2014. This next phase would primarily include:

- 1) New and emerging priorities for preserving District buildings and necessary renovations that were not addressed in Phase I of the project
- 2) Renovation work defined in the most recent Building Conditions Survey that address safety concerns, code compliance, building envelope (roofs and exterior wall systems), academic program enhancements and District-wide instructional technology needs
- 3) Upgrades to the facilities that support arts and athletic education activities

Q. What is the total cost of this proposed project and how will it affect my taxes?

A. The total budget for Proposition 1 is \$29,890,000, to be financed by a combination of State Building Aid and the District's Capital Reserve Fund – a fund that is specifically in place for district capital construction projects. Proposition 1 results in NO TAX IMPACT to district residents and businesses.

The total budget for Proposition 2, which includes upgrades to the District's auditoriums and athletic fields, is \$21,617,000 to be financed by a combination of State Building Aid and Local Share. The Local Share portion of the financing is expected to result in \$.26/thousand increase to the tax levy. The result is expected to be about \$1/month on a \$100,000 market value house.

Q. Isn't state aid just my tax dollars too?

A. Yes, it is. However, this is an opportunity to keep some of those tax dollars in our own community, working to improve the educational setting for our children and the public. The New York State Legislature has given all Districts in the state an opportunity to use tax dollars to enhance their communities through school building improvements and renovations.

Q. In April, the District decided to consolidate school facilities to save money – why are we now spending money?

A. It's true... Ken-Ton is consolidating facilities to save money. However, the money saved through consolidation will affect the annual operating costs of the District, while capital project money is separately funded. Each school building has infrastructure needs and educational programs that have been carefully planned to address facility needs on a long-term, capitalized basis. Many of these needs are addressed in this capital project.

Q. What if the referendum does not pass?

A. Based on the age and condition of parts of our buildings, most renovations included in this project would still be necessary. If the referendum does not pass, the District would have to accomplish much of this work without the benefit of the State's Building Aid. Therefore, any renovation work would have to be funded within the annual District budget, with local taxpayers bearing the full cost.

Q. When will the work take place?

A. It's expected that State Education Department's approval for the project will be received by late 2015 with the bulk of work starting in summer 2016. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in 2018-19.

Q. Where can I learn more about the project?

A. The District has created a number of opportunities where you can learn about the project before making an informed decision on December 9:

- The District's website: www.kenton.k12.ny.us
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/kentonufsd
- Public Meeting: Monday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Hoover Middle School
- District events
- Informational cards in school building lobbies
- Call the Superintendent's office at (716) 874-8400
- Email questions to capitalproject@kenton.k12.ny.us

Answers to additional questions will be posted on the website

PUBLIC MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE:

At 7 p.m. Monday, December 1, 2014, at Hoover Middle School, 249 Thorncliff Road

You can go to www.kenton.k12.ny.us to view the presentation and email additional questions regarding the project to capitalproject@kenton.k12.ny.us



KENMORE-TOWN OF TONAWANDA UFSD
1500 COLVIN BLVD.
BUFFALO, NY 14223-1196

Board of Education

Bob Dana, *President*
 Stephen Brooks, *Vice President*
 Todd Potter, *Trustee*
 Annemarie Gibson, *Trustee*
 Jill O'Malley, *Trustee*

Dawn Mirand,
Superintendent

Regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and usually begin at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Call 874-8400 ext. 20338 to confirm time and location.



VOTE DATE: Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Hoover Middle School, 249 Thorncliff Road

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS:

- Registered to vote by 5 days prior to December 9, 2014
- U.S. Citizen
- 18 years of age or older
- District resident for at least 30 days prior to December 9, 2014
- Proof of citizenship, age, and residency required

ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION:

- Contact the District Clerk at 874-8400 ext. 20338 for an absentee ballot application. Those who already receive absentee ballots do not need to apply. Applications must be received no later than 7 days prior to December 9, 2014.
- Absentee ballots must arrive no later than 5 p.m. on December 9, 2014.

SAMPLE BALLOT

PROPOSITION No. 1
RENOVATIONS, ADDITIONS AND UPGRADES
DISTRICT BUILDINGS AND SITES

RESOLVED, that (a) the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District (the "District") is hereby authorized to undertake the first component of a proposed two-part capital improvements project involving the reconstruction and renovation of, and the construction of improvements, additions and upgrades to, various District buildings and facilities (and the sites thereof) to implement various health, safety, accessibility and code compliance measures and various other measures included and generally described in (but not to be limited by) the Proposition 1 Plan that is referred to in the public notice of the vote on this Proposition No. 1 (the "Proposition 1 Project"), and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$29,890,000; (b) the District is authorized to expend or apply (in its current fiscal year) \$6,050,000 from the District's Capital Improvements Reserve Fund to finance a portion of such estimated maximum cost; (c) a tax is hereby voted in an amount not to exceed \$23,840,000 to finance the balance of the estimated maximum cost of the Proposition 1 Project, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; (d) in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$23,840,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and (e) New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds, to the extent received, shall be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

Yes No

PROPOSITION No. 2
RENOVATIONS, EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT
ARTS/ATHLETIC FACILITIES

If Proposition No. 1 presented herewith shall be approved by the voters of the District, shall the following resolution also be adopted and approved (please note that this Proposition No. 2, even if approved by the voters of the District, will have no effect, and this proposed work will not be undertaken, unless Proposition No. 1 is also approved), to wit: RESOLVED, that (a) the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District (the "District") is hereby authorized to undertake the second component of a proposed two-part capital improvements project involving the renovation, upgrade, expansion and further development of arts and athletics venues, facilities and sites in the District, to implement various health, safety, accessibility and code compliance measures and various other measures included and generally described in (but not to be limited by) the Proposition 2 Plan that is referred to in the public notice of the vote on this Proposition No. 2 (the "Proposition 2 Project"), and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$21,671,000; (b) a tax is hereby voted in an amount not to exceed \$21,671,000 to finance such estimated maximum cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; (c) in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$21,671,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and (d) New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds shall, to the extent received, be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

Yes No