



**Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda
Union Free School District**

Technology Services Department

Smart Schools Investment Plan Proposal: Fall-Spring 2015/16
Kenmore Tonawanda Union Free School District

The Smart Schools Bond Act of 2014 (SSBA) was passed in the 2014-15 Enacted Budget and approved by New York State voters in a statewide referendum held during the 2014 General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The Smart Schools Bond Act authorized the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure to improve learning and opportunity for students throughout the state. The following is the Kenmore-Tonawanda School District's initial plan to use our district allocation in our continuing effort to achieve our school district vision.

VISION:

In an highly productive learning environment, the technology department will create and sustain a Professional Learning Community that embraces the (International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards. The District prepares students by providing them with opportunities to be successful academically, to be ready for careers in a global economy and to be contributing members of society. Our goal is to develop students who are motivated to pursue learning throughout their lives. Technology can provide productivity and efficiency in communication, budget preparation, facility operations, management, data analysis, and in the assessment process. We will train our staff in developing the skills needed to effectively utilize the district's technology tools with confidence. We will integrate technology into all aspects of our organization in order to support a collaborative learning environment.

Smart Schools Investment Plan Timeline:

Winter 2015: Preliminary Plan

November 16- Dec 18 Stakeholder Meetings; Preliminary Plan Established
January 9-February 9: Preliminary Plan Posted on District Website (30 days)
January 14: KTUFSD Board of Education Meeting: Preliminary Plan Approval

Winter 2016 : Final Plan Preparation

February 9: Board of Education Meeting; Public Notice and Hearing
February 9-March 8: Final Plan Preparation; Final Plan Posted on District Website
March 8: Board of Education Meeting: Final Plan Approval
March 9: Submission to New York State Dept of Education

Spring 2016

March-June : New York State Technology Department Smart Schools Quarterly Review



Section 1: School Connectivity (broadband and wireless)

- The Kenmore-Tonawanda School District intends to use SSBA funds for high-speed broadband and wireless connectivity projects in all school buildings. We plan to build a state of the art wireless network at all schools. The current wireless network was designed using a coverage model. Our intent is to transfer to a density model over the next three years to accommodate the transition to a 1 to 1 technology program.
- Ken-Ton is in the midst of a personalized learning initiative. We believe that technology is the avenue to provide students with an individualized experience. As such, we are prioritizing capable infrastructure from 2015-19. Our infrastructure upgrade will touch every learning environment that students encounter each day. The district has plans to rebuild the network infrastructure of each school to accommodate the increased need for bandwidth. The central goal is to provide an environment capable of supporting seamless integration of instructional technology.
- We currently exceed the Federal Communications Commission minimum speed standard of 100Mbps per 1,000 students in each school setting.
- Kenmore-Tonawanda now considers wireless a mission-critical service. With our personalized learning initiative in place and growing, progressive instruction requires a robust wireless system. The current system in Ken-Ton was designed when coverage was the main concern. Now, client density is the primary need. With thirty 1:1 devices, thirty personal devices, and several laptops, classrooms have the potential to see eighty clients simultaneously. This figure is on the extremely dense end of the spectrum and was quantified using class roster size, 1:1 distribution, shared cart distribution, and student survey data. We believe we need to be prepared to handle this density and provide a seamless wireless experience.
- This infrastructure initiative will better prepare the district for computer-based testing. We are planning to field test NYS exams on computers during the Spring 2016 exam administration and will use the SSBA funding to prepare the district infrastructure to accommodate the process.
- School connectivity project SSBA allocation : Approximately 1.5 million dollars



Section 2: Installation of High-Tech Security Features

- As noted in the 2015 Kenmore-Tonawanda SAVE Policy,

The Board of Education (“board”) is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive and district personnel may deliver quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal. The District has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty and integrity.

- The Kenmore-Tonawanda School district will continue our efforts to secure all buildings anytime students are present. To facilitate this goal, we plan to install additional electronic camera systems in hallways and entrances.
- The District will additionally maintain security on its properties with installation of digital security cameras in parking lots and athletic fields.
- The District continues to work with architects to redesign the main entrances of all district facilities to make them more secure yet functional for ingress and safe for egress.
- Installation of High-Tech Security Features Allocation: Approximately \$750,000



Section 3: Inclusion of Non-Public Schools:

Kenmore-Tonawanda Technology Department Representatives will consult with nonpublic schools within their district boundaries as part of their engagement with stakeholders prior to the finalization of this Smart Schools Investment Plan.

The guidance further defines technology purchase in relation to Non-public entities :

“Upon request, school districts must loan, at no charge, classroom technology obtained as part of the Smart Schools Bond Act, including interactive whiteboards, and desktop, laptop and tablet computers, to children attending nonpublic schools located within their district boundaries.”

However, should said technology purchase occur, Kenmore-Tonawanda UFSD authorities shall specify the date by which requests for the purchase and loan of Smart Schools Bond Act classroom technology must be received by the District. Adequate notice of the required request date will be given to all non-public schools located in the school district.

The timeline for the Smartschools Project is as follows:

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Jan 14		Feb 9		March 8	March 9
Preliminary Investment Plan Presented	Preliminary Plan posted to District Website	Preliminary investment Plan- Public Hearing-BOE	Final Plan posted to District Website	Final Plan Approval at BOE Mtg	NYS Submission
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