A capital project is an important undertaking for any school district, and it is important that the project reflect not only the needs of the district, but the values and priorities of our entire community. Investing in your school district is not a task that should be taken lightly, and we want you to cast your vote with confidence in December.

With the completion of our New York State mandated Building Condition Survey, we have the commitment to preserve the community’s investment in our facilities while providing safe, secure facilities that are well maintained, up-to-date, and welcoming for our students, staff, and all community residents. Our work to improve our educational program and physical infrastructure must go hand-in-hand.

**QUICK FACTS**

**Capital Project Vote**
Thursday, December 9, 2021
7:00AM-8:00PM | High School Auditorium

**Public Information Meeting**
Tuesday, November 16, 2021
6:00PM | High School Auditorium

**Total Cost of Proposed Project**
$10,785,000 **(Minimal Tax Impact)**

**Purpose of the Capital Project**
- Facility Maintenance
- Maximize Financial Resources
- Prudent Fiscal Planning
PROJECT FINANCIALS

Minimal Tax Impact
Since the inception of the Tax Cap formula nearly a decade ago, one of the challenges for school districts has been to initiate new capital projects without significantly impacting the tax levy. At times it is nearly impossible to achieve this objective. However, the timing of this project will allow the Sauquoit Valley School District to undertake the work with minimal impact to the tax levy.

The tax burden or local share on our current debt for capital projects is approximately $200,000 annually. As a result of maturing debt in two years, the local share is scheduled to decrease significantly as illustrated by the blue section of the accompanying graph. Should the community approve the capital project on December 9, 2021, the green section of the graph represents the estimated local share for the new project through 2031-32. Combined with the local share of ongoing debt service of capital projects, it is expected that the local share will remain at about $200,000 per year.

One may conclude that without the new project the tax levy could be decreased in future years. However, as a majority of the project items are to address infrastructure needs or replacement of items at or near the end of their useful lives, the need for a capital project could only be delayed, not avoided.

As such, the current financial landscape makes this the right time to move forward with a capital project so as not to create swings in the tax levy.

Maximization of Financial Resources
The school district receives reimbursement from New York State for eligible expenditures of a capital project. Reimbursement is at a percentage rate established by state aid formulas. Currently our reimbursement rate is 89.1%.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

If we are taking good care of our buildings, why do we need a capital project?
The same wear and tear you encounter in your own home also happens to our District’s buildings and grounds. After 20+ years of repeated freezing and thawing, roofing starts to fail. After years of constant use, ventilation systems become unreliable and inefficient, and flooring that is used by hundreds of children daily just wear out. Our buildings have become outdated in other ways as well. School safety and security expectations have changed. These infrastructure needs are greater than the day-to-day maintenance our staff can provide and these are projects that the annual budget cannot support.

What’s a Building Condition Survey?
Every 5 years New York State mandates school districts perform a Building Condition Survey (BCS) to ensure that school facilities, which are subsidized by the State, are kept in optimal condition and safe working order. The BCS is an exhaustive process where all aspects of our campus and facilities are closely inspected. This inspection results in a comprehensive list of work provided to the school district to keep those facilities safe, up to code, and in optimal condition for the children who attend school. The scope of this project is almost entirely work identified by our recent Building Condition Survey.

What is Proposition #2 - “Enhance Building Aid on Energy Performance Contract”?
Included in the proposition is an Energy Performance Contract (EPC). In addition to further reducing the district’s energy consumption and significant savings on utility bills, the EPC project aims to enhance the educational environment for students and staff.

The community has the opportunity to vote and allow our District to receive additional state building aid if the proposition is approved.

Why do we need another capital project if we just finished one?
The most recent capital project was approved in January 2016 and completed in 2019. The district tries to do small to mid-sized projects more frequently. This provides the district with greater budget stability when managing debt and ensures projects are more manageable in terms of building logistics and regular maintenance needs. Again, most of the project scope is a result of our Building Condition Survey completed earlier this year. Additionally, the roofing replacements would take place in Summer 2022 and the reminder of the project will not be completed until December 2023.
PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

Elementary School
- Roof Replacement (2,003 SF)
- Ventilation Upgrades (Building Wide)
- Exterior Brick Masonry Repointing / Repairs / Replacements
- Replace Corridor Floor Tile
- Refinish Gym Wood Floors
- Replace Existing Floor with New Resilient Tiles (Selected Rooms)
- Plumbing Replacements

Middle School
- Entire Roof Replacement (42,000 SF)
- Gymnasium Ventilation Upgrades
- Exterior Brick Masonry Repointing / Repairs / Replacements
- Replace existing floor with new resilient tiles (Selected Rooms)
- Replace existing corridors, vestibules, lobbies and staircase floors with new epoxy terrazzo.
- Boys and Girls Locker Room: Minor Renovations for Gender Neutral Changing Areas
- Plumbing Replacements
- Upgrade Elevators and Controls
- Stadium Improvements and Turf Replacement
- Turf Field Drainage Improvements
- Access Road Repaving to Sulphur Springs
- Resurfacing of Track and Associated Areas

Bus Garage
- Roof Replacement (Entire Roof - Except Area Above Offices: 15,100 SF)
- Heating and Ventilation Upgrades
VOTER INFORMATION

What’s on the ballot?

PROPOSITION #1: Capital Project $10,785,000
Shall the proposition set forth in the legal notice of this special voter meeting, authorizing construction, reconstruction and equipping of existing school buildings and facilities, site and incidental improvements, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of $10,785,000; the issuance of debt obligations of the School District therefor, and the levy of a tax in annual installments therefor, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor, all as more fully described in said notice, be approved?

PROPOSITION #2: Enhance Building Aid on Energy Performance Contract
Resolved that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District is hereby authorized to request additional state aid for energy savings contract improvements under an energy savings performance contract to be separately authorized by the board of education; which energy savings contract requires additional voter approval to be eligible for additional enhanced state building aid.

Voter Eligibility
You may vote if you are 1) A United States citizen, 2) At least 18 years of age at the time of the vote, and 3) a legal resident of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District for 30 days preceding the vote.

Absentee Ballots
Absentee ballots are available through the District Office. An absentee ballot must reach the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m on December 9, 2021. For more information, call (315) 839-6311.

Visit www.svcasd.org for further updates and more information.