

SMART SCHOOL INVESTMENT PLAN

Uniondale Union Free School District

August 2019

Total Allocation \$3,813,985

Smart School Bond Act Overview

The Smart Schools Bond Act was passed in the 2014-15 Enacted Budget and approved by the voters in a statewide referendum held during the 2014 General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA) 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 purpose of the Smart Schools Bond Act is to improve learning and opportunity for public school students by funding capital projects to:

1. Install high-speed broadband or wireless internet connectivity for schools and communities;
2. Acquire learning technology equipment or facilities, including but not limited to interactive whiteboards, computer servers, and desktop, laptop, and tablet computers;
3. Construct, enhance, and modernize educational facilities to accommodate prekindergarten programs and to provide instructional space to replace classroom trailers; and/or
4. Install high-tech security features in school buildings and on school campuses, including but not limited to video surveillance, emergency notification systems, and physical access controls.

Plan Development

The Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan was developed at the same time that the plans for the community approved \$158M capital project were developed. The planning process included several stakeholders (district administrators, technology staff, teachers, Board of Education and community members). It was decided to use the funds for #3 listed above. This plan will be submitted for approval at the August 27th Board of Education meeting. Upon its approval, this plan will be posted on the District website for 30 days, during which time the community members can provide the District with any pertinent feedback. Subsequently, a finalized Smart Schools Investment Plan will be submitted to the New York State Education Department and will be posted on the district's website.

The decision to use the funds to construct, enhance, and modernize our educational facilities to accommodate prekindergarten programs and to provide instructional space to replace classroom trailers affects our district in several positive ways. Firstly, it brings prekindergarten students back into our district and enables them to attend their neighborhood elementary school. Secondly, it eliminates the leasing fees the district is incurring for classroom space in a neighboring public school district. Thirdly, it returns students to classrooms within the building instead of having them receive instruction in trailers.

Plan Summary

1. Replace classroom trailers and provide instructional space for the classes within the school building.
 - a. Removal of two trailers at Walnut Street Elementary School which houses 4 classrooms.
 - b. Provide new instructional space/classrooms at Walnut Street Elementary School for the classes held in the trailers.
 - c. Removal of one trailer at Grand Avenue Elementary School which houses 2 classrooms.
 - d. Provide new instructional space/classrooms at Grand Avenue Elementary School for the classes held in the trailer.

2. Construct, enhance, and modernize educational facilities to accommodate prekindergarten programs.
 - a. Construct new classrooms for the prekindergarten program at Walnut Street Elementary School.
 - a. Construct new classrooms for the prekindergarten program at Grand Avenue Elementary School.

Please email any comments or questions pertaining to this plan to:

ssip@uniondaleschools.org