



Skaneateles Central School District
Excellence in Education

Project 2021

Scope Summary by

Building

and

Common Questions

Cost Summary

\$36.5 million of design and construction for \$12.2 million

- Total cost not to exceed \$36.5M
- Calculations based on 95% of all items being eligible for state aid at 62.9%
- **~\$22M anticipated for state aid**
- \$2.25M capital reserve + \$110,000 gift to be applied
- **~\$12.2M local share to be paid over 18¹ years**
- Keeps current debt service payment flat
- *No additional taxes required to support this portion of the budget*

¹ Due to a change in scope at Waterman, the payment schedule is now 18 years. In previous iterations, the payment schedule was 20 years.

How is the Work Prioritized?

The Scope of the Project has been broken into 4 Categories:

1. ***Required Renovations*** *(noted on the following pages as RR)*

These areas are our highest priority based on health and safety concerns; deterioration due to age of the equipment/materials/space; risk of imminent failure due to age and/or conditions of the equipment/materials/space.

2. ***Proactive Renovations*** *(noted on the following pages as PR)*

These areas are known to be at or beyond warranty; will be in compromised condition in the near future; or will assist the district in being more efficient and effective in our operations and in our learning environments.

3. ***Program Enhancements*** *(noted on the following pages as PE)*

These areas are focused on improving instructional spaces including classrooms, auditoriums, and academic support rooms.

4. ***For Future Consideration*** These items are not included in this project and are therefore not listed.

High School

Constructed 1953 with additions in 1964, 1986 (High School and Middle School were combined in 2001)

Examples of Work in Priority Order Includes:

- Remediating campus-wide drainage system (RR)
- Constructing secure vestibule at front entry (RR)
- Replacing windows installed in 1986 (RR)
- Replacing sections of roof at end of or past warranty (RR)
- Replacing electrical panels originally installed in 1953 (RR)
- Replacing elevator and mechanicals (RR)
- Adding exterior lighting on walkways and in parking areas (RR)
- Miscellaneous maintenance and code compliance repairs and to interior and exterior walls, bathrooms, doors, sidewalks, and parking areas (RR)
- Installing a backup generator to run key systems and allow us to serve as an emergency shelter (shared with middle school) (PR)
- Remediating student parking lots and traffic flow (PR)
- Renovating/upgrading auditorium (PR/PE)
- Creating open student collaboration spaces (PE)
- Adding Press Box to Hyatt Field grandstands (*with costs to be partially offset by a financial gift to the district*) (PE)
- Opening up center stair case to allow smoother hallway transitions between classes (PE)

Middle School

Constructed 1972 (High School and Middle School were combined in 2001)

Examples of Work in Priority Order Includes:

- Remediating campus-wide drainage system (RR)
- Constructing secure vestibule at front entry (RR)
- Replacing windows originally installed in 1972 (RR)
- Replacing sections of roof at end of or past warranty (RR)
- Replacing electrical panels originally installed in 1972 (RR)
- Replacement of boilers originally installed in 1972 (RR)
- Reconstructing the existing gymnasium to serve as a multi-purpose facility (RR)
- Replacing elevator and mechanicals (RR)
- Adding exterior lighting on walkways and in parking areas (RR)
- Miscellaneous maintenance and code compliance repairs and to interior and exterior walls, bathrooms, doors, sidewalks, and parking areas (RR)
- Installing new classroom ceilings and lighting (RR)
- Creating open student collaboration spaces (PE)
- Upgrading Family and Consumer Science classroom (PE)

State Street Intermediate

Constructed 1953 with additions in 1994, 1997, 2008

Examples of Work in Priority Order Includes:

- Remediating campus-wide drainage system (RR)
- Constructing secure vestibule at front entry (RR)
- Replacing two (2) windows originally installed in 1953 (RR)
- Replacing sections of roof at end of or past warranty (RR)
- Replacing of electrical panels originally installed in 1953 (RR)
- Constructing new entrance/parent drop off on east side parking lot (RR)
- Adding exterior lighting on walkways and in parking areas (RR)
- Installing a safety net between baseball field and playground (RR)
- Miscellaneous maintenance and code compliance repairs and to interior and exterior walls, bathrooms, doors, sidewalks, and parking areas (RR)
- Expanding the second floor STEM classroom (PE)

Waterman Primary

Constructed 1966 with additions in 2001

Examples of Work in Priority Order Includes:

- Remediating basement/crawlspace drainage (RR)
- Constructing secure vestibule at front entry (RR)
- Remediating campus-wide drainage system (RR)
- Replacing boilers originally installed in 1966 (RR)
- Replacing windows originally installed in 1966 (RR)
- Replacing sections of roof at end of or past warranty (RR)
- Replacing electrical panels originally installed in 1966 (RR)
- Restoring exterior masonry (brick work) (RR)
- Adding exterior lighting on walkways and in parking areas (RR)
- Miscellaneous maintenance and code compliance repairs and to interior and exterior walls, bathrooms, doors, sidewalks, and parking areas (RR)
- Repairing sidewalks and parking lot (RR)
- Renovating/upgrading auditorium air handling and restored air conditioning (PR)
- Renovating locker rooms to classroom space (PE)

Transportation Center

Original Construction Date 1980 (est.) with addition in 2003

Examples of Work in Priority Order Includes:

- Reconstructing pavement and sidewalks (RR)
- Remediating interior and exterior drainage (RR)
- Miscellaneous maintenance and code compliance repairs and to interior and exterior walls, bathrooms, doors, sidewalks, and parking areas (RR)
- Replacing bus lift (RR)
- Installing backup generator to run key systems and allow us to serve as an emergency shelter (PR)
- Replacing bus wash system (PR)
- Replacing/relocating existing bathrooms (PR)

Questions on Project 2021

Q1. When is the vote and why is it not being held on the same day as the budget vote in May?

A1. The vote will be held from 7am-9pm on November 14, 2017. We chose this date based on the timeline that must be adhered to in order to get the project approved and to keep our payments the same as they currently are.

Q2. Where will the vote be held?

A2. The vote will be held in the District Offices at 45 East Elizabeth Street.

Q3. If I will not be in the district that day will absentee ballots be available?

A3. Absentee ballots will be available through Karen Dunphy, District Clerk. More information will be available shortly.

Q4. What exactly is being done in the project and why haven't we seen specific drawings yet?

A4. Each school building and the transportation center will have renovations, repairs, and reconstruction based on health and safety issues; code compliance issues; on proactive maintenance; and to improve the learning environment for our students. While some initial drawings are available, this typically does not happen until after the project is approved.

Q5. Why aren't the areas listed for the project being taken care of each year in the maintenance budget?

*A5. Largely because of state aid. While we do address a variety of areas in need of repair or replacement in our maintenance budget, this portion of the budget is really designed to address the day-to-day **upkeep** of the facilities. To repair or replace more complicated and more costly items such as window, boiler, and roof systems, the district designs a capital project like Project 2021 which, once approved by the state education department, allows us to receive state aid on our expenditures (almost \$.63 back on every dollar spent) thereby lowering the cost to the local taxpayers. With few exceptions, state aid is not available for items included in the maintenance budget.*

Q6. What is the total cost of the project, and what will that do to my taxes?

A6. While the Board has approved a not-to-exceed project cost of \$36.5 million, ***the actual cost to the taxpayers after state aid and the use of reserves and a bequest is approximately \$12.2 million dollars.*** *At this amount, because of the debt that we will pay off in 2021, no additional taxes are needed to support this portion of the district budget.*

Q7. Why doesn't the district continue to do smaller projects so that our taxes can go down each year?

A7. *Given the amount of priority work that has to be done, the state aid that is available, the current interest rates that are available, that we can likely get savings on materials because of the size of the project, and that we can keep our payments the same as they are now, the district chose to proceed with the full project. Smaller projects would cause a fluctuation in payments and the associated tax bills over the next several years.*

Q8. If we can't predict future enrollment, why are we still doing construction on all of our buildings?

A8. *While we are mindful of the changes in enrollment, we have to address the needs of each building and of our learners with what we currently know and can reasonably anticipate.*

Q9. How can we be sure that the project will be well-managed and that our tax dollars are being carefully watched?

A9. *We have hired a construction management firm – Turner Construction – whose sole function is to provide oversight of the contractors, construction, and budget of the project. In addition, Joe Butler is the capital projects administrator. Joe has many years of experience with capital projects and financing. In combination with Mr. Slentz's experience with school construction, the district will be well-served by this team. The team will continue to provide ongoing updates to the board of education, our community advisory committees, and the larger community.*

Q10. Does the project include any additions to our school buildings?

A10. *We have proposed the installation of a press box at the turf field and the reconstruction of the middle school gym as a multi-purpose facility within the existing footprint. Otherwise, no additions are included in the project.*

Q11. If the community supports the project on November 14, when will construction start?

A11. Our goal is to start construction as soon as possible and expect that most of the work will be done in the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years.

Q12. Didn't they fix the Middle School Gym in a previous project?

A12. No. While this was proposed in the project that was voted on in 2014, the project was defeated and therefore the work was not done. For a view of the current gymnasium and locker rooms, please see our middle school video on our website at www.skanschools.org.

Q13. Is the turf being replaced in this project?

A13. No. The turf will not be replaced until at least 2023 as we would not be able to get state aid until that time.

Q14. I just paid my school taxes and am worried that this project will make next year's tax bill even larger. What will the impact be?

A14. Please see page 2 for a cost breakdown and tax impact. In sum, this project has been designed so that no additional taxes will be needed to support this project.

Q15. What is this project doing to advance the district goals?

*A15. The 8 district strategies include a **Safe and Secure Facilities Strategy** which states that we will "Provide safe, secure, and welcoming school facilities by proactively planning for the maintenance and further development of our buildings in line with contemporary research, the current learning needs of our students, and future flexibility that is needed to accommodate a more innovative educational model." Further, careful planning of the project will further minimize unexpected costs associated with reactive repairs to areas thereby allowing us to increase our focus on the teaching and learning taking place within our schools.*

Have additional questions? Please let us know by sending your inquiry to us at kdunphy@skanschools.org or call us at 291-2221.