

Schenectady City School District

Long Range Renewal Program

Capital Project Phase I
Referendum March 25, 2014



INVESTING IN EQUITY

The Schenectady City School District Long Range Planning Renewal Program includes work to all of the district schools and will ensure regular ongoing maintenance, moderate reconstruction and renovation of school buildings. The plan addresses overcrowding in some schools, forecasted enrollment shifts across the city, equity issues and deteriorating conditions in some of the district's oldest schools.

In September 2016, the school grade level configurations will change to PreK-5, 6-8 and 9-12 schools. This plan has been adopted by the Board of Education and will be implemented in 2016.

Phase I includes renovations to Oneida, Mont Pleasant and Central Park so that they can open as grade 6-8 middle school in September 2016. Work will be done to create small learning communities within the schools and support the structure that is planned within the new grade level configuration. Classrooms will also be added to Howe to increase capacity so that the Early Childhood Education Center can be converted to a Pre-K-5 elementary school in 2016.

The district's latest Building Condition Survey (BCS) provides recommended improvements to address many building facility deficiencies. The Board of Education, our operations and maintenance staff and the architects have worked together for the almost two years to develop a plan to address each of the building's needs over the next 15 years.

In addition to the work at Oneida, Mont Pleasant, Central Park and Howe, Phase I will also include priority work at Van Corlaer Elementary School, Paige School and Steinmetz.

Phase I will cost \$70 million but will not increase taxes. The team has been conservative in planning. The most a Schenectady taxpayer would pay is \$1.14 per year on a home assessed at \$100,000.

Schenectady residents will vote on the \$70 million referendum on March 25, 2014.

Timeline

February 5, 2014: Board of Education Approves Resolution for \$70 Million Capital Project Referendum to take place on March 25, 2014.

March 25, 2014: Schenectady Residents Vote on Referendum.

March 25, 2015: Bid Period for Renovations at Mont Pleasant and Oneida.

April 2015: New Attendance Zones will be determined. *There will not be any changes to Attendance Zones prior to September 2016.*

June 2015: Project Work will begin on school buildings.

September 2016: New school grade configurations are in place.

Central Park, Mont Pleasant & Oneida open as Grade 6-8 Middle School. Howe opens as PreK-5 elementary school.

Age of SCSD Schools

Projected Schedule for Long Term Renewal Program

Building	Year Built	Age	Anticipated Capital Project Work
Elmer Avenue	1905	109	Building in extremely poor condition. Not recommended to invest in building. Set to close in 2016
Fulton	1905	109	TBD
Lincoln	1908	106	TBD
Steinmetz	1908	106	Phase I – 2014 Phase II - 2017
Central Park	1910	104	Phase I – 2014
Van Corlaer	1910	104	Phase I – 2014 Phase IV-2023
Yates	1913	101	Phase II – 2017 Phase IV- 2024
Hamilton	1914	100	Phase II - 2017
Oneida	1917	97	Phase I – 2014
Pleasant Valley	1922	93	Phase IV - 2023
Howe	1923	91	Phase I -2014 Phase IV - 2024
Mont Pleasant	1930	84	Phase I - 2014
Paige	1953	61	Phase I – 2014 Phase III - 2020
Keane	1954	60	Phase II - 2017
Zoller	1955	59	Phase III - 2020
Schenectady HS	1957	57	Phase III - 2020
ML King	1966	48	Phase III - 2020
Woodlawn	1972	42	Phase III - 2020

Overview

Phase 1 – March, 2014 - December, 2017

1

Mont Pleasant:	\$25.0M
Oneida:	\$22.4M
Central Park:	\$3.6M
Howe:	\$9.0M
Van Corlaer:	\$7.1M
Paige:	\$1.4M
Steinmetz:	\$1.4M

Proposed Budget

\$70M

Phase 2 – February 2017-December, 2019

2

Keane:	\$10-15M
Yates:	\$7.5M
Pleasant Valley:	\$8.3M
Hamilton:	\$7.9M
Steinmetz:	\$17.5M
Other:	\$2M

Potential Budgets

\$53-58M

Phase 3 – February 2020-December, 2022

3

High Schools:	\$30M
Woodlawn:	\$4.8M
Zoller:	\$7.8M
MLK:	\$8M
Paige:	\$7.9M
Other:	\$2M

\$60.5M

Phase 4 – February 2023-December, 2026

4

Pleasant Valley:	\$8.3M
Howe:	\$5M
Yates:	\$7.5M
Van Corlaer:	\$8M
Middle Schools:	\$20M

\$50.8M

The Project at a Glance

Oneida School \$22.4 Million

- Install new partitions
- Install new door/window assemblies
- Install ceilings
- Provide new bathrooms, HVAC, lighting and plumbing
- Install new stair assembly
- Install lockers in each small learning community
- Reconstruct existing bathrooms
- Install science lab tables, counters, sinks, enhanced electrical and IT
- Provide new entry canopy structure
- Provide new driveway
- Provide new bus parking
- Provide new sidewalk
- Provide finishes, ceiling lighting and HVAC distribution
- Remove existing gym equipment. Install new partitions, library casework, floor, wall, ceiling finishes, HVAC, electrical and IT infrastructure
- Install light fixtures in classrooms and corridors
- Replace exterior windows and doors



Mont Pleasant School \$25 Million

- Provide new partitions
- Install new window and door assemblies
- Relocate columns
- Install lockers
- Provide HVAC, lighting and IT technology
- Reconstruct new bathrooms, fixtures, lighting, HVAC and infrastructure
- Remove existing classroom infrastructure.
- Provide new office and locker room
- Install new stairs, ramps and handrails
- Install new partition and door assembly
- Install science lab tables, counters, sinks, enhanced electrical & IT
- Patch and paint walls
- Install light fixtures in classrooms and corridors
- Provide improvements as outlined in Building Condition Survey



Howe School \$ 9 Million

- Remove stage floor, kitchen equipment and infrastructure. Provide new floor assembly at gym floor level. Provide food holding, warming and serving line equipment, wall mounted retractable tables, gym divider curtain and access door to the elevator.
- Remove roof structure, ceiling and lighting.
- Provide new ceiling and lighting
- Provide new second floor addition and structure for foundations, columns, floor, wall and roof structure.
- Replace HVAC and lighting
- Remove existing stair assembly and provide ramp and handrail assembly.
- Provide new stair tower and stair assembly.
- Provide new wall mounted, retractable tables and athletic wall pads.
- Patch and paint walls.
- Provide new partition doors, floor, wall and ceiling finishes.
- Provide integrated security door hardware and camera/phone systems.



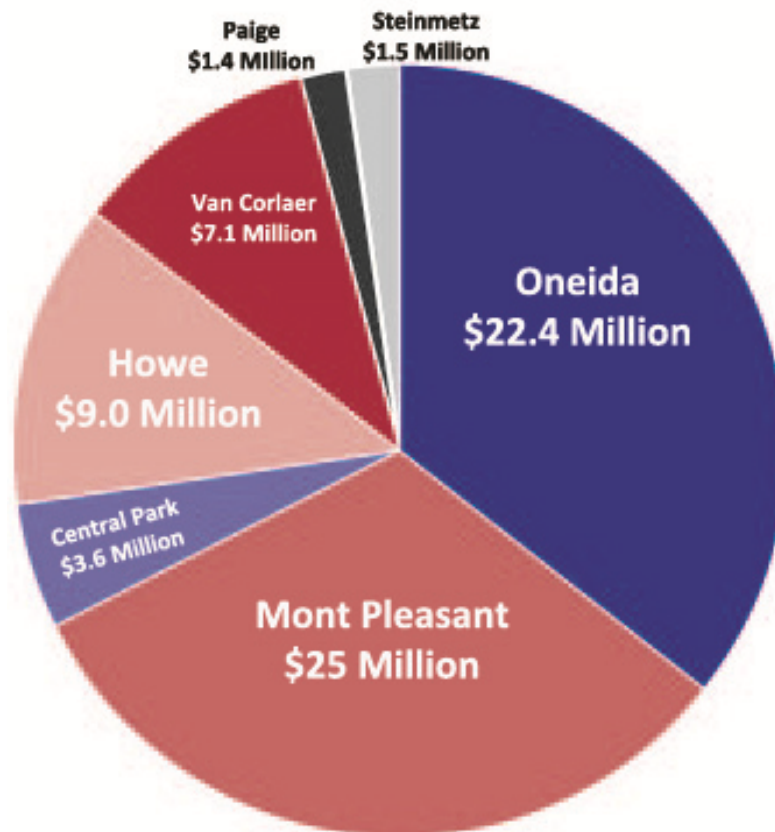
Van Corlaer School \$7.1 Million

- Renovate ground floor classrooms
- Relocate faculty room
- Install new exterior door
- Install ADA elevator
- Create small group rooms
- Install skylights at second floor and stage area rooms
- Install new elevator and lobby
- Install new ADA bathroom
- Install portable stage
- Infrastructure improvement as per BCS



Central Park School \$3.6 Million

- Install additional lockers
- Install science lab tables, counters, sinks, enhanced electrical and IT, HVAC and lighting
- Repurpose existing science labs to art and technology classrooms
- Reconfigure current bathrooms and provide ADA access
- Install light fixtures in classrooms
- Infrastructure improvement as per BCS



Funding

INVESTING IN EQUITY

While the cost of Phase I work is \$70 million, it will not have any impact on the tax rate. The New York State Education Department provides funding to school districts for renovation projects and facility needs.

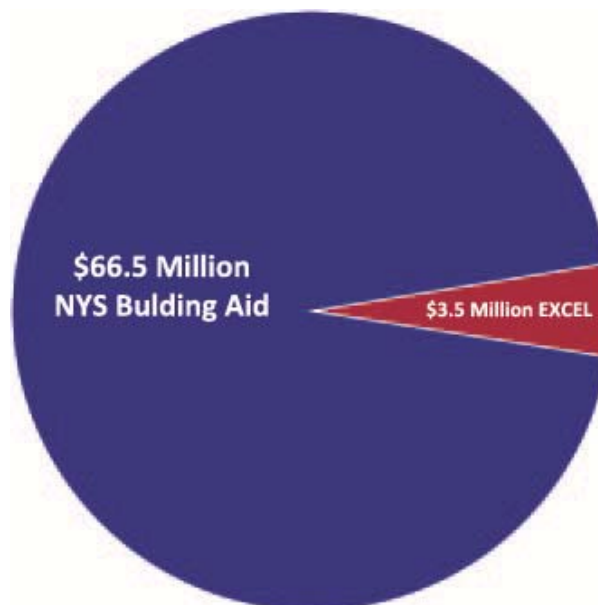
Schenectady receives at least 95% state building aid, which means the district receives \$66.5 million toward this project. The local share would be \$3.5 million. However, that cost is offset by \$3.5 million in EXCEL funds.

The impact on the local tax rate of a home assessed at \$100,000 will be between \$0.00 and \$1.14 annually.

\$70.0 Million Total Project Cost

- \$66.5 Million Building Aid (95%)
- \$ 3.5 Million Balance (Local Share)
- \$ 3.5 Million EXCEL Aid

= \$ 0.0 Balance (Local Share)



How can we complete \$70 million worth of work and not impact the tax rate? Since you pay sales tax and income tax as a resident of the state, you have already contributed to the fund that supports school building projects. Money is reserved in a state fund for all schools to complete projects such as the ones being proposed here. Districts are encouraged to take care of their school buildings and to use the money to invest in their infrastructure. You are paying the taxes whether or not our referendum is approved. This is an opportunity for us to get our fair share of building aid.

Building aid is very different from education aid (Foundation Aid). While Schenectady is significantly shortchanged in the amount of education aid we receive, the district does get a fair distribution of building aid. The funding set aside for building aid can only be used to improve, repair, renovate and construct educational spaces. It can only be used on school buildings and infrastructure needs. The money cannot be used like education aid to fund programs, staffing, learning resources, supplies or materials.

Changes to Grade Configurations & Attendance Zones

No changes to attendance zones or school grade configurations will take place prior to the fall of 2016.

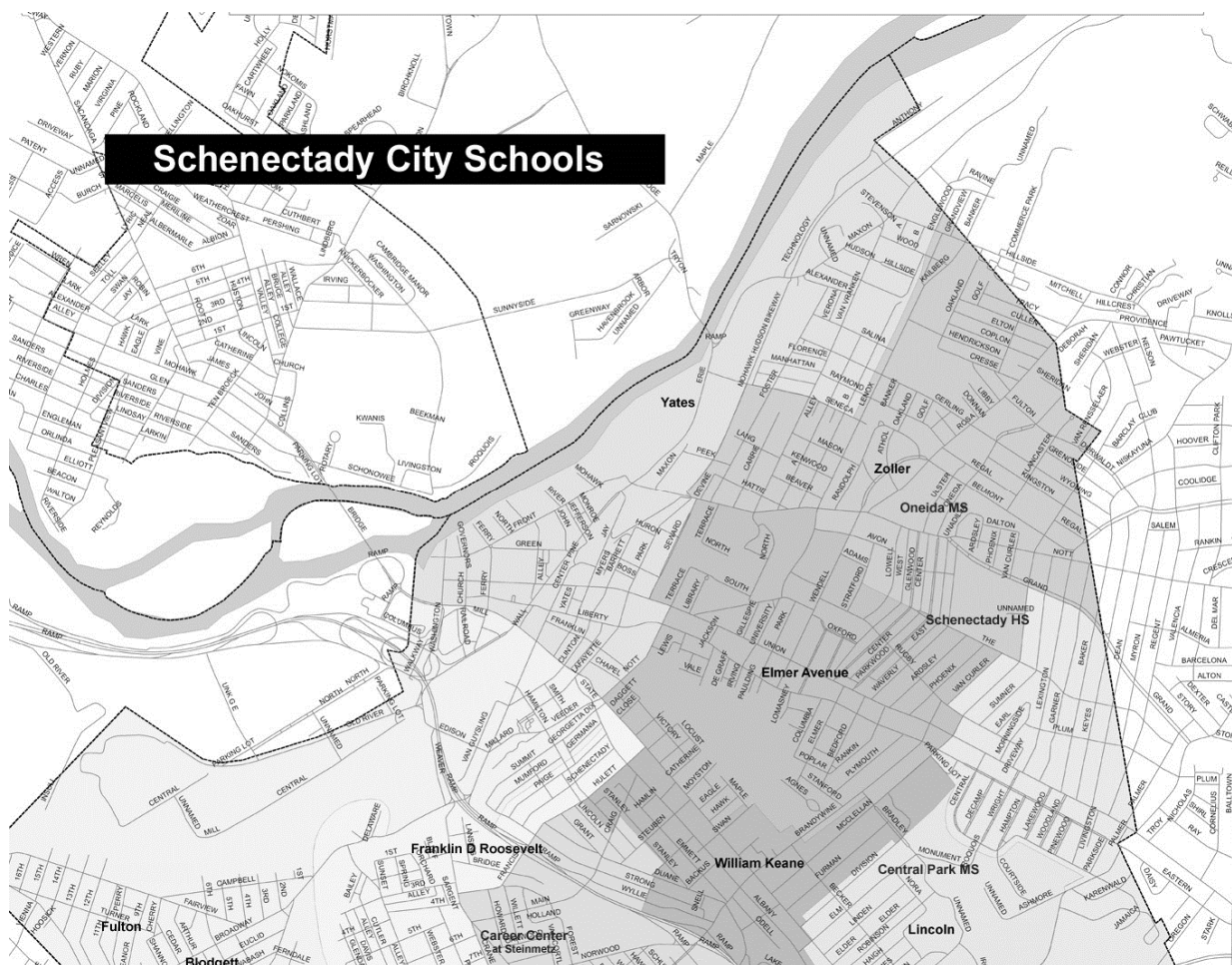
In the fall of 2016, Elmer Avenue and FDR will close. Howe will open as a PreK-5 elementary school and Central Park, Mont Pleasant and Oneida will open as 6-8 middle schools. All of our elementary schools will be reconfigured to PreK-5.

Attendance Zones

A team of stakeholders, demographers, experts and educators will be working on how the district attendance zones will be reshaped. This must be done to consider the forecasted population shifts in the city, to account for the changes in the grade configurations as well as the closing of two elementary schools. The process of determining and re-drawing the zones is complex and will take more than a year to complete.

Join the Sub-Committee

If you are interested in joining the sub-committee that will be working on developing the district attendance zones, please contact Lori McKenna, director of planning and accountability at 881-3405 or by email mckennal@schenectady.k12.ny.us.



Grade Configurations

2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017	
School	Grades	School	Grades	Schools	Grades	Schools	Grades
Fulton	PreK-K	Fulton	PreK-K	Fulton	PreK-K	Fulton	TBD
Howe	PreK-K	Howe	PreK-K	Howe	PreK-K	Howe	PreK-5
Elmer	1-6	Elmer	1-6	Elmer	1-6	Elmer	Close
FDR	1-5	FDR	2-5	FDR	3-5	FDR	Close
Hamilton	K-6	Hamilton	K-6	Hamilton	K-6	Hamilton	PreK-5
Keane	K-6	Keane	K-6	Keane	K-6	Keane	PreK-5
King	K-8	King	K-8	King	K-8	King	PreK-5
Lincoln	PreK-6	Lincoln	Prek-6	Lincoln	Prek-6	Lincoln	PreK-5
Paige	K-8	Paige	K-8	Paige	K-8	Paige	PreK-5
Pleasant Vly	K-6	Pleasant Vly	K-6	Pleasant Vly	K-6	Pleasant Vly	PreK-5
Van Corlaer	K-6	Van Corlaer	K-6	Van Corlaer	K-6	Van Corlaer	PreK-5
Woodlawn	K-6	Woodlawn	K-6	Woodlawn	K-6	Woodlawn	PreK-5
Yates	K-6	Yates	K-6	Yates	K-6	Yates	PreK-5
Zoller	1-8	Zoller	1-8	Zoller	1-8	Zoller	PreK-5
Central Park	K-8	Central Park	K-8	Central Park	K-8	Central Park	6-8
Mont Pleasant	7-8	Mont Pleasant	7-8	Mont Pleasant	7-8	Mont Pleasant	6-8
Oneida	Close	Oneida	Close	Oneida	Close	Oneida	6-8
Schenectady HS	9-12	Schenectady HS	9-12	Schenectady HS	9-12	Schenectady HS	9-12
SCLA	9-12	SCLA	9-12	SCLA	9-12	SCLA	9-12

Additional information, including concept drawings for the buildings, is located on the district website at http://www.schenectady.k12.ny.us/Long_Range_Planning/index.htm

Superintendent's Office - Phone 518-370-8100 X40107
Lori McKenna – Phone 518-881-3405 or email mckennal@schenectady.k12.ny.us

Public Informational Meetings

February 25

7 p.m., Ellis Hospital (McClellan Street Campus) Auditorium

March 6

6:30 p.m. Van Corlaer Elementary School, 2300 Guilderland Ave.

March 10

6:30 p.m. Yates School, 725 Salina St.

March 13

7 p.m. Faith Deliverance Tabernacle Church, 1028 Ostrander Pl.

March 18

6 p.m., Central Park School, 421 Elms Street

School Tours

Guided Tours and Walk-throughs with an explanation of Capital Project work will be provided as follows:

March 15

Van Corlaer Elementary School

Tour I 9:15 – 10 a.m. **Tour II** 10 – 10:45 a.m.

Mont Pleasant Middle School

Tour I 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Tour II** 12:15 – 1 p.m.

March 22

Howe School

Tour I 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. **Tour II** 10:15 – 11 a.m.

Central Park

Tour I 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Tour II** 12:15 – 1 p.m.

Oneida Middle School

Tour I 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Tour II** 2:15 – 3 p.m.

Please R.S.V.P. if you are planning on taking any of the guided tours and walk-throughs by calling 370-8100 X40137 or email coronak@schenectady.k12.ny.us

Voter Information

Vote Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2014

Voting Locations

- **District 1:** Yates Elementary School
- **District 2:** Schenectady High School
- **District 3:** Elmer Avenue Elementary
- **District 4:** Paige School
- **District 5:** Woodlawn School
- **District 6:** Mont Pleasant Middle School
- **District 7:** Fulton Early Childhood Education Center

Polls are Open Noon – 9 p.m.

Voter Eligibility

- Citizen of U.S.
- At least 18 years of age
- District resident at least 30 days prior to vote
- Registered voter in the Schenectady City School District

You can download an absentee ballot

http://www.schenectady.k12.ny.us/Long_Range_Planning/AbsenteeBallott.pdf