



North Syracuse Central School District

"BRIGHTER TOGETHER"

Daniel D. Bowles
Superintendent of Schools
www.nscsd.org

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Dear NSCSD Parents, Guardians and Staff,

I'm pleased to announce that at a meeting Monday night, our Board of Education unanimously adopted a resolution calling for a December 8 public referendum on \$64.95 million worth of construction upgrades to C-NS High School, and Cicero, Lakeshore Road, and Smith Road elementary schools.

We are calling this project **Structured for Success!** because we have worked painstakingly with our architects, the Board of Education, and the State Education Department to design a proposal that would not impact the District's tax rate. That's right: this bond issue will not increase local taxes. How can this be? Because the priorities and *structure* of the project, along with good fiscal management of the District over time, allow us to maximize state aid and use existing reserve funds to pay for this project without increasing taxes. So again, the emphasis here is on creating a structure for success – with the components of the project, the way it is being financed, and the critical priorities it will address.

You will be hearing a lot more over the next two months leading up to the vote. But at its core, the project will address major space renovations and building system improvements at Lakeshore Elementary and Cicero Elementary, our largest enrollment elementary schools that also happen to be the oldest in the District, along with some remaining work at Smith Road. We will also be making major improvements to the building systems at the high school, along with renovating the gymnasium, locker rooms, and auditorium.

Generally speaking, these items represent the most critical facility priorities of the District, though we are well aware that further rounds of improvement must be crafted in coming years. Our school buildings are critical community assets that need to be cared for and invested in on a regular basis.

The Board adopted a second proposition to build a school-community pool, a glaring need in the District, on the site of C-NS High School. There is a modest cost associated with this project, but we are separating it from the main project to give voters a clear understanding of what is being asked. A third proposition asks voters to allow us to create a capital reserve fund, something that helps us save money over time to devote to future projects.

You'll be able to access plenty of information about these projects on the District website, through public and small group meetings, and in informational publications and handouts that we will be sharing. In my opinion, it is critically important that we all know the importance of this project before casting our ballots in December. I look forward to helping you learn more and answering your questions about **Structured for Success!**

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Bowles
Superintendent of Schools