

South Colonie Schools

Special Capital Project Vote

Colonie 2020 Phases III & IV and Capital Reserve establishment

**Please vote on Tuesday, Nov. 14,
11 a.m. - 9 p.m.**

at any one of the District's elementary schools

On Tuesday, November 14, residents of the South Colonie Central School District will go to the polls to decide on an \$11 million two-phase building project. If approved by the community, the project will address various needs such as:

- Renovations to Graphic Art Computer Classrooms
- Roofing system replacements
- Planned replacement of steam boilers
- Asphalt repair and replacement
- Repair and upgrades to auditorium rigging and lighting at three schools
- Improvements to identified instructional spaces

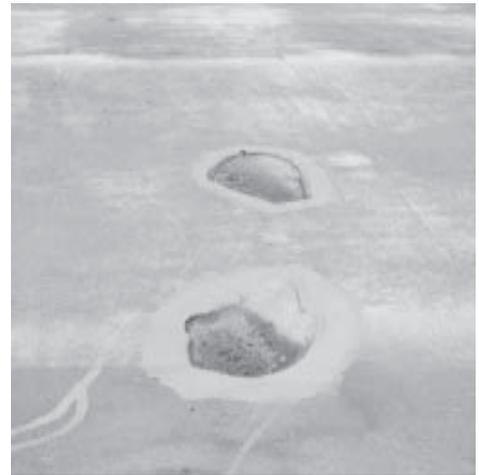


In addition to the referendum on the capital work for Phases III and IV, the District will be asking for approval to establish a Capital Reserve Fund to help with capital improvements and priority repairs. This reserve fund would only be used for capital projects, and requires Board of Education approval and a public referendum. If approved, the Capital Reserve Fund could be used to pay for specific capital expenses, reducing overall borrowing and lowering future long-term costs.

Multi-year planning combined with debt management means little to no additional taxes

Phases III and IV of the Colonie 2020 Capital Project is strategically planned at a time when existing debt will be retired. This will enable the District to issue new debt with little or no additional tax levy.

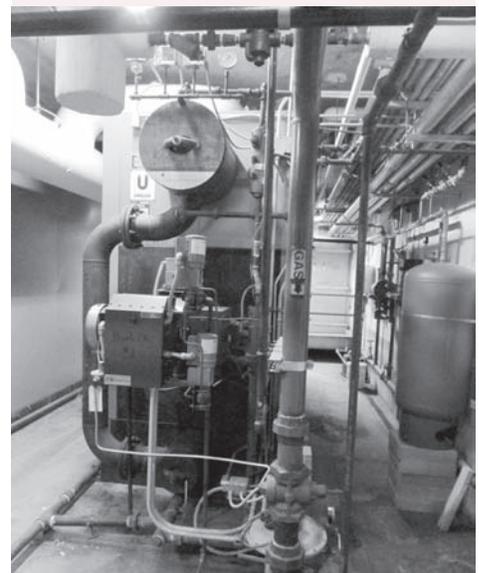
In this newsletter, you will find information on what is being proposed, and why the District believes these items need to be addressed in order to protect public assets. Additionally, you will find commonly asked questions and answers (*page 3*) along with photographs of potential work areas. For more details on the proposed capital project, please visit the District website at www.southcolonieschools.org or contact the Superintendent's Office at (518) 869-3576.



Replace roofing systems in three buildings: CCHS, Roessleville Elementary School and Sand Creek Middle School.



Repair and replace asphalt such as in front of Colonie Central High School.



Replace the inefficient steam boiler system at Lisha Kill Middle School.

Highlights of the proposed Colonie 2020 Phases III & IV Capital Project Plan by school building



Repair and replace outdated auditorium rigging and lighting at CCHS, Lisha Kill Middle School and Sand Creek Middle School.



Resurface tennis courts at CCHS and Sand Creek MS, and the CCHS running track.

Colonie Central High School

- Renovate Graphic Art Computer Classrooms
- Complete bathroom renovations
- Replace roof systems over Technology, Art and Music wings
- Replace/repair asphalt in pick-up/drop-off areas
- Resurface tennis courts
- Resurface track
- Repair/update stage rigging and lighting in the auditorium

Lisha Kill Middle School

- Replace steam boilers
- Replace water heater and storage tanks
- Replace sidewalks and curbs in the main entrance
- Repair/update stage rigging and lighting in the auditorium
- Update Science, Technology, Science and Math (STEM) classrooms

Sand Creek Middle School

- Replace spray foam roof system with a rubber roof system
- Replace/repair asphalt in pick-up/drop-off areas
- Resurface tennis courts
- Repair/update stage rigging and lighting in the Forum

Forest Park Elementary School

- Replace/repair asphalt in pick-up/drop-off areas
- Update outdoor lighting
- Replace ceiling tiles

Roessville Elementary School

- Replace spray foam roof system with a rubber roof system

Saddlewood Elementary School

- Create a new parent pick-up and drop-off traffic loop
- Replace/upgrade fire alarm system
- Replace sidewalks and curbs
- Improve ADA accessibility

Shaker Road Elementary School

- Replace/repair asphalt in pick-up/drop-off areas
- Replace/upgrade fire alarm system

Veeder Elementary School

- Replace/repair asphalt in pick-up/drop-off areas
- Repair and re-line chimney
- Functional and structural improvements in the library (replace carpeting and install air conditioning)

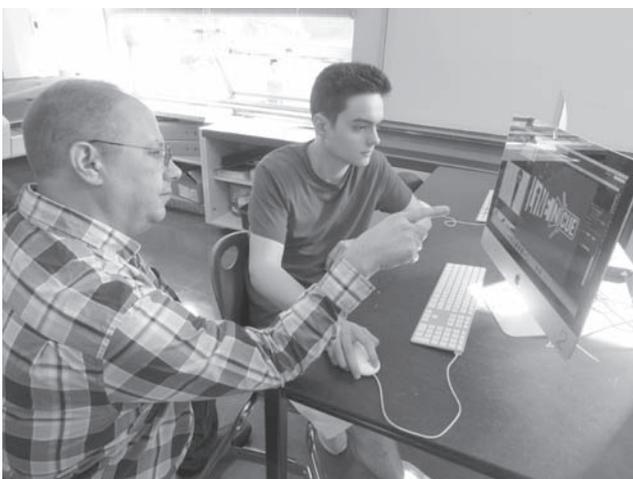
Commonly asked Questions & Answers about the Colonie 2020 Phases III and IV Capital Project Plan and the proposed Capital Reserve Fund referendums

What are Phases III and IV of the Colonie 2020 Capital Project Plan and how will it affect my school property taxes?

As the District finishes up Phases I and II of the Colonie 2020 Capital Project Plan, it's time to prepare for Phases III and IV. Phases III and IV are being proposed to maintain and improve facilities, address health and safety issues, and improve energy efficiency. As with Phases I and II, the District has carefully planned this work over time to keep capital debt expenses constant in the operational budget. If approved by voters, and phased in according to the plan, the multi-year project will keep the tax levy for the capital work flat with little or no increase in our annual capital debt payments.

How was the proposed capital project work identified and prioritized?

In addition to community survey feedback, the South Colonie Board of Education, Facilities Committee, and District staff spent approximately two years drafting Phases III and IV of the 2020 Capital Project Plan. To develop a plan for these phases, the District cross-referenced needs from the Five-Year Capital Project Plan, Facilities Maintenance and Repair Lists, as well as recommendations from mandated annual inspections, staff members, and District Architects and Engineers. The items selected as priorities have been identified as the District's most critical needs at this time. As you will see, some items directly impact student activities and instructional programming, while others address infrastructure, maintenance, and repair.



Renovation of Colonie Central High School Graphic Arts Classrooms to align with industry standards.

What is a Capital Reserve Fund?

A Capital Reserve Fund allows the District to set aside money for future construction projects and major purchases. It can be likened to a family's savings account, except the District's fund cannot be established or spent without voter approval.

Will my taxes go up with the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund?

No, taxes would not increase due to the Capital Reserve Fund. The capital reserve is funded from monies not needed for current balances remaining at the end of a District's fiscal year. Establishing and using this fund would actually benefit taxpayers because it means the District would not need to borrow as much money for future building projects, and therefore would pay less interest on that borrowing. This ultimately reduces long-term costs.

Why should the District establish a Capital Reserve Fund now?

Asking the voters to decide on this proposition during the November 14 vote saves the District and taxpayers from having to finance a separate referendum at another time. Also, New York State's recent financial crisis highlighted the difficulties that arise when state aid is uncertain. Should the District need to fund a major construction project in the future, the local share cost for taxpayers would be lower if a capital reserve was immediately available to supplement state building aid.

When will the work take place on Phases III and IV of the 2020 Capital Project?

The work schedule (pending referendum approval, planning, and New York State Education Department approval) would begin in the summer of 2020 and progress through the 2021-2022 school year.

Where can I get updates about Colonie 2020 and the Capital Reserve referendum?

- Visit the District website at www.southcolonieschools.org
- Sign up for SNN — School News Notifier — web news in your e-mail
- Like South Colonie Schools on Facebook

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Voting Date/Time

Tuesday, November 14, 2017
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Voting Locations

FOREST PARK ELEMENTARY
100 Forest Drive (518) 869-3006
ROESSLEVILLE ELEMENTARY
100 California Ave. (518) 459-2157
SADDLEWOOD ELEMENTARY
100 Loralee Drive (518) 456-2608
SHAKER ROAD ELEMENTARY
512 Shaker Road (518) 458-1440
VEEDER ELEMENTARY
25 Veeder Drive (518) 869-4661

More Information

For more information on the proposed capital project and capital reserve fund referendums, please visit the District website at www.southcolonieschools.org. You may also call the Office of the Superintendent at (518) 869-3576 or attend an informational public forum at 7 p.m., on Wednesday, October 11, at Saddlewood Elementary School.

Voter Information

REGISTERING TO VOTE

The public vote on the capital project and capital reserve fund referendums will be held on **Tuesday, November 14, 2017**. Voter registration is required in the South Colonie Central School District. **If you are not registered with the school district or the county, you must register prior to the vote.** Registration of voters may occur between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the office of the District Clerk located at 102 Loralee Drive, Albany, NY 12205, no later than November 9, 2017. Voters may also register with the Albany and Schenectady County Board of Elections during their normal business hours. For more information, please contact Jamie Mroczo, District Clerk, at (518) 869-3576, ext. 0442, or email her at mroczoj@scolonie.org.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY AND LOCATION

To vote on the capital project and capital reserve fund referendums you must be 18 years age, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the South Colonie Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote. You may vote in any of the District's five elementary schools (listed on the left). **Polls will be open Tuesday, November 14 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.** The vote results will be posted on the District website at www.southcolonieschools.org.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Upon request, absentee ballots will be issued to residents of the school district who will be out of town or unable to vote in person. **Before a District resident may vote via absentee ballot, he or she must first complete and sign an absentee ballot application.** The applications are available at the office of the District Clerk or may be downloaded and printed from the District website at www.southcolonieschools.org. Once the application has been completed, it must be returned to: Jamie Mroczo, District Clerk, 102 Loralee Drive, Albany, NY 12205. Upon approval, an absentee ballot will be issued to the applicant. If the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter, applications must be received by the District Clerk no later than November 7, 2017. If the absentee ballot is to be picked up in person by the voter, the application must be received by the District Clerk or no later than November 13, 2017.

All completed absentee voting ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on November 14, 2017.