

Building Excellence REFERENDUM

Special Election on Sept 30, 2014



Fast Facts

West Deptford Township Schools Board of Education • 675 Grove Road • West Deptford, NJ • 08066 • Tel 856-848-4300

What

A special Referendum Question to authorize the District to raise funds through the sale of bonds to finance the **Building Excellence** facilities reinvestment initiative is planned for September 30, 2014. The scope of the work includes improvements to aging infrastructure at all schools for;

- Enhanced Safety and Security
- Energy and Environment
- Technology Upgrades
- Critical System Upgrades and
- Educational Programs

District-wide needs include the construction of secure entry vestibules, fire alarm replacements, new high-efficiency hot water heaters, new energy efficient windows, new exterior and interior doors and hardware including intruder locks, select roof repairs and replacements and ceiling replacements in select hallways.

Educational space projects include an Automotive Shop conversion to a new Chemistry Lab and renovations of existing Science Labs at the High School; and a 5-classroom Early Childhood addition at the Oakview School for Pre-K/Kindergarten.

School specific work includes select rooftop HVAC replacement at the Middle School, bathroom upgrades at Oakview, exterior wall repairs at Red Bank and atrium remediation at Greenfields.

District Athletic improvements include home bleachers replacement, track recoating, resodding and irrigation system additions to all high school fields, improvement to the stadium field, stadium bathroom upgrades and a new press box. Synthetic turf at the Stadium and at a multi-use field are offered in a second question.

How Much

Because of the planning by the Board of Education and Administration, the District was in a position to take advantage of state aid programs including ROD Grants and Debt Service Aid.

The total cost of all **Building Excellence** projects is about \$18 million. Under the ROD Grant and Debt Service Aid programs the District will receive \$2.97M and \$2.18M respectively, a total of **\$5.15M**, or 28.5% aid reimbursement on the projects.

The Board of Education authorized a two-question Referendum for September 30 using both ROD Grants and Debt Service Aid, at **28.5%**. Question 1 is for \$13.8 million and Question 2 is for \$1.2 million.

***** State Share ***
28¢ for every dollar**

Impact on Your Taxes

The District's Financial Advisors have made an estimate of tax impact, based on NJDOE approval of this Referendum.

The current estimate for the average, annual local tax increase over the 20 year loan is about \$76.76 for Question 1 and \$8.41 for Question 2, per household based upon an average assessed value of \$203,319 as established in the 2014 tax year.

There is a **Tax Impact Calculator** on the District website with which you can input your specific property's Assessed Value and obtain the specific estimated annual tax impact on your property.

**AVERAGE ESTIMATED ANNUAL
TAX IMPACT**

Question 1...\$76.76

Question 2...\$ 8.41

Economic Uncertainty

The Board of Education is aware of the difficult economy with which everyone is learning to live. And we are aware that it has an impact on our children's education.

The positives in this difficult economic climate are that **construction costs and interest rates are near historic lows** and we can take advantage of that now, along with 28.5% state aid.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS
Please Remember to Vote

**Tuesday
Sept 30, 2014
2 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

**Oakview School
Green-Fields School
Red Bank School
Middle School**



More Information

For detailed information visit us at www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us and look for the **Referendum page**.

Call and ask that a presentation be made to your civic, social or fraternal organization. Tel. 856-848-4300 X-3211

Email questions or comments to Referendum@wdeptford.k12.nj.us.

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