

**CLARKSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NEW YORK STATE SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT  
PRELIMINARY INVESTMENT PLAN  
2015-2018**



**PUBLIC HEARING ON SMART SCHOOLS BOND FUNDING**

There will be a Public Hearing on Smart Schools Bond Funding at the next Board of Education Meeting, January 21, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.  
at Chestnut Grove Main Board Room  
News Date: December 21, 2015

We encourage our community to submit written comments on the CCSD Preliminary Proposed Plan, please email:

[CCSDsmartbond@ccsd.edu](mailto:CCSDsmartbond@ccsd.edu)

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## **PLAN OVERVIEW**

In January 2014, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo called for New York State to invest \$2 billion in its schools through a Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA). Voters approved the Smart School Bond Act in November 2014 and as a result the Clarkstown Central School District was allocated to receive \$2,806,902. In alignment with the goals set by The Clarkstown Central School District 2015-2018 Technology Plan, adopted by the District, the Smart Schools Investment Plan will utilize the SSBA funding allocation in the following instructional technology priorities:

- Upgrade CCSD network infrastructure
- Expand the CCSD wireless equipment in place
- Refresh uninterrupted power supply
- Provide for Instructional devices and classroom technology

In collaboration with the CCSD District Wide Superintendent's Committee for Technology, and in consultation with groups of District Administrators, Teachers, Students, Parents, Community Members, Nonpublic School Representatives located within the Clarkstown Central School District geographic boundaries, and aligned with the CCSD 2015-2018 Technology Plan, this three year investment plan has been drafted to focus this funding on the Smart Schools Bond Act allowable expenditures that include:

- School Connectivity
- Classroom Technology

## **PRECONDITIONS**

All New York State public school districts are required to complete and submit a District Instructional Technology Plan survey to the New York State Education Department in compliance with Section 753 of the Education Law and per Part 100.12 of the Commissioner's Regulations. Districts that include investments in high-speed broadband or wireless connectivity and/or learning technology equipment or facilities as part of their Smart Schools Investment Plan must have a submitted and approved Instructional Technology Plan Survey on file with the New York State Education Department (NYSED). The Clarkstown Central School District submitted their required Instructional Technology Plan Survey to NYSED in September 2015 and was approved in October 2015.

As established by the Smart Schools Bond Act Guidance a precondition to utilizing the SSBA funds requires that the District must ensure adequate Internet bandwidth to further expand wireless connectivity for classrooms and additional technology devices for classrooms. The minimum adequate

Internet bandwidth is 100Mbps per 1,000 students to support the inclusion of additional learning technology devices for the classroom.

CCSD has a managed fiber system between buildings in our school district's private network which provides capabilities of up to 10 Gigabit of interconnectivity. However, CCSD is currently using only 1 Gigabit between sites for district interconnectivity. The Smart Schools Bond funding would provide for important upgrades to the CCSD network infrastructure allowing increased connectivity to 10 Gbps.

## **SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT FUNDING GOALS**

The Clarkstown Central School District Smart Schools Bond Act Funding goals align with the District's 2015-2018 Technology Plan that includes:

- o **Goal 1: Curriculum and Instruction:** To improve technological literacy which will provide the skills necessary for both students and staff to utilize technology as a tool for creative expression, research, problem-solving, and higher order thinking skills.
  - Identify appropriate technology (software, peripherals, online tools, etc.) in relation to curricular goals to enhance teaching and learning.
- o **Goal 2: Curriculum and Instruction:** To integrate technology, as a tool, to enhance teaching and learning in support of the curriculum.
  - Teachers will have the ability to collaborate about curricular decisions with other teachers in designing, implementing and assessing technology infused lessons and units of study to the curricular goals, District goals, and state standards.
  - Review the effectiveness of the technology used in units of study.
- o **Goal 3: Professional Development:** To continue to provide professional development to facilitate the use of technology as an integral tool to enhance teaching and learning.
  - Lead teachers will have opportunities to attend external conferences to learn new learning strategies that utilize technology to engage students.
  - Teachers will also have opportunities to share "best practices" during internal professional development time
- o **Goal 4: Infrastructure:** Provide the infrastructure and technical support necessary to support the goals and requirements of the curriculum.
  - Teachers and students will have access to technology to enhance instruction and increase student engagement and achievement.
  - Build broadband capacity to the 100 Mbps per 1,000 students as recommended by state guidelines.
  - Provide high quality and stable wireless access at all District facilities.
- o **Goal 5: Hardware/Devices:** Provide the hardware and devices necessary to support the goals and requirements of the curriculum.

- o **Goal 6: Community:** Partner with parents and stakeholders to communicate, discuss and carry out the vision of the District's Instructional Technology Plan.
- o **Goal 7: Community:** Create and support an ongoing relationship with community members and local professionals in technology fields to understand the current and future technology needs of our students.

Specifically, the District's Smart Schools Bond Act funding allocations will focus on:

- Expanding CCSD network Infrastructure to upgrade connectivity and speeds (Bandwidth) between CCSD schools out to the Internet.
- Expand current Wi-Fi infrastructure for Wi-Fi access points for all classrooms.
- Expand devices for CCSD Classrooms.
- Provide devices for Non-Public Schools as required by Smart Bond.

## **PURCHASE PLAN & ALLOCATION OF FUNDS**

Clarkstown Central School District supports a technology network of over 10,000 users. Under current funding resources for technology equipment, that includes BOCES Purchase Agreements (IPA), District Technology Department annual budget allocations, eRate funding, and any grant funding available. We are fiscally unable to move as rapidly as we would like to equip all schools with wireless technology and devices in all classrooms. We would like to increase the speed of the Internet bandwidth from 500 Mbps to 1 Gbps. In addition, we would like to increase the connectivity between our schools from 1 Gbps to 10 Gbps as well as to upgrade devices with SSBA funding. In alignment with the approved CCSD 2015-2018 District Technology Plan, the District plans to utilize SSBA funds as described below in Table 1 for the SSBA allowable expenditure Budget Category areas.

**TABLE 1: SSBA Allowable Expenditure Summary of \$2,806,902 by Budget Category**

<b>SSBA Budget Category</b>	<b>Allocations</b>
<b>School Connectivity</b>	<b>\$2,583,275</b>
Upgrade CCSD Core Network Infrastructure	\$1,167,951
Expand CCSD Wireless Access for Classrooms	\$915,324
Uninterrupted Power Supply	\$376,338
Upgrade EOL Servers	\$123,662
(*pricing subject to change)	
<b>Overall Classroom Technology</b>	<b>\$223,627</b>
CCSD Classroom Technology:	\$205,865
Instructional Mobile Devices	
Non-Public Classroom Technology:	\$17,761
Non-Public Schools Device Loaning Program	
Allocation*	
(*subject to change)	

<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,806,902</b>

- **Upgrade CCSD Network/Access Connections**  
Expand network Infrastructure at all CCSD schools to upgrade to 10 Gigabit switches, 10 Gigabit fiber uplinks between sites, server refresh, and upgraded UPS modules, along with network management and environmental monitoring for these new devices. This is designed to increase internet and network speeds between CCSD schools from 1 Gigabit to 10 Gigabit capacities.
- **Upgrade and Expand CCSD School Internal Connections and Components**  
Currently CCSD has a Wireless Network at all schools and Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points in every other classroom. We will be upgrading all current access points to the latest IEEE 802.11 standards, and expanding Cisco Meraki wireless components at all schools to include: Access Points (WAPS) for every classroom, instructional areas, and other areas in the district.
- **Refresh Uninterrupted Power Supply**  
CCSD plans to refresh all UPS modules in each of the main wiring closets for all schools.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

As technology becomes more widely available and continues to change, there is a compelling need to provide on-going professional development to support educational reform goals, New York State standards to model collaborative inquiry-based learning and to guide staff toward incorporating the global infrastructure in instruction and productivity.

The Clarkstown Central School District is dedicated to providing students with the technological skills to become productive members of an ever changing global society. In order to meet this goal, we must provide our District’s staff with the skills necessary to implement best practices into their classroom. As a result, our overarching goal for professional development is:

“To continue to provide professional development to facilitate the use of technology as an integral tool to enhance teaching and learning.”

Technology Professional Development Goals below are from the 2015-2018 District Technology Plan.

In order to achieve this goal, the district will focus on the following:

- Continue using the District’s 2 Technology Learning Facilitators as the primary source of on-going and on-demand professional development for teachers, administrators, and support staff.

- Lead teachers will have opportunities to attend external conferences to learn new strategies that utilize technology to engage students.
- Teachers will also have opportunities to share “best practices” during internal professional development time.

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

In addition to the existing CCSD Technology Refresh Plan in which the District budgets funds for device replacements, the District is committed to upgrading to new devices purchased through the Smart Schools Bond Act which will supplement the existing equipment replacement cycle already in place. In each of the next four years, funds will be budgeted for the normal repair costs of a percentage of the total devices. After four years the devices will be replaced and/or reallocated in order to ensure the equipment stays current and new technology is supported.

In addition, the CCSD is taking advantage of financing opportunities via IPAs (leasing contracts with NYSED approval) to obtain leased devices for the District cost effectively. This financing strategy allows the District to extend and sustain the initial investment in devices using The Smart Schools Bond Act funding.

## **PROVISIONS AND DISTRIBUTION TIMELINE**

Once the CCSD Smart Schools Bond Act Investment Plan is reviewed by the state education department and then approved by the Smart Schools Review Board, equipment will be purchased in accord with the District’s purchasing policies and budget cycles within the next five years. Once equipment arrives, the Technology Department Staff will prioritize inventory and provision of the equipment in accordance with our multi-year plan. Based on proposed quantities, equipment should be in place and operational within 60-90 days after it arrives. Projects are prioritized in the below order:

1. Upgrade CCSD network infrastructure
2. Upgrade and expand the CCSD wireless equipment in place
3. Uninterrupted Power Supply refresh
4. Add devices for classroom technology

The District will include this new equipment in its existing inventory database and monitor it to ensure equipment is securely maintained in its designated locations. The District’s asset insurance database will be updated to reflect the additional equipment as well.

## **REFERENCES:**

To learn more about the Smart Bond Act Guidelines go to:

[http://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtserv/smart\\_schools/docs/Smart\\_Schools\\_Bond\\_Act\\_Guidance\\_04.27.15\\_Final.pdf](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtserv/smart_schools/docs/Smart_Schools_Bond_Act_Guidance_04.27.15_Final.pdf)

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/facplan/SmartSchoolsBondAct.html>