

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

**SMART SCHOOLS BOND FUNDING**

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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 Shelter Island School District was allocated to receive \$57,876. In alignment with the goals set by The Shelter Island 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:

- Provide for Instructional devices and classroom technology

This investment plan has been drafted to focus this funding on the Smart Schools Bond Act allowable expenditures that include:

- 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 Shelter Island School District submitted their required Instructional Technology Plan Survey to NYSED in July 2015 and was approved in December 30th 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.

SIUFSD has a managed private network which provides capabilities of up to 10 Gigabit of interconnectivity as well as the required 100Mbps Internet Bandwidth through our Enhanced Cable connection through Cablevision.

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

The Shelter Island School District Smart Schools Bond Act Funding goals align with the following from the SIUFSD 2015-2018 Technology Plan:

Shelter Island Schools mirror the US Department of Education's plan to use digital connectivity and technology to improve teaching and learning. The Shelter Island School District would help educators leverage technology and data to personalize learning and improve college- and career-ready instruction, ensuring that as schools increase access to technology teachers and leaders are prepared to use these resources in a way that increases student learning and achievement.

Programs would support educators in delivering high-quality, open digital learning resources and content; using a wide range of devices and digital tools, including those related to new assessments; using real-time data to personalize learning; using technology to increase engagement with families and other teachers; and offering greater access to effective teachers via high quality online learning resources.

The Shelter Island School District uses the guidelines provided by the US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) in providing equitable access for all students, including those with disabilities. As the use of emerging technologies in the classroom increases, schools at all levels must ensure equal access to the educational benefits and opportunities afforded by the technology and equal treatment in the use of the technology for all students, including students with disabilities. Shelter Island School encourages, just as the US Department of Education encourages, schools to employ innovative learning tools. Because technology is evolving, it has the capability to enhance the academic experience for everyone, especially students with disabilities. Innovation and equal access can go hand in hand. Equal access for students with disabilities is the law and must be considered as new technology is integrated into the educational environment.

The Shelter Island School District is responsible for assistive technology needs of the students with disabilities served in the public school setting in both general and special education classrooms. (See Regulations of the Commissioner of Education in New York State sections 200.4(d)(2)(v)(b)(6), 200.4(d)(3)(v) and 200.4(e)) SIUFSD is also responsible for the assistive technology needs of students with disabilities placed by their parents in nonpublic (e.g. parochial, private) schools within school district boundaries in accordance with their Individualized Education Services Programs (IESPs). (See New York State Education Law section 3602-c) State-approved private and State-operated/State-supported schools may provide and implement assistive technology specified on a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). When an assistive technology device is not available at a State-approved private, State-operated/State-supported school, the public school district when the student resides is responsible for providing that device.

## Smart Schools Funding Goals

**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.

**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.

**Professional Development:** To continue to provide professional development to facilitate the use of technology as an integral tool to enhance teaching and learning.

- Teachers will have opportunities 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

**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.
- Broadband capacity is 100 Mbps per 1,000 students as recommended by state guidelines.
- Provide high quality and stable wireless access at all District facilities.

**Hardware/Devices:** Provide the hardware and devices necessary to support the goals and requirements of the curriculum.

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

- Upgrading Interactive Classroom Technology (ex, Smartboards, Out of Date Computers)
- Support One-to-One Technology Initiative for all students

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

Shelter Island School District supports a technology network hundreds of users. Current funding resources for technology equipment are District Technology Department annual budget allocations, eRate funding, and any REAP grant funding. We are fiscally unable to move as rapidly as we would like to equip all classrooms with modern interactive whiteboard technology and computing devices for all classrooms. In alignment with the approved SIUFSD 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 \$57,876 by Budget Category**

<b>SSBA Budget Category</b>	<b>Allocations</b>
<b>Overall Classroom Technology</b> SIUFSD Classroom Technology: Smartboards and Computers	<b>\$57,876</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$57,876</b>

## **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 Shelter Island 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 these goals, the district will focus on the following:

- Continue using the District's Technology Staff as a source of on-going and on-demand professional development for teachers, administrators, and support staff.
- Teachers will have opportunities to learn new strategies that utilize technology to engage students.
- Teachers will also have opportunities to share "best practices" during internal professional development time.

## **PROVISIONS AND DISTRIBUTION TIMELINE**

Once the SIUFSD 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 two 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. 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>