

**Yorktown Central School District  
New York State Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA)  
Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP)**



- **Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) report to the Yorktown Central School District Board of Education will be provided on Monday, December 21, 2015.**
- **Preliminary SSIP will be available on district's website for a minimum of 30 days beginning 12/21/15.  
The public is asked to submit written feedback to the district by emailing: *smartschools@yorktown.org***
- **Public Hearing on Preliminary SSIP will be held on January 25, 2016 at the Board of Education meeting.**
- **Final Approval of Yorktown's first SSIP approval will take place on February 8, 2016 at the Board of Education Meeting**
- **Submission of Yorktown Central School's first SSIP to the New York State Department of Education will take place in mid February, 2016**

**For more information about the New York State Smart Schools Bond Act, go to:**

**<https://www.ny.gov/programs/smart-schools-ny>**

**[http://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtserv/smart\\_schools/](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtserv/smart_schools/)**

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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 Schools Bond Act in November 2014 and as a result, Yorktown Central School District is allocated to receive \$1,463,127. In alignment with Yorktown Central School District's Technology Plan for 2015-2018, this initial Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) will use a portion of the allocated funds to:

- Complete a district-wide network refresh including new network switching and routing equipment, UPS's
- Expand and upgrade our wireless infrastructure to provide saturated coverage in all learning spaces. This includes:
  - running new cabling to all classrooms and learning spaces without an existing wireless access point
  - replacing the copper connections between our network switch closets with fiber
  - installing new wireless access points

## **Justification of Need**

In order to provide a rich, digital modern learning environment as outlined in our Technology Plan, we need to address the following gaps in our infrastructure:

- Replace the aging network equipment including network switches, routers and UPS's
- Increase the number of POE switches (along with more ports) to accommodate more wireless access points
- Provide a dedicated network drop with a cable run back to the network closet for a wireless device in each and every classroom and learning space
- Install a wireless access point in every learning space so the coverage is saturated
- Replace copper connections between the network closets with fiber
- With the above-mentioned improvements, all users will then benefit from the planned increase in bandwidth from 300mbps to 400mbps

## **Preconditions**

To ensure that districts maximize the return on their investment in education technology and devices, Smart Schools Bond Act funds used for technology infrastructure investments must increase the number of school buildings that meet or exceed the Federal Communications Commission minimum speed standard of 100 mbps per 1,000 students. We currently fall slightly short of this but we will surpass the minimum in the 2016/2017 school year by increasing our bandwidth from 300mbps to 400mbps.

## **Plan Goals**

Yorktown Central School District's Instructional Technology Plan supports the district's mission to provide a comprehensive learning experience that emphasizes the education of the whole child. We strongly believe that a rich digital learning environment is a critical component of the learning experience that we provide for our students.

We agree with the ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) recommendations that our students must be able to:

- Demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology
- Use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others
- Apply digital tools to gather, evaluate and use information
- Use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources
- Understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior
- Demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations

This philosophy has shaped our district's instructional technology vision which is the continued expansion of a rich digital learning environment that fosters the growth of critical thinking, creativity, communication and collaboration, offers greater opportunities for personalized learning and prepares students to be safe and responsible digital citizens. The characteristics of a rich digital learning environment include:

- a secure, robust and scalable technology infrastructure that supports digital and blended learning
- Ubiquitous access to the internet via a mobile device for every student and staff member
- Multi-media rich classrooms
- On-going professional development opportunities that support our staff and encourage the growth of professional learning communities

Yorktown has been fortunate in that our community and Board of Education have continually shown their support in the establishment of a solid technology infrastructure that supports digital learning opportunities. The SSBA funds will allow us to accelerate the timeline for achieving our long established technology goal to provide a rich digital learning environment. We plan to expand and upgrade our network infrastructure to provide superior broadband and wireless access in every learning space. Once this is

completed, we will then be in a position to provide ubiquitous access to all, via a mobile device, to a multitude of cloud-based educational resources. This is the “modern learning environment” that we must offer our students in order to prepare them with the skills needed to succeed in our interconnected world. This environment will offer tremendous opportunities for students to be content creators, communicators, and collaborators and it reinforces the message that every student must take ownership of his/her learning.

## Purchase Plan

The first submission of Yorktown's Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) will utilize an estimated \$700,000 of our \$1.4 million total allocation. Approximately \$400,000 will go towards completing a district-wide network refresh including the expansion and replacement of network switching equipment, routers, UPS's, etc. About \$31,000 will cover the costs of approximately 75 wireless access points. It is anticipated that it will cost upwards of \$250,000 (includes project management fees) to run Cat 6 cabling to all classrooms and learning spaces currently lacking a dedicated network drop for wireless and to replace the current copper connections between our network closets with a fiber connection.

Plans for Yorktown's remaining \$760,000+ in SSBA funds will be addressed in a future SSIP. Note that there is no deadline for the utilization of the funds.

At this time, we do not have plans to use SSBA monies to fund items from the Classroom Learning Technology category. This includes computers, chromebooks, laptops, smartboards and large screen devices. These items will be funded through the annual district technology budget.

## Allocation of Funds

<b>SSBA Budget Category</b>	<b>YCSD SSIP # 1</b>	<b>YCSD Future SSIP's</b>	<b>Total YCSD Allocation</b>
School Connectivity -Network Refresh (\$400,000) -WAP's (\$31,000) -Fiber runs + cabling to classrooms plus project mgmt (\$250,000) -Other (\$19,000)	\$700,000	?	?
Community Connectivity	N/A	N/A	N/A
Classroom Learning Technology	0	?	?
Pre-K Classrooms	N/A	N/A	N/A
Replace Portable Classrooms	N/A	N/A	N/A
High-Tech Security	0	?	?
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$763,127</b>	<b>\$1,463,127</b>

## **Professional Development**

Yorktown Central School District's Professional Development program promotes technological literacy and facilitates the effective use of appropriate technology to enhance teaching and learning. The district ensures that professional development:

- facilitates the ability of educators to apply technologies to create optimal and equitable learning environments
- promotes technology as a tool to design learning opportunities, to foster collaboration, to gather and interpret data and to monitor student learning
- provides educators with opportunities to learn and use technology for communication, research and collaboration
- addresses the legal and ethical uses of technology

Our district is committed to providing and supporting a variety of professional development activities that meet the needs of all K-12 staff members. Our administrators set the tone by taking part in professional development offerings and encouraging staff members to regularly share best practices at faculty, department and grade level meetings. We make use of Superintendent's Conference days and summer curriculum workshops. We have a long-standing relationship with the LHRIC's (Lower Hudson Regional Information Center) Model Schools organization. Boces Model School staff members are on site in our buildings on a weekly basis to offer customized professional development on the latest digital tools to our K-12 educators. Web-based PD opportunities are now available 24/7. The growth of online professional learning communities provides our teachers with unlimited access to collaborate and communicate with other educators in their specialty area.

Collectively, these efforts ensure that our teachers, administrators and support staff continue to become more fluent in the use of digital tools. This in turn allows our educators to effectively utilize these new technologies for instructional purposes.

## **Sustainability**

For the past year, our district has consulted with teachers, students, parents, community members, and our long-standing IT vendor partners, as to the best way to utilize YCSD's \$1.4 million SSBA allocation. All were in agreement that the best use of the funds at this time should be towards those big ticket items that will provide a robust technology infrastructure well into the future. The network refresh and wireless expansion that we are proposing will serve the district well for the next 7 to 9 years. We have made great strides in providing easy and immediate access to a web-enabled mobile device for many of our students with the implementation of the one-to-one chromebooks for grades 7-9 and the widespread availability of hundreds of chromebooks at other grade levels. These district-owned mobile devices coupled along with an active BYOT model all work seamlessly within our Google Apps for Education

digital learning environment. We will continue to expand access to mobile learning devices for our students, and our current plan is to fund that through the annual technology budget. We anticipate that by September 2019, every student and staff member will have immediate access to a mobile learning device and the internet during the school day. We plan to provide students in grades 7-12 with access to a chromebook 24/7.

### **Timeline**

<b>Grade level</b>	<b>Immediate and easy access to a mobile learning device and the internet</b>
K-2	2019/20
3-4	2018/19
5	2017/18
6	2016/17
7-8	2014/15*
9	2015/16*
10	2016/17*
11	2017/18*
12	2018/19*

\* 24/7 access with a one-to-one chromebook deployment