November 3, 2021

Dear Binghamton Families,

It is with excitement that I inform you of the details of the Binghamton City School District’s proposed capital project, which will be voted on by taxpayers on Dec. 14, 2021. The $41.7 million project includes upgrades for infrastructure, technology, accessibility, programs, and health and safety projects. These necessary improvements will equip our schools to serve our students in the future.

Binghamton residents will realize a zero-tax levy impact on this capital project. The proposed work will cost $41.7 million, which will be funded through our capital reserve, federal stimulus funding, and state-building aid.

The Binghamton City School District Capital Project has been defined through a combination of field observations, discussions with school board members and district staff, and meetings with district leadership. The scope has been carefully and thoughtfully curated, following these three principles:

- Provide students and staff with safe, secure, and healthy spaces to learn and work.
- Maintain fiscal responsibility by maximizing aid, minimizing aid, and minimizing local share.
- Re-purpose spaces to increase program options.

Full details of the facility upgrades, broken down by building, are available on our website at this link. You will notice that there are no allocations for upgrades at Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School. It is important to know that improvements at Roosevelt Elementary are currently being considered through an ongoing feasibility study. This process will ultimately determine what renovations or redesign are necessary for that building, as it requires significant improvements.

A public hearing will be held Monday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. at 164 Hawley Street. If voters approve the project in December, the district and our architects will complete the construction plans for review by the New York State Education Department, with the goal of beginning construction during the summer of 2023. We appreciate your support in helping our facilities reach their full potential, and providing our school community with modern, efficient spaces to educate, empower and challenge our students.

With Patriot Pride,

Tonia Thompson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Educating, empowering, and challenging all students to become productive, global citizens through innovative approaches to learning.