

# Gilbertsville - Mount Upton Central School District

July 2013

## Capital Project Vote is July 30

### Dear Residents:

The Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District has a long standing tradition of providing our students and community with a great facility and grounds. The Board of Education is presenting two propositions that address top priority repairs and improvements that will help to ensure the longevity of our facilities. Community members in the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District will cast their ballots for the capital project on Tuesday, July 30, 2013.

### Proposition I:

Proposition I addresses high priority items that must be addressed as soon as possible and includes important safety enhancements.

- Lighting upgrades on the interior and exterior of the building to improve energy efficiency and safety
- Replace original carpeting in high traffic areas
- Upgrade and add additional cameras throughout campus
- Repair tennis court stairs, replace broken sections of concrete sidewalk, and improve exterior storm drainage
- Replace original lockers in the gymnasium locker rooms
- Replace original HVAC systems in the office areas
- Replace original interior door hardware District-wide
- Create vestibule at main entrance to improve safety and reduce heat loss

- Provide additional key fobs at entry doors to improve security
- Replacement of the original clocks throughout the facility
- Install insulated window panels in 2008 classrooms to improve energy efficiency

### Proposition II:

**A second proposition will also be on the ballot and can only be adopted if Proposition I is approved.** The items addressed in Proposition II have been identified through the annual building condition survey and/or administrative staff as important enhancements to keep the building and grounds in outstanding shape for years to come.

- Replace well system pump, supply piping, and water level probes
- Add boiler for domestic hot water system
- Replace original carpet where needed in classrooms
- Construct concession stand adjacent to athletic fields
- Repair tennis court surface and replace fencing
- Upgrade auditorium sound and lighting systems
- Replace all toilet flush valves and sink faucets
- New digital message board at entrance drive
- Create a large computer lab within the building for student use and state/regional testing requirements

## Your Vote Matters!

**Vote Tuesday, July 30, 2013  
from noon until 8:00 p.m.  
in the GMU Main Lobby**

### Voter Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of the District for the last 30 days prior to the election

You do not have to be a registered voter or own property in order to vote. The District may require proof of residency, such as a driver's license or voter registration card, prior to signing the poll list.

### Absentee Ballot Information

Absentee ballot applications are available to qualifying Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District residents from the District Clerk, located in the District Office, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).

To request an application for an absentee ballot, qualified voters should call Amber Birdsall, District Secretary & Clerk, at 607-783-2207, extension 140.

Applications for an absentee ballot must be received by the district clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally by the voter.

- Create secure test storage area
- Site work at various locations
- Replace bus garage lift and overhead doors

# You've Been Asking...

## **Q: Why is this project necessary?**

A: The New York State Education Department (NYSED) requires all school Districts to complete two evaluations every five years: a Building Condition Survey and a Five Year Plan. The reports completed in 2010 indicated the need to maintain aging infrastructure. Some of the infrastructure components in portions of our building have reached the end of their useful life and other components are showing signs of deterioration and need to be replaced.

## **Q: Why is the project being presented as two propositions?**

A: The District strives to maximize resources to meet student and community needs. As a result, we carefully evaluated state building aid in our planning. The Board of Education believes all work included in the Capital Project is a priority for the District. The items included in the two Propositions were prioritized and then divided into high priority and medium priority items.

## **Q: What happens if the project is not approved?**

A: If the voters reject the proposed plan in July, the infrastructure and health and safety issues will still need to be addressed. If any building components reach failure, the District would have to begin immediate repairs using money from the General Fund, which would be paid for with taxpayer dollars, as no state aid would be available for these repairs. Other issues would need to be addressed in a future capital project.

## **Q: Why can't the items included in the Capital Project be completed using the current school budget funds?**

A: The majority of the items in this project are **NOT** normal maintenance and are at the end of their useful life. Normal maintenance items are not aidable. If the District completed project items under normal maintenance, the District would lose allocated state aid resulting in a greater tax increase because the cost would be absorbed by the General Fund. **This project takes advantage of \$3,175,355 in state aid and \$46,239 in EXCEL funding.**

## **Q: What is EXCEL Aid?**

A: Expanding our Children's Education and Learning (EXCEL) aid is additional state building aid and is a New York State grant to offset the local share of building projects. It is designed to assist Districts to maintain and upgrade school buildings. To be eligible, our project must address one or more of the following:

- Health and safety issues
- Handicap accessibility
- Educational technology
- Energy
- Instructional space

# Understanding the Cost

## Project Cost

### Proposition I

The estimated total project cost for Proposition I is \$2,230,000. The District anticipates getting **85.6% of this amount** from state aid, using money from the debt service fund, and \$46,239 in EXCEL aid, with the remaining \$18,586 representing the local share. On a \$100,000 home the approximate cost on your annual tax bill will be about \$10.10 per year or .84 cents per month.

### Proposition II

The estimated total project cost for Proposition II is \$1,700,000. The District anticipates getting **78% of this amount** from state aid with the remaining \$34,915 representing the local share. On a \$100,000 home the approximate cost on your annual tax bill will be about \$18.98 per year or \$1.58 per month.

## Estimated Project Costs & State Aid

Total cost	\$3,930,000
Less state aid	\$3,175,355
Less EXCEL aid	\$46,239
Local share	\$708,406

	Prop I	Prop II	Prop I & II
Estimated debt service per year	\$181,354	\$141,160	\$322,514
Less estimated state aid per year	\$147,901	\$105,912	\$253,813
Less debt service fund per year	\$14,867	\$333	\$15,200
Estimated local share per year	\$18,586	\$34,915	\$53,501



Sidewalk renovation



Replace original carpeting



Worn stairs



Locker room replacement



Create secure vestibule

GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
693 State Highway 51  
Gilbertsville, New York 13776

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**CURRENT RESIDENT or**

**ECRWSS  
BOXHOLDER**

# Proposition Language

The following propositions will be considered by Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District voters on Tuesday, July 30, 2013 from Noon - 8:00 p.m. Please review the language below so that it is familiar to you when you go to the polls. Please note the proposition wording in the voting booth will be presented in legal language.

### Proposition I

Voting yes to this proposition authorizes the District to proceed with a capital improvement project not to exceed the amount of \$2,230,000 for planned infrastructure renovations and site work at District facilities.

### Proposition II

Voting yes to this proposition, **which is contingent on the approval of Proposition I**, authorizes the District to proceed with a capital improvement project not to exceed the amount of \$1,700,000.

# Learn more about the project

Attend our public information night on  
Wednesday, July 24 at 7:00 p.m.  
in the District's auditorium.