

# The Reader

Educating Everyone Takes Everyone

November 2012

## Facilities Improvement Bond Referendum December 4, 2012

To the Ballston Spa Community:

As part of our ongoing commitment to preserve and upgrade the district's facilities, The Board of Education is hosting a public referendum on December 4, 2012 to address critical infrastructure needs, health and safety issues, enclosing open classrooms and our aging athletic facilities.

The proposed improvements are based on the recommendations of the District Wide Facilities Planning Team, which was an advisory committee assisting the district with the development of a long-range and comprehensive facilities plan. The committee started meeting in June 2009 and its findings were adopted by the Board of Education in February 2010. The district began addressing prioritized needs with our first referendum, Phase 1, in October 2010, including the construction of a new school to replace the existing Milton Terrace South school building, and significant infrastructure, energy efficiency and health and safety improvements at Malta Avenue, Milton Terrace North and the Middle School.

Improvements and renovations included as part of Phase 2 are planned at the Wood Road Elementary School, the remaining school that was not part of Phase 1 improvements, and the athletic facilities at the secondary campus. Detailed information about the plan, including specific work at the schools, tax impact and drawings of the proposed work are contained within this newsletter. Additional information is also located on the district website.

During the weeks before the vote on December 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be informational meetings throughout the district and community to help you become informed about the project. Please let us know if you need additional information or would like a speaker to attend a meeting or gathering in the coming weeks to provide more information.

And please remember to vote on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne Obermayer  
President, Board of Education

### Residents to Vote on \$8.9 Million Capital Improvement Project

The Board of Education has scheduled a public referendum to seek the public's approval to fund Phase 2 of the district's facilities master plan implementation. The Facilities Planning Team of over 40 community members made prioritized recommendations to the Board of Education that included significant renovations and new construction, beginning with critical health, safety and infrastructure items. The proposed work in Phase 1 was designed, approved by public vote in October 2010 and renovations have started at the Middle School, as well as construction of a new elementary school building.

Designs and plans for renovations at Malta Avenue and Milton Terrace North Elementary Schools have been approved and are currently being finalized for bidding and are scheduled to begin this coming summer.

Phase 2 of the facilities improvement plan was approved by the Board of Education in September, and includes a scope that maximizes state aid. The plan will cost approximately \$8.9 million and includes significant renovations and mechanical work at the Wood Road Elementary School and needed renovations and improvements to athletic facilities, including the pool, the track and the tennis courts.

The plan for renovations at Wood Road includes closing in the current open classrooms, renovating bathrooms for handicapped accessibility, replacing carpets with flooring, upgrading boilers and hot water generators, repairing and upgrading mechanical systems, upgrading electrical systems, and replacing the gym floor. Renovations would begin during the summer of 2014 and be completed in January 2017.

Renovations to the athletic facilities in the new plan include repairing the base structures and surfaces to the tennis courts and the track, as well as replacing the swimming pool mechanical systems which have reached their lifespan.

#### The Bottom Line:

The bond referendum of \$8.9 million will be on the ballot as Proposition I. The projected net tax impact on the average home assessed at \$220,000 is estimated to be an average of \$3.35 per year starting in 2016.

Voters in the district are encouraged to learn more about the proposal to fund improvements to our facilities before they vote on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Several information presentations are scheduled before the vote, including Community Presentations on **November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Milton Community Center, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Malta Community Center, and November 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Ballston Town Hall.** Additionally, plan to stop by the Superintendent's Office at 70 Malta Avenue for an informal discussion during a "Drop-in Session" **between 3:00 and 5:00 pm on November 27, 2012.** Information

*continued on page 2*



*The current Wood Road Elementary School building was built and first utilized as the Ballston Spa Middle School in the 1970's.*

### The Ballston Spa Central School District

**Milton Terrace South Elementary School**

100 Wood Road  
884-7270

**Milton Terrace North Elementary School**

200 Wood Road  
884-7210

**Wood Road Elementary School**

300 Wood Road  
884-7290

**Malta Avenue Elementary School**

70 Malta Avenue  
884-7250

**Ballston Spa Middle School**

210 Ballston Avenue  
884-7200

**Ballston Spa High School**

220 Ballston Avenue  
884-7150

**Ballston Spa District Office**

70 Malta Avenue  
884-7195

**Transportation Facility**

884-7140

**www.bsccd.org**



*The students in Milton Terrace South Elementary School are currently researching and voting on a name to recommend for their new elementary school, scheduled to be completed for the 2013-14 school year.*



Facilities Improvement
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will also be presented at building PTA meetings and available in all schools. If you would like to host an informational meeting for a community group or learn more about the project, please contact Stuart Williams at swilliams@bscsd.org or at 884-7195.

The district will hold the referendum for registered voters of the district to consider the proposition on December 4th. Polls are open from 7:00 am-9:00 pm in the Ballston Spa High School (residents of the towns of Ballston, Milton and Charlton) and the Malta Town Hall (Malta residents).

Drawings and renderings of the proposed plans, detailed information about the scope of work, including question and answer documents, tax impact, and construction timeline are located on the facilities planning pages of the district website at www.bscsd.org.



The east entrance to the new school building will provide access from a staff parking area and a drop off area for parents.

Students Help Recommend New School Name

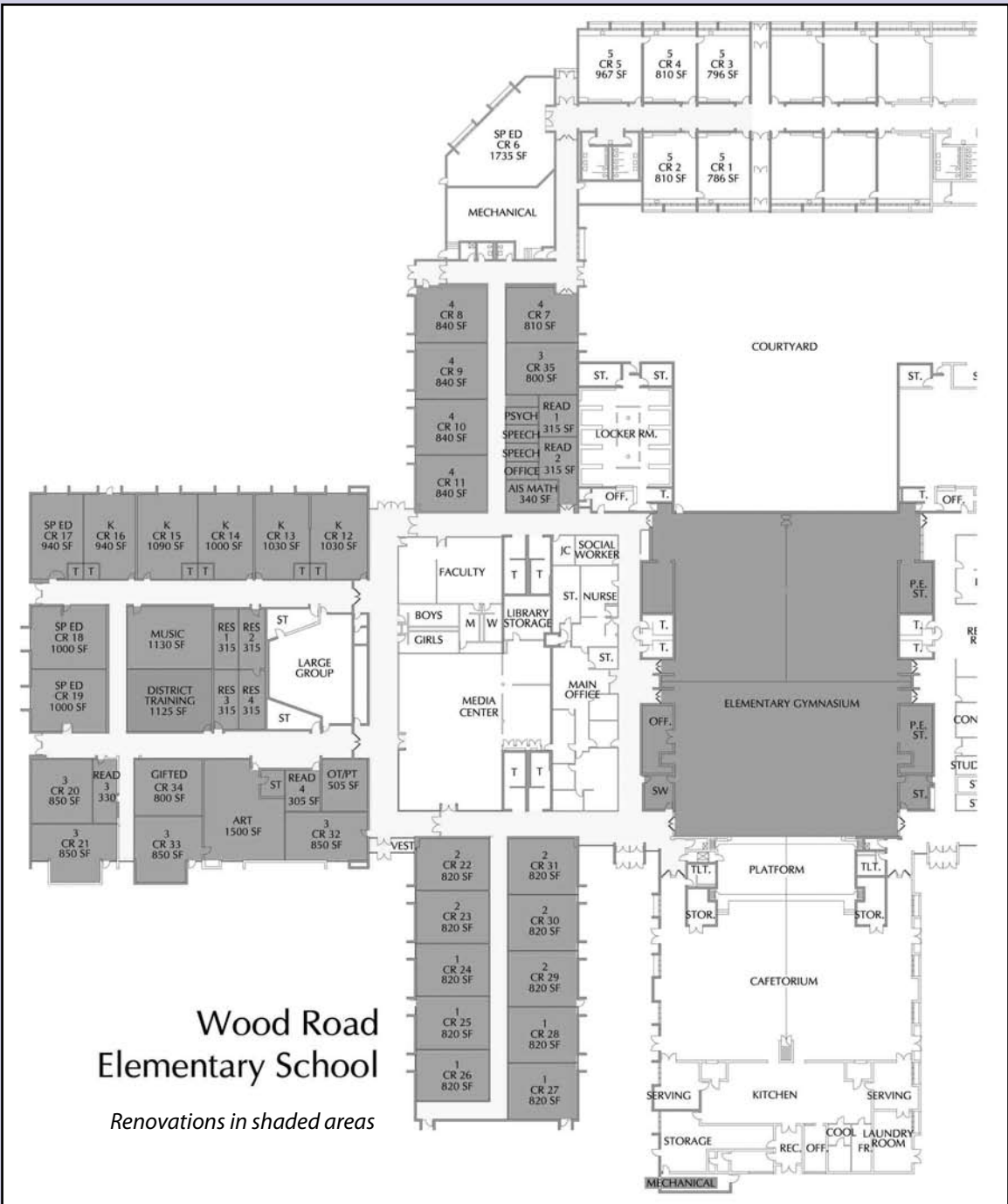
The students at the current Milton Terrace South Elementary School have had the unique opportunity to assist with choosing a new name for the school that they will occupy next fall. "Milton Terrace South Elementary School" will be phased out as the district completes the construction of a new elementary school building. The students at each grade level researched various historical figures and local sites that have played an important role in the history of Ballston Spa. The top school names selected by the students included Spa Landing Elementary, Gordon Creek Elementary, Brookside Elementary, Iron Springs Elementary, and Ballston Springs Elementary. The top three names selected by a student vote in November will then be submitted to the Superintendent and the Board of Education for their consideration in the coming months.



There are two classroom wings extending to the east of the new building that are two stories high, each containing groupings of class levels.

Proposed Renovations at Wood Road Elementary School:

Similar scope as Milton Terrace North Elementary School (Phase 1)



- Renovate and enclose classrooms and support spaces
- Redesign select spaces that were dedicated Middle School spaces in the original building to accommodate elementary classrooms
- Renovate various bathrooms, etc. for ADA accessibility
- Replace select carpeted areas with VCT flooring
- Upgrade boilers and hot water generators
- Repair and upgrade mechanical systems for health, safety and energy efficiency
- Upgrade electrical systems including fire alarm, PA, lighting and various power upgrades for renovated areas
- Necessary asbestos abatement
- Replace gym floor and partitions and renovate related and adjacent spaces



Tuesday, December 4, 2012

from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm

Ballston Spa High School (residents of Ballston, Milton and Charlton) and the Malta Town Hall (Malta residents)



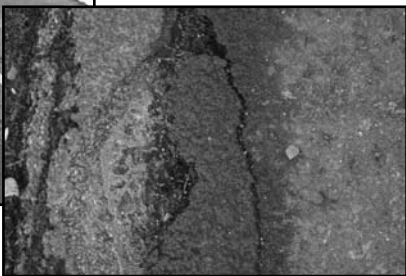
# Proposed Improvements to High School Athletic Facilities

**POOL:** Replace the DecTron dehumidification unit and the filter.

**TRACK:** Strip off the entire surface, make asphalt repairs to the base, apply a new lining, surface and striping.

**TENNIS COURTS:** Strip off the entire surface, make asphalt repairs to the base, apply a new lining, surface and striping.

**SIGNAGE:** Provide scoreboards at the varsity soccer/lacrosse field, baseball field and softball field.



*After repairs to the base structure of the track are completed, the current track will be resurfaced in order to meet the needs of our physical education classes, student athletes and community groups.*

*Base repairs will be completed on the district's tennis courts and a new surface installed as they continue to be utilized by students for physical education classes and tennis teams, as well as community members, throughout the year.*



*The current swimming pool in the High School opened in the fall of 1998 and is used by the physical education classes throughout the day, school swim teams, adult exercise classes, and a variety of community groups/teams, during before/after school and evening hours.*



## Facilities Improvement Project Update: Phase 1 Projects Continue on Schedule

Last spring, the district implemented the first phase of our facilities construction and renovations approved by district residents in the fall of 2010. Construction of the new elementary school building, to replace the current Milton Terrace South Elementary School, and related site development at the Wood Road complex started in March 2012. The new two-story building contains classrooms and support facilities to house students in grades Pre-K through 5. It was more cost effective to replace this school with a new one than it was to renovate the existing building. The new building is located on the east side of the existing Wood Road complex.



*The new elementary school's brick facade is currently being installed, along with the windows, as the building's exterior structure is completed and work moves to the interior during the winter months.*



*Windows and soffits were replaced in the rear wing of the Middle School building were completed during the summer of 2012, with additional work outlined in Phase 1 being scheduled over the next two summers.*

The Middle School renovations and improvements focused on health, safety and energy efficiency, include replacing windows, asbestos and lead abatement, reconstructing exterior roof soffits, upgrading classroom ventilation systems, lighting & power upgrades and new classroom ceilings. The project is being implemented in three stages over the course of three summers to minimize the disruption to the students during the regular school year. The first phase of this work was completed on the west wing of the building in the summer of 2012.

Additional Phase 1 improvements that have been approved and are scheduled to begin in the summer of 2013 include improvements at both the Malta Avenue and Milton Terrace North Elementary Schools. Plans for Malta Avenue include a complete interior renovation to the Pine Street building, constructing connectors between the Pine Street and Grove Street buildings, ADA accessibility, asbestos abatement, envelope & exterior structural repairs including replacing windows, foundation repairs, mechanical and electrical system repairs and upgrades and related site improvements to address drainage. At Milton Terrace North, the improvements include reconstruction of open classrooms, asbestos abatement, and mechanical and electrical system repairs and upgrades.



*The new elementary school contains a modern media center to serve the needs of the students, including a loft area on the second floor.*



Ballston Spa Central School District

70 Malta Avenue  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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Written by Stuart J. Williams, *Coordinator of Community Relations*

Boxholder  
Ballston Spa Central  
School District

Facilities Improvement Bond Referendum Phase 2

The Ballston Spa Central School District’s Board of Education adopted a resolution on October 3, 2012, authorizing a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of the Ballston Spa Central School District to be held on **Tuesday, December 4, 2012** from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm in the Ballston Spa High School (residents of Ballston, Milton and Charlton) and the Malta Town Hall (Malta residents). Voters will cast a vote on the following proposition (as it appears on ballot):

PROPOSITION NO. 1 – Facilities Improvement Bond

Shall the proposition set forth in the notice of the Special District Meeting (a) authorizing the Board of Education to expand the capital improvement project that was approved by the voters on October 19, 2010 to include additional reconstruction of the Wood Road Elementary School and reconstruction of the pool, track and tennis courts at the High School at a maximum estimated cost of \$8,900,000, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, (b) providing that \$1,400,000 of such cost be withdrawn from the District’s Capital Reserve Fund, and (c) providing that an additional \$7,500,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting New York State Building Aid, be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with obligations of the District to be issued in anticipation thereof, be approved?



All students in the district utilize the swimming pool as part of their physical education classes, starting with swim lessons in the elementary grades to several related electives in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades such as lifeguarding courses.

Tax Impact



Average of \$3.35 per year, starting in 2016 on the average home assessed at \$220,000.

Facilities Vote Information in the Community

Voters in the district are encouraged to learn more about the proposal to fund improvements to our facilities before they vote on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Several information presentations are scheduled before the vote, including Community Presentations on November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Milton Community Center, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Malta Community Center, and November 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Ballston Town Hall. Or plan to stop by the Superintendent’s Office at 70 Malta Avenue for an informal discussion during a “Drop-in Session” between 3:00 and 5:00 pm on November 27, 2012. Information will also be presented at building PTA meetings, available in all schools and on the district website.

Upcoming Community Events

DECEMBER

- 4 High School Winter Concert, Part I, High School Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 6 High School Winter Concert, Part II, High School Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 6 College Athletic Information Night, High School Library, 6:30 pm
- 10 High School Concert, Part III, High School Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 11 Milton Terrace South Winter Concert, Milton Terrace North Cafetorium, 7:00 pm
- 13 Malta Ave. Winter Concert, Malta Ave. Auditorium, 7:00 pm
- 18 Middle School Winter Concert, Part I, High School Auditorium, 7:00 pm
- 20 Middle School Winter Concert, Part II, High School Auditorium, 7:00 pm

JANUARY

- 3 Wood Road Winter Concert, Wood Road Cafetorium, 7:00 pm
- 8 Milton Terrace North Winter Concert, Milton Terrace North Cafetorium, 7:00 pm
- 10 Theatre Scene Night, Part I, High School Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 11 Theatre Scene Night, Part II, High School Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 19 Super Science Saturday, Wood Road/Milton Terrace North Cafetorium/Gym, 9:30 am

Join us in the schools and see our students in action during the coming weeks. All school specific events are listed on the district website’s events calendar and updated frequently. Please check often for the latest information, or call the appropriate school office.

Map to Polls at BSHS

