



WESTBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUILDING A FUTURE-READY DISTRICT

BOND REFERENDUM 2018

TAX-NEUTRAL PLAN WILL RELIEVE SEVERE OVERCROWDING AT WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL AND WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Student Enrollment Far Exceeds State Guidelines for Building Capacity

Overcrowding at Westbury Middle School and Westbury High School is at a CRISIS level. At the middle school, we are already at 118 percent of what the state has set as a guideline for maximum student capacity for that building. In just three years, projections are that we will be at 138 percent of the middle school's capacity.

At the high school, the overcrowding is even more dramatic. Current student enrollment is at 137 percent of the state's guidelines. In three years, projections are that our high school enrollment will bring the building to over 148 percent of the state's guidelines. By the 2023-2024 school year, without any intervention, the high school is projected to be at 173 percent of capacity.

For both schools, for our students...
this is unacceptable.



**SEVERE OVERCROWDING AT BOTH WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL AND
WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL NEGATIVELY IMPACTS OUR STUDENTS EDUCATION
AND THE RESOURCES AND DIVERSITY OF CLASSES THE DISTRICT CAN OFFER.
FURTHERMORE IT CREATES A POTENTIALLY UNSAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR
STUDENTS, FACULTY AND VISITORS TO THE DISTRICT'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS.**

The proposed Bond Plan is TAX-NEUTRAL for Westbury Homeowners. See Page 4.



WESTBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUILDING A FUTURE-READY DISTRICT

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS PROVIDE A CLEAR PICTURE OF THE CHALLENGE

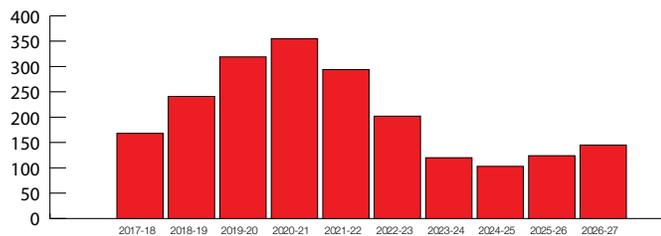
STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS AND BUILDING CAPACITY

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

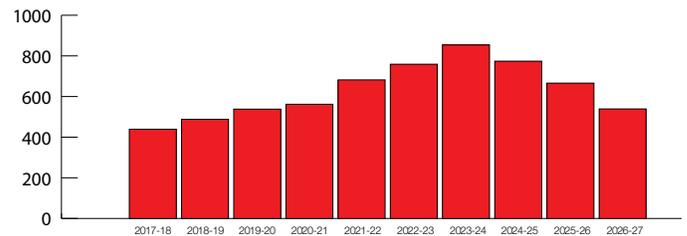
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Middle School	1,110	1,183	1,261	1,297	1,236	1,144	1,062	1,045	1,066	1,087
High School	1,608	1,657	1,707	1,731	1,851	1,928	2,023	1,943	1,835	1,708

Westbury Middle School Building Capacity: 942 • Westbury High School Building Capacity: 1,169

NUMBER OF STUDENTS OVER CAPACITY AT MIDDLE SCHOOL



NUMBER OF STUDENTS OVER CAPACITY AT HIGH SCHOOL



AT WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- Current enrollment is more than 150 students over state student capacity guidelines.
- By the 2020-2021 school year, the middle school is projected to have more than 350 students over building capacity.

Even with a projected decrease in student enrollment at the middle school after the 2020-2021 school year, there will still be, almost a decade from today, 150 more students in Westbury Middle School than state guidelines have established for a building the size of the District's middle school.

AT WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL:

- Current enrollment is more than 435 students over state student capacity guidelines for a building the size of the District's high school.
- By 2023-2024, the high school is projected to have more than 850 students over the state's student capacity guidelines.

In the first semester of 2017-2018, we actually had three classes in my office because we simply did not have any other space for them.

We utilize the library, the stage, the auditorium, and the band room for multiple classes, and we have classes in the cafeteria at the same time teachers are in the cafeteria for their planning sessions. There are times we have three classes in the cafeteria at the same time because we do not have any other space for them.

— Fernando Agramonte, Westbury Middle School Principal

Here at Westbury High School, over just the past three years, we have had an increase of over 300 students. We were overcrowded before, but this has truly put a strain on how we deliver a quality, future-ready education to our students. It has created overcrowded classrooms, overcrowded hallways, and overcrowded cafeterias.

If you look at the excessive overcrowding in our high school hallways between classes, it poses an unsafe situation. Any small incident could potentially cause a panic and be dangerous.

— David Zimble, Westbury High School Principal



WESTBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

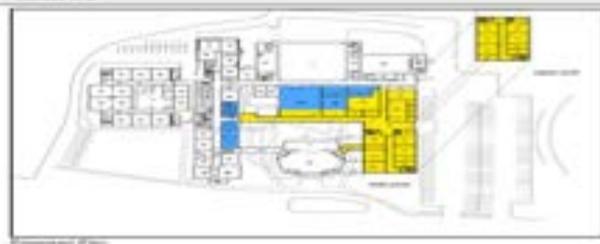
BUILDING A FUTURE-READY DISTRICT

SOLVING THE OVERCROWDING ISSUES: MODULAR CLASSROOMS AT WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL AND WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Modular classrooms at Westbury High School and Westbury Middle School would provide 26 additional classrooms. This would effectively alleviate overcrowding and with strategic construction planning, will not impact school schedules or student learning. Modulares have an expected lifespan of 20-30 years and offer many of the advantages of brick and mortar construction at less cost and faster project completion time, start-to-finish.

The proposed plan will provide 12 modular classrooms at Westbury Middle School and 14 modular classrooms at Westbury High School. These modulares will be fully integrated into the existing buildings, with covered walkways connecting the modulares to the existing buildings. This will be a seamless integration.

WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL 12 Modular Classrooms



WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL 14 Modular Classrooms



BOND PLAN WILL ALSO ADDRESS CRITICAL DISTRICT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS AT WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL AND WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL

In addition to providing a long-term solution to the District's severe overcrowding issues at our two secondary schools, the proposed 2018 Bond Plan will provide TAX-NEUTRAL funding to address critical infrastructure needs at both the middle school and the high school. These are all projects that are directly related to the maintenance of each building's health, safety and security. In addition, state guidelines mandate that with any new capital construction plan—which the modulares are considered—projects must be included in the overall scope.

AT WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Roof replacement
- Kitchen upgrades, including expansion
- New boiler, hot water system, and pumps
- New ventilation piping and controls
- Abatement in crawl space, floors, and ceilings
- Plumbing system upgrade
- New ceilings, floors, and casework where necessary
- Site work
- P/A intercom, clocks, and security system upgrades
- Electrical service upgrades
- Alterations to ensure ADA compliance

AT WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL

- Science lab alterations
- New controls on all equipment
- New boilers and pumps
- New floors and casework where necessary
- Site work - asphalt, concrete walks, and curbing
- Masonry restoration
- Creation of outside storage to free up building space
- Alterations to ensure ADA compliance



WESTBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUILDING A FUTURE-READY DISTRICT

BOND FINANCING WILL RESULT IN **TAX NEUTRALITY** FOR WESTBURY TAXPAYERS

A Board of Education and administration priority in the planning of the 2018 Bond Referendum was that it minimize any impact on Westbury taxpayers. Through strategic fiscal planning and timing of borrowing, approval of the bond on May 15th will be **TAX NEUTRAL** for Westbury taxpayers.

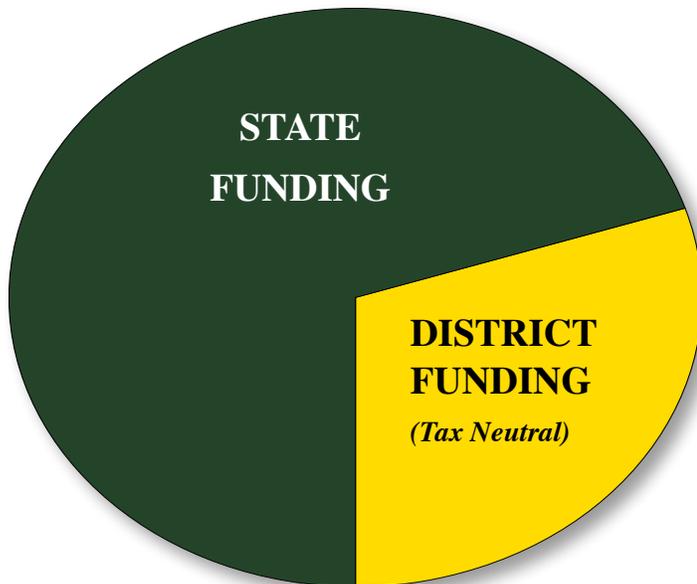
PROPOSED BOND PLAN COSTS

Modulars at Westbury Middle School	\$13,150,000
Modulars at Westbury High School	\$14,000,000
Infrastructure projects at both secondary schools	\$31,445,000
Total Bond Plan	\$58,595,000

The Bond Plan financing will be aligned with state aid reimbursement and is projected to be financed over 17 years. Estimated interest has been conservatively set at 3% in computing principal and interest charges over the projected 17-year payment schedule.

State share of principal and interest:	\$55,790,836
District share of principal and interest:	\$24,318,847
Total projected principal and interest costs:	\$80,109,683

PLEASE NOTE: DISTRICT SHARE IS PROJECTED TO BE TAX-NEUTRAL FOR WESTBURY TAXPAYERS. SEE BELOW.



DISTRICT SHARE IS PROJECTED TO BE **TAX NEUTRAL FOR WESTBURY TAXPAYERS**

Funding the projected District share of bond principal and interest will be accomplished through repurposing expenditures that are in the District's current operating budget, **resulting in no new or projected additional costs for the District, and tax neutrality for Westbury homeowners.**

The expenses that will be repurposed to cover the costs of the District's projected share of bond principal and interest are:

- Lease and associated transportation costs for the current Ninth Grade Academy – with approval of the Bond Referendum on May 15th, these students will be returning to the District in the 2020-2021 school year, making it possible to reallocate these funds to bond principal and interest costs, which are projected to begin in the 2021-2022 school year.
- The amount in the District's current operating budget for district debt service that will be retired in 2020-2021 will be reallocated to the principal and interest costs of the new debt service.

The combined amount of these items, currently in the District's operating budget, are more than sufficient to cover the costs of the District's share of bond principal and interests payments if the Bond Referendum is approved on May 15th.



WESTBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUILDING A FUTURE-READY DISTRICT

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED BOND PLAN?

The proposed Bond Plan includes projects for Westbury Middle School and Westbury High School. Fourteen modular classrooms and vital infrastructure projects addressing building health, safety, and security are proposed for Westbury Middle School. Twelve modular classrooms and health, safety, and security infrastructure projects are proposed for Westbury High School.

WHAT IS THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROPOSED BOND REFERENDUM?

The proposed Bond Plan is \$58,585,000, to be financed over a 17-year period. With interest conservatively estimated at three percent, total principal and interest payments over the 17 years will amount to \$80,109,683. New York State building aid will cover a total of \$55,790,836 in principal and interest costs. The District's share—\$24,318,847 over 17 years—will be paid for by repurposing allocations in the District's current annual operating budget, effectively making the Bond Plan tax-neutral for Westbury homeowners.

HOW CAN A \$58,585,000 BOND REFERENDUM BE TAX-NEUTRAL FOR WESTBURY TAXPAYERS?

The District's state aid rate for qualifying projects is at an all-time high of 82.4 percent. The District is conservatively projecting 90 percent of all projects proposed will qualify for state aid (principal and interest). The balance of principal and interest, to be paid by the District, will be covered by repurposing the following current expenditures:

- The leasing and associated bus transportation costs for the Ninth Grade Academy at Nassau Community College. These expenses, in the District's current operating budget, will be redirected to help fund the District's portion of bond principal and interest payments.
- Current District debt service scheduled to retire in 2020 will be reallocated to funding the new debt service.

By reallocating expenses currently in the District's annual operating budget, approval of the Bond Referendum on May 15th will not add to District expenses. As a result, approval on May 15th will not add to residents' school taxes directly related to funding the Bond Plan.

WHAT LED TO THE DECISION TO SCHEDULE A BOND REFERENDUM NOW?

The overcrowding at Westbury Middle School and Westbury High School is at a critical level. Both schools are significantly over the building capacity guidelines established by the New York State Education Department (SED). The District was able to temporarily alleviate some of the overcrowding at the high school by setting up a Ninth Grade Academy in space leased at Nassau Community College. However, the SED has made it clear that the District will only be permitted to continue with this leased space on a temporary, short-term basis; a long-term plan has to

be developed and put into place. That directive from the SED made it incumbent upon the District to solicit community input on possible solutions, develop a plan, and have the community vote on that proposed plan and associated costs. Rather than asking residents to come out for two separate votes, the Board of Education opted for having the Bond Referendum vote on the same day that the community will be voting on the 2018-2019 annual budget and Board elections.

WILL ANY OF THE PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE BOND SCOPE INTERFERE WITH CLASSES AT EITHER THE MIDDLE SCHOOL OR THE HIGH SCHOOL?

No class time will be interrupted or canceled due to construction or other work being performed. Construction crews and other contractors' work shifts will be concentrated during summer months and other times when school is not in session. If any interior work is to be done during the school year, work shifts will be scheduled during weekends, evenings, and other times when interior building spaces are unoccupied.

HOW DO WE GET ALL THIS WORK DONE IF THIS REVISED BOND REFERENDUM IS NOT APPROVED?

The bond referendum focuses on:

- Providing critically needed classroom space to accommodate the severe overcrowding in Westbury Middle School and Westbury High School.
- Necessary infrastructure and ADA compliance work addressing building health, safety, and security at both Westbury Middle School and Westbury High School.

If the Bond Plan is not approved by the community, the overcrowding issues still remain. The District's 9th grade students would have to return to the high school without additional classroom space, exacerbating current overcrowded conditions. With the projected increase in enrollment at the high school over the next several years, there would be very few options open to the District other than to dramatically increase class size, eliminate elective and other non-degree mandated classes, or consider going to a split schedule. These same unsatisfactory options would hold true for the middle school.

Additionally, the infrastructure work at the middle school and the high school will still need to be done. The only other way to pay for these projects would be to include them in the District's annual operating budgets. The tax impact to achieve these projects would put an unacceptable strain on taxpayers in our community. It could take up to 10 years or more to accomplish. That would necessitate increased levels of maintenance to keep up with deteriorating conditions of projects that would have to be deferred far into the future. It would also require severe cutbacks to existing programs and services.

**WESTBURY UNION FREE
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
2 Hitchcock Lane
Old Westbury, New York 11568

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CAR-RT-SORT
NONPROFIT ORG
PAID
PERMIT NO. 2
WESTBURY, NY

******ECRWSS******

VOTER INFORMATION

DATE, TIME AND LOCATION

Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2018*

Time: 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Locations: Dryden Street School, Park Avenue School,
Drexel Avenue School and Westbury Middle School**

** Please note: The 2018 Bond Referendum vote will take place on the same day, same times and in the same locations as the District's annual budget vote and Board member elections.*

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a United States citizen.
- Must be a resident of the Westbury School District for at least 30 days preceding the vote.
- Must be at least 18 years old as of May 15, 2018.
- Must be registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections to vote in general elections OR be registered with the Westbury School District, or have voted in a school election within the past four years.

For those not already registered, registration for the May 15, 2018 Bond Referendum will take place on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Dryden Street School, Drexel Avenue School, Park Avenue School and Westbury Middle School.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

You must first obtain and submit an application for your absentee ballot; after it is received and processed by the district clerk, you will be issued an absentee ballot.

Anyone who is eligible to vote and is either incapacitated or will not be in Westbury for the vote on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, may request an application for an absentee ballot by calling the district clerk's office at 516-874-1828.

If the voter wants to receive the absentee ballot by mail, the completed application must be returned to the district clerk seven days before the vote—Tuesday, May 8, 2018. If the completed application is delivered to the district clerk in person, it must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day before the vote—Monday, May 14, 2018.

All absentee ballots must be delivered to the district clerk's office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote—Tuesday, May 15, 2018.