



Barker Central School District
 1628 Quaker Road
 Barker, NY 14012
 (716) 795-3832

Board Members:

Randall B. Atwater, President
 John E. Sweeney, Vice President
 Deanna Carnes
 Candice Gancasz
 Emily Gow
 Jennifer Harris
 Virginia Voss

Postal Customer
 Barker, NY 14012

Non-Profit Org.
 US Postage
 PAID
 Permit #3
 Middleport, NY

Barker Central School District Capital Improvement Project



Dear Barker Learning Community,

This is an exciting time for the Barker Central School District. The last few years have seen a considerable financial turnaround for the school. With the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, we experienced our first year in almost a full decade with revenues exceeding expenses. This was accomplished through securing additional funding sources related to the closure of the Somerset power plant, substantial increases in long overdue state aid, and structural changes to how the school district operates. The initiatives we have undertaken have set us up to continue improving the district in all capacities.

It has been 14 years since the district has had a significant capital project that impacted instructional space and the wear and tear on the facilities has accumulated. About a year ago, we asked the community for volunteers to be a part of a newly created Facilities Advisory Committee. This group was tasked with reviewing the growing list of facilities needs and determining what work needed to be done to provide our students with safe, attractive, and up-to-date facilities in which to learn and grow. The members of the committee were Tom Mallon, Francine Ware, Alexandra Fuerch, Randy Atwater, Emily Gow, Todd Sukdolak, and Jon Dewart.

The committee reviewed all aspects of the district facilities, both inside and out, heard presentations on various areas of potential improvement, and had deep debate on how to proceed with needed work to our buildings and grounds. While more than 42 million dollars of work was initially identified, the committee settled on work consisting of a total budget of \$25,205,000 for the project proposed in this newsletter. The various projects identified were determined from a combination of a professional building condition survey and staff input.

In the following pages you will see proposed work to do the following: replace decades old boilers used to heat the buildings, replace old windows, renovate the technology and family and consumer sciences areas, consolidate office spaces, create secure entryways, renovate classrooms, add air conditioning in select areas, consolidate library media centers, renovate parking lots, install a multipurpose athletic field, improve signage across the district, and more. The proposed work that is being put to the voters for potential approval on December 13, 2022 will not create any additional tax impact on our local school property taxes. The project will be paid for through the use of funding from our capital reserve and state aid. For this project, the state will pay approximately 87.10% of the total cost with the remaining portion being covered by the use of our reserves. Please note that this will not completely deplete our capital reserve and we will have funds available in case of an emergency.

If this project is approved by the voters, we would begin final designs of the project with the input of our staff immediately. Our goal would be to have all work completed by the fall of 2025.

We will be holding an informational session about the project on December 6, 2022 in the Jr.-Sr. High School Auditorium at 7 pm. If you would like to know more about the project, please attend this meeting to hear more about the potential work and to ask questions if you have any at that time. Tours will be available after the informational session for those interested.

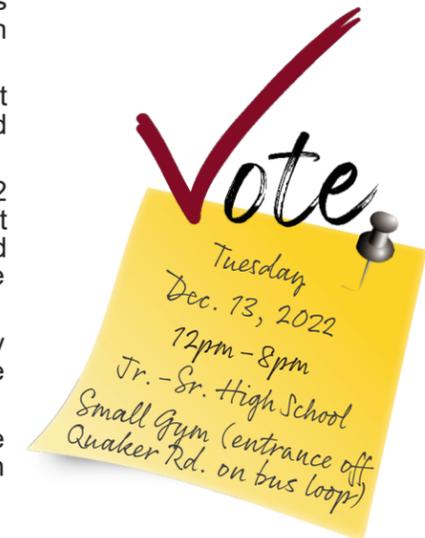
We are very excited to present this project to our voters and to share the many improvements that would be available to our current and future students should the project be approved.

We hope to see you at the public information meeting and please be sure to vote on December 13, 2022 between noon and 8 pm in the small gym of the Jr.-Sr. High School.

Sincerely,

Jacob L. Reimer
 Superintendent of Schools

Randall B. Atwater
 Board of Education President



Public Information Session

7:00 pm
 Tuesday, December 6, 2022
 Jr.-Sr. High School
 Auditorium

Capital Improvement Project Vote

12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
 Tuesday, December 13, 2022
 Jr.-Sr. High School
 Small Gymnasium
 (entrance off Quaker Rd. on bus loop)

Proposition:

Shall the Board of Education of the Barker Central School District, Niagara and Orleans Counties, New York (the "District") be authorized to undertake a capital improvement project consisting of the construction of alterations, renovations and improvements to the District's existing buildings and facilities, including in each case, site improvements for various school purposes, the reconstruction of and improvements to outdoor athletic facilities and playgrounds, other appurtenant and related improvements, and the acquisition and installation in and around such buildings, facilities and improvements of original furnishings, equipment, machinery, and apparatus, and other services incidental thereto; for a total aggregate maximum cost of \$25,205,000, with such cost being raised by the expenditure of \$1,524,684.04 from the District's existing 2009 Capital Improvements Reserve Fund and \$3,015,315.96 from the District's existing 2011 Capital Improvements Reserve Fund, and with the balance thereof, not to exceed \$20,665,000, being raised by a tax upon the taxable property of the District to be levied and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law, with such tax to be offset by State aid available therefore, and in anticipation of such tax, by obligations of the District as may be necessary?



ABSENTEE BALLOTS

If you are unable to vote in person on December 13, 2022 you may request an absentee ballot application by contacting the District Clerk, Mary Eadie, at (716) 795-3110 or meadie@barkercsd.net.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

1. A citizen of the United States.
2. Eighteen (18) years of age.
3. A resident within the District for a period of thirty (30) days preceding the date of the vote.

**NO ADDITIONAL
 LOCAL SCHOOL TAX IMPACT**

Barker

Central School District



\$25,205,000
Capital Improvement Project Vote
 Public Information Session
 7:00 pm | Tuesday, December 6, 2022
 Jr.-Sr. High School Auditorium

*Tuesday
 Dec. 13, 2022
 12pm - 8pm
 Jr. - Sr. High School
 Small Gym (entrance off
 Quaker Rd. on bus loop)*

Elementary School

- 21st Century Flexible Classrooms
- Renovation of Large Group Instructional Space
- Classroom Renovations



Junior - Senior High School

- 21st Century Flexible Classrooms
- Classroom Renovations
- Family & Consumer Science Classroom Renovation
- Technology/Shop Area Renovation



District-Wide

- Exterior Digital Signage
- Centralized Secure Entry
- Centralized Health Office
- Centralized Media & Makerspace
- Corridor Renovations
- Library Renovations
- Select Boiler Replacement
- Air Conditioning in Renovated Classrooms
- Exterior Block/Brick Restoration

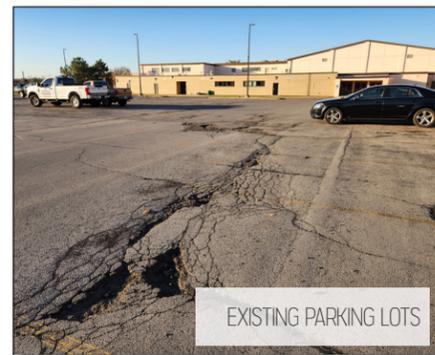


Improve educational surroundings
 to enhance learning opportunities

Site

- Bus Loop - Asphalt Replacement
- Parking Lots - Asphalt Replacement
- Courtyard Renovations/Outdoor Classroom

- A multi-purpose turf will be installed to enhance the District's physical education and athletic programs, as well as provide the ability to host sectionals and other events.



Project Timeline

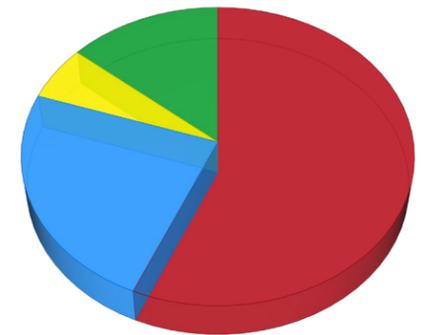
2022	2023	2024	2025
VOTE December	Design January-November Submit to SED December	Bid/Award February Construction Begins April	Construction Continues Construction complete December

Breakdown of Funding & Project Scope

NO ADDITIONAL LOCAL SCHOOL TAX IMPACT

87.10% State Aid Funding

Budgeted funds for annual capital work will be used for future principal and interest payments.



Bond	\$20,665,000
Capital Reserve Fund	\$4,540,000
Project Total	\$25,205,000

- Educational Enhancement
- Asset Preservation
- Health & Safety
- Athletics

Questions & Answers

Q. What is a Capital Project?

A. Our District inspects its property regularly, working with an architect to maintain a five-year capital improvement plan. Some issues require immediate attention, while other repairs and upgrades can be spread out over time. This is done in much the same way a homeowner plans to fund major repairs, such as a roof. For school districts, this is called a "Capital Project". To further encourage schools to maintain or improve their facilities, NY State Education Department (SED) reimburses districts through "Building Aid" for capital projects. NY State Education Department pays a percentage of capital project costs, and the district pays the balance known as "Local Share".

Q. Will this project complete our capital improvement needs?

A. No. Our buildings are aging, and our facility requirements, like your home, will require on-going updates to meet our needs.

Barker facilities host thousands of people every day...students, staff and visitors...walking on our floors, opening and closing our lockers, doors and windows, playing in our gyms, eating in our cafeterias, driving and parking on our roads and in our lots, and playing on our play fields. Normal wear and tear and the effects of time have taken their toll on our buildings and grounds.

Acting with fiscal responsibility, we wish to minimize the cost to our taxpayers, while maintaining safe, healthy and appropriate facilities and learning environments for our students, staff and community.