

Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan



December 19, 2016

Technology Advisory Committee Co-chairs
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Overview:

The Smart Schools Bond Act was passed in 2014 by a state wide referendum. The Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA) supports educational technology and infrastructure to improve teaching and learning. It focuses on six main areas of funds: construct or modernize educational facilities for pre-kindergarteners, install high-speed broadband or wireless, community connectivity, replace transportable classroom, install high-tech security features and acquire technology equipment.

All District plans approved by the school board and submitted to the New York State Education Department must meet the required elements including demonstrating students’ needs, minimal speed requirements for internet connectivity, professional development, technical support, and sustainability. As part of the process, districts are required to submit a District Instructional Technology Plan survey in compliance with the Education Law and Commissioner’s Regulation. The Instructional Technology Plan survey outlines the current and future plans of the district as it relates to infrastructure, devices, staffing, and professional development to improve teaching and learning. The Instructional Technology Plan was approved by New York State Education Department in August of 2016.

The current Smart Schools Investment Plan is scheduled to be presented to the school board on December 19, 2016 for approval. Once the preliminary plan is approved by the school board, it will be posted on the district website and a public hearing will be conducted to enable stakeholders to respond to the preliminary plan. After the hearing, the district will prepare a final plan for school board approval. The approved plan will be submitted to the New York State Education Department and will be posted on the district website. The planning process will include consultation with parents, teachers, students, community members, any non-public schools located in the district, and other stakeholders.

Committee: The C-RCS Technology Advisory Committee consisting of teachers, parents, community members, students and administrators worked together to review the Smart Schools Bond Plan. The committee identified technology and security needs and worked to create a technology plan.

Smart Schools Investment Plan Timeline:

- December 19, 2016 Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan approval by BOE
- Plan will be posted on the website for 30 days
- January 23, 2017 Public hearing to present Preliminary SSIP
- January 23, 2017 Final SSIP anticipated approval by BOE
- January 24, 2017 SSIP submitted to the State Education Department
- Final plan will be posted to district website

Smart Schools Investment Plan:

Total Allocation: \$1,789,330

Project	Estimated Cost
School Connectivity	\$1,150,105.86
Server Replacement	\$ 124,788.86
Security	\$ 414,435.28
Classroom Technology	\$ 100,000.00
Estimated Total	\$1,789,330.00

School Connectivity/Infrastructure:

Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School wants to ensure that it can support all students, teachers and administrators with a robust, reliable and secure high-speed network for the foreseeable future. The goal is to have a network that can support current and future technology initiatives.

- **Replace network switches at end-of-life**-Currently the network is unreliable in many areas throughout the district. There are network switches throughout the district that often need to be rebooted due to the age of the current infrastructure. To make the network more reliable, the plan is to replace the existing network with 98 new switches.
- **Replacement and addition of wireless access points**-The current wireless network is also unreliable due to age and lack of coverage. The new plan calls for an additional 55 access points to increase our wireless coverage and the replacement of the 98 existing access points. The plan also calls for new CAT6 cable to be run to all 153 access points.
- **Replacement of fiber cables**-The project also calls for an upgrade in fiber wiring to support 10GB speed. The wiring would be run from the main switching closets (MDF's) to all independent closets (IDF's) throughout each building. The upgrade in fiber cabling would increase network speed to the end user as well as allow for more devices to be connected.

Security Features: The current security camera system is failing. The cameras offer a low level resolution, have many blind spots and the video servers are failing. The current recommendation would be to double the number of cameras we have while upgrading to a system that is more functional and reliable. The system would also allow for law enforcement to have remote access to the system in case of an emergency.

Technology Equipment:

The current server configuration is outdated and unreliable. The current operating system on several servers is Windows 2003 which is no longer supported. All of the district's data is being backed up manually to tape drives. This method of backup is outdated, unreliable and time consuming.

- **Server Replacement**-The plan is to consolidate the current servers onto 2 virtualized Cisco servers. A Nimble storage device will house all of our on campus data. We will also have disaster recovery in place using a cloud solution.
- **Classroom Technology**-With the advancement in technology C-RCS finds that this would be a good time to update presentation tools in the classroom. Flat panel displays are becoming the new standard in classroom technology and using the SSBA money is the perfect opportunity to modernize classrooms. The Technology Advisory committee will research technology and make recommendations based on the ISTE standards.

Professional Development:

The professional development plan will continue to support the use of meaningful instructional tools with curricular goals as outlined in the district's strategic plan and Professional Growth plan. Professional Development will be provided through a number of ways. Some examples are: BOCES Model School Services, in-district professional development opportunities, SUNY Oneonta, and SUNY Cobleskill. Ongoing support and guidance by the Director of Information Technology will allow for consistent and specific opportunities throughout the district.