

HUNTINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1500
HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743-0700
www.hufsd.edu

Dear Huntington Resident:

On August 24 a referendum will be held on a capital reserve proposition which calls for releasing \$2 million in existing reserves to be used to construct additional classroom space at Woodhull Intermediate School. This is money that the district has been able to accumulate over the past few years through sound fiscal management practices and it has been placed in a reserve account for the specific intent of capital improvement projects. Because this money already exists, a vote in favor of the proposition will have no impact on your local property taxes. It simply gives the district permission to use the money for the stated purpose.

As we continue to respond to the needs of our school community, it has become apparent to the Board of Education that expanding the available instructional space at Woodhull is a wise move and as such the capital reserve proposition was approved unanimously by the Board. If approved by the community, this proposition would allow the district to begin moving forward with the construction of 5 to 7 new classrooms with an expected completion date 18 months away.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you for taking the time to learn about this proposition and for voting on August 24.

Sincerely,

Bill Dwyer

Bill Dwyer

President, Board of Education

Voter Information

Capital Reserve Referendum:

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Huntington High School
Oakwood & McKay Roads
Huntington, New York

Eligibility:

- U.S. citizen.
- 18 years of age or older.
- Resident of the Huntington School District for at least 30 days.
- Registered to vote in a general election or with the school district.

Absentee Ballots:

Applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the District Clerk's office at the Administrative Offices, 50 Tower Street, Huntington Station, at least seven days before the referendum if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter or up to the day before the referendum if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be returned by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 24 for them to be counted in the Capital Reserve referendum related to renovations, reconstruction and an addition at Woodhull Intermediate School.

Your Vote Counts on Tuesday, August 24

Vote at Huntington High School 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sample Ballot

Residents will be asked to vote on the following proposition related to capital projects at Woodhull Intermediate School:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education be authorized to expend from the Building Improvement Fund, established by the voters of the district at the annual district meeting held May 20, 2008, an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 for renovations, reconstruction and addition at Woodhull Intermediate School.

Passage of the capital reserve proposition will not increase taxes.

Residents voted 1,737 - 790 to create the Building Improvement Fund in May 2008 and authorized the transfer of up to \$2 million in any given year as may be available at the end of each fiscal year from June 30, 2008 through June 30, 2016. The ultimate amount is capped at \$10 million plus interest earned. Residents must give permission before the district actually begins any project. The school district can apply for state aid on any capital project it completes.

The fund has been capitalized through the use of existing surplus budget monies, which through the use of conservative budgeting, economizing and tight fiscal management, have not been needed to fund regular district operations.

Capital Reserve Referendum Set for August 24

The enrollment at Woodhull Intermediate School is growing. To address the need for additional instructional space, the Huntington School Board has scheduled a public referendum on Tuesday, August 24 from 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. in the Huntington High School lobby. Residents will be asked for their permission to release \$2 million from the district's Building Improvement Fund for renovations, reconstruction and the erection of new classrooms at Woodhull School, which is currently 52,616 square feet in size. **Since the funds for the work already exist in the district's capital reserve account, passage of the proposition will not increase taxes.**

Tentative Estimated \$2 Million Project Budget

- \$1.565 million for construction of additional space.
- \$185,000 for design and construction contingencies to handle unexpected items.
- \$125,000 for architectural and engineering fees.
- \$100,000 for the installation of new electric service throughout the building. (The current electric service is insufficient to accommodate the additional space that will be constructed.
- \$25,000 for inspections, testing, printing, etc.



Burton Behrendt Smith, the Huntington School District's architectural and engineering firm, has estimated construction costs at approximately \$250 per square foot. Such an estimate would allow for construction about 6,250 square feet of space, including a connecting corridor, six new classrooms and a new set of restrooms for boys and girls. If residents approve the capital reserve proposition on August 24, the district will quickly move forward with plans to enlarge Woodhull Intermediate School and better serve its students. Architectural plans have been developed and will be submitted to the State Education Department for its approval.

The Huntington School District has a long tradition of utilizing currently existing monies set aside in capital reserve accounts to pay for renovation and construction projects. This has allowed the district to avoid large bond issues and accompanying debt and interest expenses. A review of the district's financial statements shows a relatively low level of long-term debt that is rapidly being paid off.

Huntington Union Free School District
P.O. Box 1500
Huntington, NY 11743

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Capital Reserve Referendum
Tuesday, August 24, 2010
6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
at Huntington High School

John J. Finello
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Joseph Giani
Assistant Superintendent for General Administration and Personnel

David H. Grackin
Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Management Services

Dr. Kenneth A. Card, Jr.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

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To: POSTAL CUSTOMER

Huntington Union Free School District



Nathaniel Woodhull School has served the Huntington School District well since it opened in January 1967. It has hosted various grade levels through the years and also housed the district's administrative offices. The 24.9 acre site contains spacious grounds and is well-suited for an expansion of instructional space to better meet the needs of the young people in the community. Current economic conditions in the construction industry will allow the district to maximize the proposed project's \$2 million budget.