



Capital Project Vote

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023
12-8 p.m.
HS Library Media Center

**Voters to consider
reconstruction of
auditorium;
project has no
additional tax impact**

“This capital project, which was unanimously approved by the Board of Education to be presented to the Cambridge community for approval, as described in the school’s strategic plan, completes the campus renovations from the original 1950 school construction. This will enable the district to realize its strong commitment to our students’ artistic, music and theater education.”

— **BOARD OF EDUCATION**



EXISTING AUDITORIUM



THIS IS A RENDERING OF THE PROPOSED RENOVATION. THE ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION DESIGN MAY DIFFER FROM THIS RENDERING.

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

Proposed Project:
\$11,280,000

**NO ADDITIONAL
TAX IMPACT**



All individuals must provide proof of residency at the vote.

Proof must include a physical address, not a P.O. Box.

Voters to consider \$11.28 million project

On Tuesday, Dec. 12, Cambridge CSD residents will vote on a proposed \$11,280,000 capital project that will provide **no additional impact** on the tax levy. If approved, the project would reconstruct a new auditorium in its current location, along with a lobby in the hallway adjacent to the auditorium.

Uses of the new multipurpose auditorium:

- a performing arts venue (concerts, plays, etc.)
- a college-level theater elective for students next year
- a lecture hall for academics and presenters
- a testing center (seats will have desks for testing)
- assemblies for National Honor Society, graduation, moving up ceremonies, prom coronation, etc.
- elementary movie nights and grade level assemblies/meetings
- FFA regional meetings and public speaking competitions
- American Legion oratorical contests
- a public and community presentation space for blood drives, public voting, etc.

Project aligns with building committee and strategic planning goals

Since the spring of 2022, strategic planning action teams have been working on goals established by the core team. One goal states:

The Cambridge Central School District will continue to improve and develop opportunities that align with the interests, well-being and aspirations of the students, staff and ultimately the greater school community.

Enhancing the high school’s performing arts programming is a priority that



PROPOSED AUDITORIUM LOBBY



RENDERINGS OF THE PROPOSED RENOVATIONS. THE ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION DESIGNS MAY DIFFER FROM THESE RENDERINGS.

the district is currently undertaking. Participation in the arts has more than doubled since the beginning of the school year and our music teachers are working to ensure student schedules can be accommodated to receive more music opportunities. Additionally, with the district’s new Ag program, students in the FFA will have the opportunity to participate in public speaking competitions in the newly-renovated auditorium space.

Construction of a new auditorium would not only provide an incredible space for CCS students to perform, but it would also provide the community with a large

gathering space for meetings, public forums and events. The district hopes to partner with community organizations such as the Battenkill Chorale and Cambridge Community Band to perform jointly with our students.

The existing auditorium space is one of the last 1950s spaces from the original building that has not undergone a significant renovation. The modernization of this space allows the district to enhance its academic offerings to include courses on theater and the arts. The district plans to implement a college-level theater elective for students beginning in Sept. 2024.

Project timeline

DECEMBER 12, 2023

Public vote

FALL 2024

Estimated NYSED project approval

SPRING/SUMMER 2025

Construction begins

SUMMER 2026

Construction ends

DATES ARE PENDING VOTER APPROVAL, APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Capital Project Q&A

Q What is a capital project?

A Just like a home, school facilities need regular attention and upkeep to continue to operate. The cost of keeping up with the daily wear and tear can rise above what the annual school budget can support. Renovation projects, also referred to as capital projects, are a way for school districts to access state aid to complete a larger amount of facilities work than possible within the scope of the annual school budget.

Q How does this project have no additional impact on the tax levy?

A It takes 15 years for a capital project debt to be retired. By strategically timing the capital project cycle, the district can avoid an additional school tax impact. Debt from a previous capital project is retiring, so when the new debt from this capital project begins, the net effect will not impact the tax levy.

How is the project paid for?

TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$11,280,000
Capital reserve fund	- 625,000
Project cost after capital reserve	10,655,000
State Aid	- 79.5%
Project cost after capital reserve & state aid (before interest)*	\$2,184,275

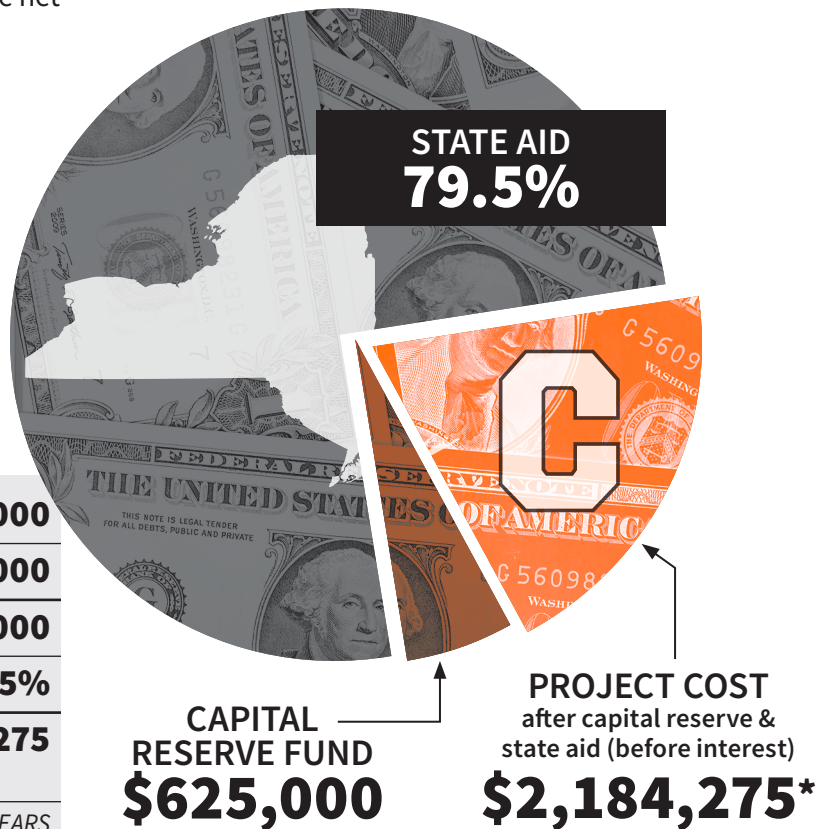
**BONDED OVER 15 YEARS*

Q What is the total cost of the proposed project?

A The cost of the capital project is not to exceed \$11,280,000. This amount represents the lump sum that will support the scope of the entire project. State aid will cover 79.5% of all costs related to the project. The district is using \$625,000 of its capital reserve that was approved by voters in May 2022.

Q Will this capital project impact my taxes?

A No. By developing an intentional and strategically-phased approach to funding and debt payments, the district is able to put forth a capital project that will not provide any additional impact on the tax levy.



58 South Park Street
Cambridge, NY 12816
518-677-2653

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EDITOR

Chris Crucetti
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HS Library Media Center

Qualifications to vote

- ✓ Citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age.
- ✓ Resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.
- ✓ No person shall have the right to register for or vote at any school meeting or election who has been convicted of a felony per Section 5-106 of the election law.



All individuals must provide proof of residency at the vote.

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CAPITAL PROJECT By the Numbers



2025
construction expected to begin

\$625,000
of capital reserve to be utilized

2026
construction expected to end

540
Seats in the renovated auditorium



NO ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT

What will appear on the ballot

Shall the Board of Education of the Cambridge Central School District be authorized to: (1) reconstruct and improve the Cambridge Main School Building and site, including, but not limited to, reconstruction and improvements of the auditorium and adjacent rooms, acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such building is to be used and pay costs incidental thereto, at a maximum aggregate cost of \$11,280,000; (2) expend such sum for such purpose, including the expenditure of \$625,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund; (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education, taking into account State aid and the amount to be expended from the Capital Reserve Funds; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the School District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$10,655,000, and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

Absentee ballots

Applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the office of the school district clerk from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays. Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the school district clerk by or prior to 3:30 p.m., on Dec. 5 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; or prior to 3:30 p.m., on Dec. 11 if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. All absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk not later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 12.