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## CAPITAL PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

DATE: Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022

TIME / LOCATION: Noon - 7 p.m.

Lake George Elementary School,  
69 Sun Valley Road, Lake George, NY.

**No anticipated tax impact  
on residents**



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# Lake George residents to vote on \$13.5 million capital improvement project on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022 *NO tax increase for the community*

Every five years, school districts are required by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to complete a Building Conditions Survey. The Building Conditions Survey is designed for schools to partner with an architect to identify infrastructure items in need of improvement. In the 2020 Building Condition Survey, it was determined that the district's transportation facility was in unsatisfactory condition.

This aging facility was built in 1953 as an elementary school, and over time it was retrofitted into the current transportation facility. Much of the original infrastructure and systems, such as the electrical, plumbing and heating, are original and have been deemed unsatisfactory. While the district has attempted to maintain this space through various renovations, the last improvements were made in 2002 to mend the roof and skylight system, which still leak into the building.



In addition to the faulty roof, the transportation facility has a number of other issues, including insufficient and deteriorating service bays, storage bays that are too narrow and short for today's buses, and limited storage that does not meet safety guidelines for the storage of batteries, parts or fire-rated tires.

A stakeholder group composed of community members, district personnel and the architectural group Tetra Tech researched a number of options to best address the needs of the district. Even with extensive renovations, the space would still not be conducive to the current needs of our fleet, let alone future needs. The group unanimously determined that building a new facility on a new site was the best option.



One future need is preparing for the New York State Electric Vehicle mandate. This mandate requires school districts to begin purchasing electric buses starting in 2027, with a total fleet conversion to occur no later than 2035. A new transportation facility would allow the district to properly plan and incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure into the proposed project.

Continued on page 2

*We are lifelong learners, leaders, and global citizens.*

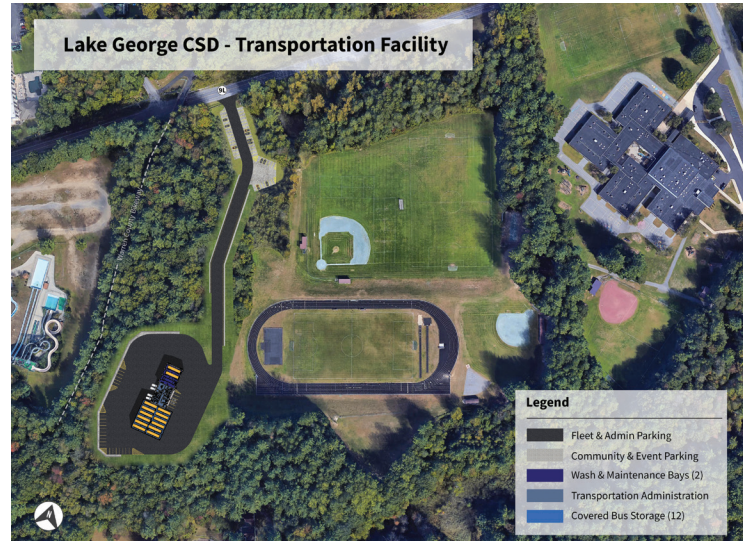


Capital Project continued from page 1

"The aging bus facility has long been a topic of discussion for the district. Based on the unsatisfactory Building Condition Survey rating and current fiscal position, we are at an opportune time to address the needs of our current facility by building a new one that will support the current and future needs of our transportation department," said Superintendent John Luthringer.

The proposed facility would be built on the existing Lake George Elementary School property along New York State Route 9L. The site would include 12 storage bays, two service bays, a wash bay with a water reclamation system, storage space for repair parts, and adequate staff space for the 22 members of the transportation department. Rebuilding the facility outside Lake George Village would also not only remediate the infrastructure and storage issues but also the traffic-congestion issues.

"The proposal that will be voted on Tuesday, Dec. 6 directly affects the critical need for a functional transportation facility and addresses safety, quality of facilities and modernizes an unsatisfactory space," said Superintendent John Luthringer. We hope that residents come out on Tuesday, Dec. 6 and let their voice be heard.



As a result of careful financial planning Lake George is able to limit the impact on taxpayers while improving the facility for the community and investing in the school district's future. Based on projections, taxes will not increase to fund the project.

## Q A Frequently Asked Questions

### Q Why are we voting on this project now?

**A** The existing transportation facility has received an unsatisfactory building rating per our 2020 Building Condition Survey. This aging facility was built in 1953 as an elementary school, and much of the infrastructure is original and has been deemed either unsatisfactory or poor. Many of the building's systems such as the ventilation, electrical, plumbing and heating cannot support the needs of a modern day transportation facility. With retiring debt and an already approved capital reserve, this is an opportune time to meet the current needs of our district and to plan for future electrical vehicle mandates. To learn more, please visit our website, [www.lkgeorge.org](http://www.lkgeorge.org)

### Q Where will the new transportation facility be located?

**A** The new transportation facility will be located on the existing Lake George Elementary School property. The proposed entrance to the facility will be located on Route 9L so as to not interfere with the elementary school and athletic programming.

### Q How is this being funded?

**A** The total cost has been estimated to be approximately \$13.5 million, of which \$4 million will come from capital reserves. Another \$1.5 million will be allocated from the capital fund, leaving the balance to be bonded over a 30-year period, which coincides with the schedule for state aid reimbursement. The district's state building aid ratio is currently 10%, meaning the state will reimburse 10% of the cost of this project.

### Q Will there be any tax impact?

**A** Based on projections from district financial advisors, this project is not expected to increase the local tax levy.

### Q Where do I vote?

**A** Voting will take place, from noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at Lake George Elementary School, 69 Sun Valley Road, Lake George, NY.

### Project Timeline:



## Student Spotlight



### Alexis Pape

Starting as a sophomore, Alexis Pape began her journey in student government. Elected as vice president, Alexis joined other students from the class of 2023 to organize events and represent her classmates. She continued her duties in her junior year, and this year she took on the role of

Student Council president. Reflecting on her time in Lake George, Alexis speaks fondly of the small environment that has given her ample opportunity to try new things. "Try everything," said Pape "Don't limit yourself." With limited time to prepare for a pep rally

and homecoming so early in the season, Pape and her fellow Student Council members planned a more personal event, which proved to have positive engagement and increased participation. Pape also participates in the New Visions Healthcare program through BOCES, with future plans to enroll in a premed program after she graduates. While gaining new experiences through New Visions, she realized how different Lake George is from other schools. When reflecting on her time in LGHS, Pape said, "I realized the importance of just how impactful a small school environment is. You get to really know your teachers and they get to know you too. It's the relationships that give you comfort and the ease of gathering information because everyone is willing to extend a helpful hand."



### Cosette Brodie

Cosette Brodie has attended Lake George Elementary since beginning school, and she is excited for the many opportunities this year brings as she enters her fifth grade classroom. As a member of the Young Scholars programs she is looking forward to learning more about arctic habitats

for her independent research project, but what Cosette really can't wait for is the "Battle of the Books" competition at SUNY Adirondack. "Every Monday we go to a meeting and we get to talk about books and how many we've read. I'm so happy

that this year we get to go to SUNY ADK and actually compete, because the last two years have been virtual." This year, Cosette has already made a large impact on creating differences at LGES. Participating in the re-opening of Story Walk, Cosette helped invite people by email for the ribbon cutting event, expanding her knowledge of digital technology. "The teachers here are really helpful and motivating," she said. Even through difficult times, the Lake George Elementary School has shown to be a place of overwhelming kindness. Cosette's younger sister, also a LGES student, is currently awaiting a heart transplant. "They take extra time with their students and have helped my family by doing virtual learning when my sister can't be there. I really love going to school here," said Cosette.

## Program Spotlight

### Rock Solid

At Lake George, we believe leadership is something that can be learned. During junior year, students are given the opportunity to join and prepare for the Rock Solid program. Rock



Solid is a peer-to-peer mentorship program that gives seniors a chance to welcome 7th grade students entering the campus for the first time. In their junior year, students develop and nurture the skills they will use to become future leaders at Lake George, in their careers, and throughout their community. Ryan Seymour, Kevin Burrall and Erin Connolly, with the assistance of Jill Long and Sue Nolan, work with high school students to structure activities and experiences for group goals to integrate 7th grade students into the Jr./Sr. High School environment. "Rock Solid is a unique opportunity that Lake George offers to seniors as an experience to connect with underclassmen in a leadership setting," said advisor Ryan Seymour. "It allows them to build relationships while giving them experience that they can use after they graduate." Throughout the year, students will engage in different leadership and team building activities that will culminate in an end-of-year community volunteer "giveback" day.

### Lake George CSD transitions communications to ParentSquare

Lake George CSD is excited to let you know that this year we'll be using ParentSquare to communicate with you about district, school and classroom news and information. ParentSquare provides a simple and safe way for everyone at school to connect. ParentSquare has replaced SchoolMessenger as the district's mass notification tool. You will be able to receive district, school and classroom communication via email, text, or the app. This tool is also available for the district community. Please, use the QR code or visit <https://www.parentsquare.com/> to sign up!



### District Communication

We are grateful for our school community, and as a district we want to ensure we are communicating effectively with parents, students, staff and the larger community of Lake George to get you all the information you need!



We want to hear your feedback so we can keep improving our logistics and content. Please fill out this quick survey pertaining to our website, social media and other forms of communication, and let us know your thoughts (your answers will be anonymous). Please follow the QR code, or check your email for a recent link to our community survey on communications. If you're not already receiving notifications, be sure to sign up for ParentSquare to stay connected. <https://forms.gle/R8nA7y1qibA77Zif8>



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**News & Views** is published by the Lake George Central School District to encourage interest in education and to keep the district residents informed of the school's activities and programs.

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## Absentee Ballots



Absentee ballots for the capital project are available to district residents who will be unable to vote in person on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Applications for absentee ballots are available online at [www.lkgeorge.org](http://www.lkgeorge.org) (under the transportation facility project) or can be picked up in the Superintendent's Office until Monday, Dec. 5. Absentee ballots

delivered by hand must be received by the district clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022.

For more information, contact the school district clerk located in the Superintendent's Office in the Jr.-Sr. High School at 518-668-5456, ext. 1207 or email: [bartons@lkgeorge.org](mailto:bartons@lkgeorge.org).

## Voter Requirements

Voters must be: United States citizens, 18 years of age or older and district residents for 30 days prior to the vote. A resident can only have one legal residence, which is his or her place of permanent residence. Identification will be required.

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