

Willsboro Central School

SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT

INVESTMENT PLAN

PLAN OVERVIEW

Governor Cuomo called for New York State to invest \$2 billion in its schools through a Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA). In November 2014 New Yorkers agreed and voted in the Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA). This initiative will finance educational technology and infrastructure, providing students access to the latest technology and connectivity needed to succeed and compete in the global economy. The SSBA requires that a Review Board review and approve districts' Smart Schools Investment Plans before any funds may be made available for the program.

The Willsboro Central School District qualifies for \$209,000 by the state of New York for the Smart Schools Bond Act. This funding must be used in specific categories, among them Classroom Technology and High-Tech Security Features. The first step in applying for this funding was to submit our Instructional Technology Plan to New York State for review. Our plan was submitted to the state and approved.

All projects that will be funded using Smart Schools funds need to be approved by the State Education Department. If approved, all projects will be fully reimbursable, with districts spending the money in advance and being reimbursed.

As a requirement of this process, the district must post the proposed Smart Schools Bond Act Investment Plan on the district's website for at least 30 days to allow for public comment. We encourage all community members to review the plan and comment.

PLAN GOALS

The technology plan for the Willsboro Central School District is to integrate technology to enhance, improve, engage and stimulate the learning environment. Students and staff will use technology as a tool to build skills to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens. The Willsboro Central School District has made significant investments in technology over the past ten years and we will continue this investment to enhance our students' learning.

PURCHASE PLAN

Classroom Technology

- Wifi will be added to ensure connectivity in all areas of the school building
- Chromebooks will provide anywhere/anytime computing for entire classrooms and all students.
- iPad mobile units provide alternative technology platforms for Elementary students.
- Interactive boards and SMART TVs enable seamless integration.
- Teacher workstations will be replaced with newer models.

High-Tech Security Features

Improvements to the infrastructure to ensure a safe and secure learning environment

- New security cameras and digital recorders will replace the current analog system.

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Budget Category	Total Allocation
Classroom Technology	\$114,000
High-Tech Security Features	\$95,000

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional development, including continuing education and training of faculty and staff, will ensure the ongoing integration of emerging technologies. This will ensure that Willsboro staff will be empowered to best utilize these new technologies for instructional purposes.

SUSTAINABILITY

The district recognizes that one-time expenditures for technology hardware with limited life presents challenges with regard to sustainability. Therefore, the district will continue to incorporate technology money into the annual budgets to ensure a natural replacement of equipment.

FEEDBACK

Public input is welcome. Please send comments to: justin.gardner@willsborocsd.org