

JANUARY 17, 2017

REFERENDUM UPDATE

DRIVING FORCES FOR FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT

- ▶ To improve and expand programs at MLHS
- ▶ To offer increased exposure to hands on STEM and ARTS curricula K-12
- ▶ To offer increased instructional time and more flexible master schedules at each building
- ▶ To address necessary facility upgrades that are outside the annual capital budget including:
 - ▶ School security improvements as recommended by County Office for Homeland Security
 - ▶ MLHS Auditorium required renovations
 - ▶ Separation and renovation of Briarcliff and MLHS locker rooms
 - ▶ Renovation of Wildwood bathrooms to be ADA Compliant

MOUNTAIN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL: ADDED CLASSROOMS ARE ESSENTIAL

- ... so students can maintain optimal schedules: schedules that satisfy scheduling requests
- ... so that students/teachers can learn/teach in appropriate classroom environments
- ... so that teachers have a 'home' classroom so students can better seek extra help and teachers can 'own' classroom environments
- ... so that MLHS can move to an **altered bell schedule** that will have a demonstrable, positive effect on the depth of instruction, pace of school day, and experience of school for all students
- ... so that MLHS can offer premier instructional space for a variety of current and future curricular offerings

BRIARCLIFF SCHOOL: MODERNIZING AND CREATING NEW SPACES

Renovation of the 6th Grade Science Lab and Relocation of Main Office

Creation of a Maker Lab

Renovation of the boys and girls locker rooms which allow for space for the creation of a band room

Renovation of the multi purpose room: replacing the HVAC system, lighting and ceiling

An expanded cafeteria space will greatly increase the the flexibility within the Master Schedule and provide easier and more effective services for lunch. Additionally, with a larger space, the cafeteria can serve as a multi-purpose space for special events

SCHOOL LEVEL RATIONALE STATEMENTS

WILDWOOD SCHOOL: IMPROVING SPACES TO MEET CURRENT NEEDS

As with Briarcliff, an expanded cafeteria space will greatly increase the flexibility within the Master Schedule and provide easier and more effective services for lunch. Additionally, with a larger space, the cafeteria can serve as a multi-purpose space for special events

Improved main office security and windows around the wheel, would create a safer environment for all students and faculty.

Updated bathrooms will provide a more sanitary, safe and accessible environment for all students

An updated expanded Art Room would allow greater storage, more access for long-term projects and potentially expanded After School Art Clubs

A new Band Room would provide our students with an enriched learning environment with no distractions from physical education classes, as well as provide a safe place to store instruments.

The Media Center can only comfortably seat 25 adults/students. The Media Center is the Hub of the Elementary School. Unfortunately, with the current design, the loss of the true sense of the functions of a Library are lost due to the constant disruptions and movement through this area.

REVIEW OF CURRENT SURVEY RESULTS

QUESTION A: TOTAL OF 4 & 5 “MOST CRITICAL” (BASED ON 337 RESPONSES AS OF 1/18/17)

MLHS ~ Remove and Replace Trailers and add 8 Classrooms (76.1%)

BC ~ Safety and Security (60%)

BC ~ 6th Grade Science Lab and School Maker Space (60%)

MLHS ~ Cafeteria and Kitchen Renovation and Expansion (55.8%)

MLHS ~ Safety and Security (54.8%)

WW ~ Safety and Security (52.8%)

BC ~ Renovation of Briarcliff Locker Rooms; Creation of Band Room (49.4%)

BC ~ Cafeteria and Kitchen Renovation and Expansion (55.8%)

WW ~ Cafeteria and Kitchen Renovation and Expansion (43.6%)

MLHS ~ Auditorium Renovations (43%)

MLHS ~ Addition of Two Locker Rooms & Bathrooms (40.1%)

WW ~ Bathroom Renovations (37.5%)

WHAT WE LEARNED FROM THE WORK OF OUR SUBCOMMITTEES AND SURVEY RESULTS:

- ▶ Items such as the MLHS Auditorium, Briarcliff Cafeteria, Wildwood Bathroom Renovations may need further explanation
- ▶ The connection between Briarcliff Renovations and Health and Wellness Center may need to be more clear
- ▶ Certain questions should be eliminated

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS (BASED ON 337 RESPONSES AS OF 1/18/17)

Question 2: WW~ Renovated and expanded Media Center and Technology Lab, Creation of Band Room, Relocation and Expansion of Art Room (33.8%)

Question 3: MLHS~ Renovated and expanded Choir Room and Creation of Stagecraft and Cardio/Weight Room (35.7%)

Question 4: MLHS ~ Creation of Mini Auditorium (34.7 %)
ELIMINATED

Question 5: MLHS/Borough Hall ~ Relocation of Board Offices (14.3%)
ELIMINATED

THREE QUESTIONS

- ▶ Question 1: Renovations and Upgrades to All Three Schools
- ▶ Should Question 1 Pass, Other Questions Can Be Considered
- ▶ Question 2: Additional Items for Wildwood School
- ▶ Question 3: Additional Items for MLHS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ▶ How will this effect the marketability of my home?
- ▶ What will the tax impact of these improvements be?
- ▶ Is there a correlation between academic rankings and improved facilities?
- ▶ How is the Board weighing the instructional vs non instructional costs of the Referendum
- ▶ Will these renovations compromise our small, community schools?
- ▶ What is the timeline for the Referendum moving forward?
- ▶ Additional Questions?

#TEACHLIKEME

Please help us celebrate the great work of our district faculty. The Teach Like Me Campaign aims to inject positivity and optimism into the educational profession by recognizing the outstanding contributions that educators make to improve the lives of their students. Do you know a Mountain Lakes teacher who influences students in a positive way, serves as a model for good teaching, and provides robust educational opportunities for all learners? Please take a moment to tell us about this teacher so we can celebrate their professional accomplishments by completing a nomination using the following link:

<http://www.mlschools.org/MLSDteachernomination>