West Seneca Central School District Smart Schools Initiative

Public Hearing

April 17, 2018

Smart Bond Initiative Summary

- Passed by New York Voters in November of 2014
- The Smart Schools Bond Act authorized $2 billion to finance improved education technology and infrastructure for schools
- West Seneca CSD Allocation is **$4,195,952**

Rules for the use of these funds

- Categories:
  - School Connectivity
  - Community Connectivity
  - Classroom Learning Technology
  - Pre-Kindergarten Classrooms
  - Replacement of Transportable Classrooms with Permanent Instructional Space
  - High-Tech Security

Early Planning

- Administration consulted with the district's architectural and engineering firms to establish possible priorities in the approved categories.

- Consideration was given to:
  - The West Seneca CSD Technology Plan
  - West Seneca CSD Building Condition Survey

Ongoing Planning

- Key planning questions were established based on the Vision and Goals of the District's Technology Plan:
  - *How will students in West Seneca benefit from the completed project?*
  - *How will the project fit within our current District Technology Plan?*
  - *Will our project solve current technology challenges and future needs?*
- Technology priorities that fit within allowable funding options were established. Priorities were shared with stakeholders for feedback throughout the planning process (Students, Staff, Parents, Community Members, and Non-pubs) (2016 – 2017 school year)
- Proposed spending recommendations were developed
- Proposed spending recommendations were presented to the Board of Education (March 26, 2018)
- Board of Education adopted the District's Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan (March 26, 2018) and the plan was posted on the district's website for public comment
- Public hearing scheduled to enable stakeholders to respond to the Preliminary Plan (April 17, 2018)

Instructional Technology Plan (ITP) 2018 - 2021

- During the 2017 – 2018, in accordance with New York State Education Department (NYSED) requirements, West Seneca is updating its current ITP. The updated plan:
  - Will build upon goals set forth from previous plans.
  - Will streamline and consolidate the goals of the current plan where applicable.
  - Like the plans before, will have specific goals that align to Smart Schools planning.
  - Proposed Goals are subject to change after a review by both the Western New York Regional Information Center (WNYRIC) and NYSED to ensure compliance.

Proposed ITP Goal #1: Technology Performance and Reliability

- The district will continue to research and develop methods to improve technology performance. The district will continue to pursue a hardware turnover process incorporating a five-year lifespan for computer hardware. Additionally, there will be a focus on increased mobility, capitalizing on the wireless capacity in all buildings. Maintaining and updating district technology will support a positive, safe, and secure learning environment to prepare all students for future success.

  ✓ Supports NYSED Goal 4

Goal 4

Design, implement, and sustain a robust, secure network to ensure sufficient, reliable high-speed connectivity for learners, educators, and leaders.

Proposed ITP Goal #2: Professional Development

- The district will remain committed to supporting new technologies with ongoing professional development support for teachers and staff as part of the District's Professional Development Plan (PDP).

    ✓ Supports NYSED Goal 5

Goal 5

Provide access to relevant and rigorous professional development to ensure educators and leaders are proficient in the integration of learning technologies.

Proposed ITP Goal #3: Cloud-based computing

- The district will continue to support its current cloud based computing initiatives based on student needs. The goal of this initiative is to improve access to school work and resources outside of the classroom walls for all students, across multiple devices, while maintaining a safe and secure digital environment.

Goal 3

Increase equitable access to high-quality digital resources and standards-based, technology-rich learning experiences.

  ✓ Supports NYSED Goal 3

Proposed ITP Goal #4: Data Analysis and High Quality Instruction

- The district will continue to use technology to aid educators in ongoing data analysis that will help guide instructional decisions. Technology will be used to support high quality instruction aligned to state and local standards.

  ✓ Supports NYSED Goal 1

Goal 1

Develop a strategic vision and goals to support student achievement and engagement through the seamless integration of technology into teaching and learning.

Recommendation: Infrastructure Upgrade

- Replace outdated or poorly performing copper and fiber network infrastructure to support increased demand from wireless devices and additional security devices.

Budgetary Allotment: $2,463,450

Recommendation: Network Upgrade

- Upgrade district wireless and hard wired network infrastructure to support increased demand for wireless devices and additional Power-Over-Ethernet (POE) security devices

Budgetary Allotment: $1,162,600

Recommendation: Communication Upgrade

- Upgrade district emergency communication by installing classroom digital notification devices which includes an upgrade of the VoIP Phone System

Budgetary Allotment: $119,475
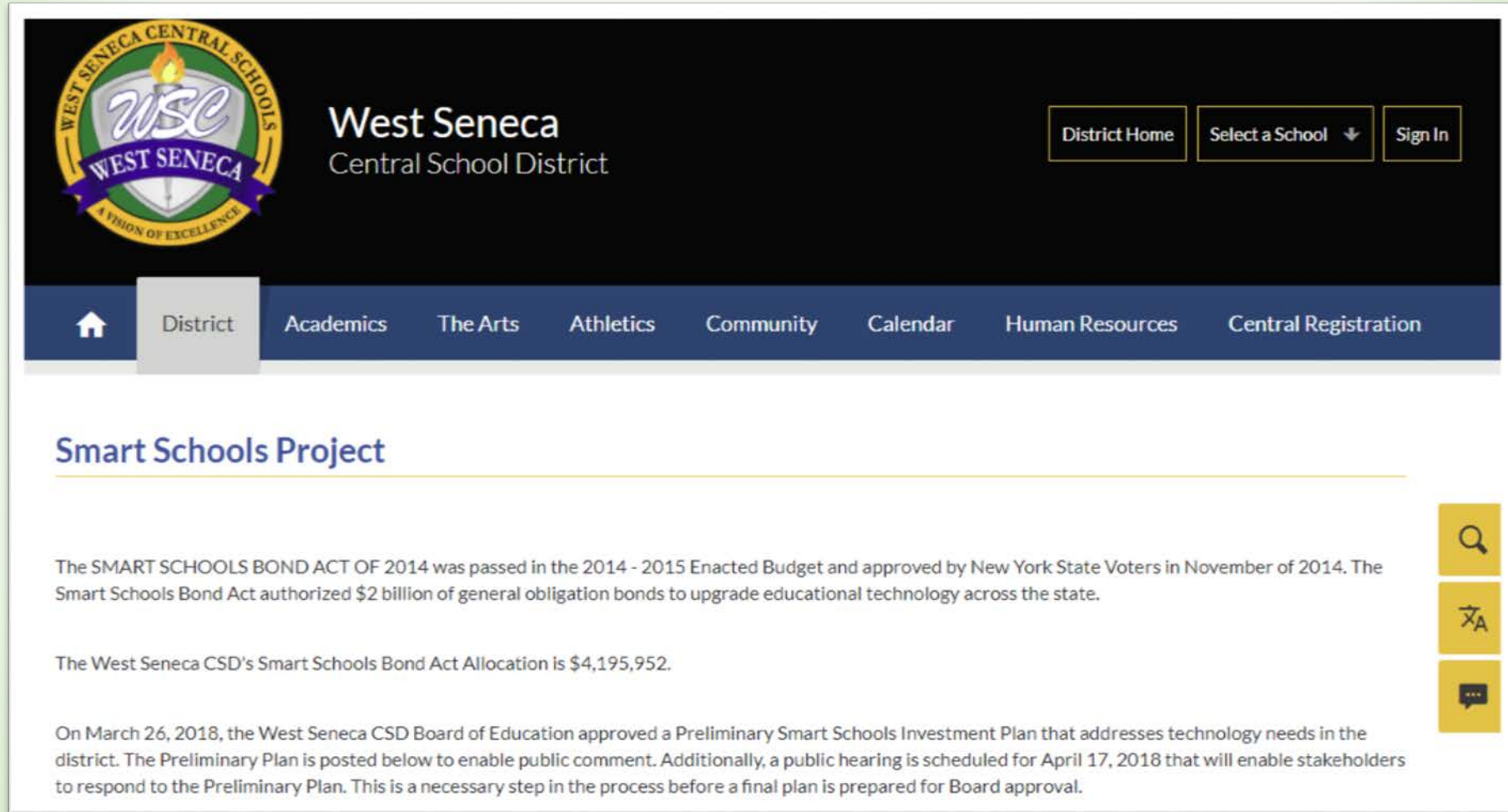
Additional items to consider:

- West Seneca anticipates supplementing Smart Schools funds from a Federal E-rate Category 2 grant

- Accommodations will also be made for Nonpublic schools in West Seneca to participate in the plan as per NYSED guidance

Possible Timeline (Pending BOE Approval)

- March 26, 2018 – BOE is presented with recommendations
- March 26, 2018 – BOE approved the district-developed Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan. The plan was posted for public comment
- April 17, 2018 – BOE hosts a public hearing that will enable stakeholders to respond to the Preliminary Plan
- Final Smart Schools Plan is prepared by the district
- May 7, 2018 – BOE possibly approves the final plan
- Final plan is submitted to SED for review

Questions?