

Brewster CSD

Final Smart Schools Investment Plan(SSIP)



Brewster Central School District

FINAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2018-2019

PUBLIC HEARING ON SMART SCHOOLS BOND FUNDING

There will be a Public Hearing on Smart Schools Bond Funding at the September 6, 2018 Board of Education Meeting, at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office.

New Date: Legal Notice for Brewster Central School District Smart Schools Bond Investment Act published on August 22, 2018

We encourage our Community to submit feedback:

Written:

Mr. Jim Treloar, Director of
Technology & Innovation
Brewster CSD
50 Foggintown Road
Brewster, NY 10509

Email:

jtreloar@brewsterschools.org

Online Survey:

[Click Here to fill out our online
Survey form](#)

Or go to

goo.gl/WWErFD

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Smart School Bond Act – (Background)

The Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA) was passed in the 2014-15 enacted budget and approved by the voters in a statewide referendum held during the New York State 2014 General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The Smart Schools Bond Act authorized the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds to finance improvements in educational technology, infrastructure and security. The entire text of the Smart Schools Bond Act Implementation Guidance can be found at:

http://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgt/serv/smart_schools/docs/Smart_Schools_Bond_Act_Guidance_04.27.15_Final.pdf

District's Allocation

The total amount allocated to Brewster Central School District is \$1,607,265. [Click here](#) to view a list of allocations to each NYS school district. In May 2016, Brewster submitted their preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan (SSIP) to New York State for \$1,426,857 of that full allocation. The funds from the initial SSIP were used to provide all students in grades 1-12 with Chromebooks as well as enhancing our infrastructure and replacing aging devices throughout the district. The remaining \$180,408 is available to use for Classroom Technology.

Brewster CSD Technology Vision Statement:

Brewster Central School District will engage all learners in authentic problem and project-based learning, inspire and empower them to ask and answer questions of personal and public interest and be responsible digital citizens.

Overview of the District's SSIP

Brewster's Smart Schools Investment Plan is aligned with the District's 2018-2021 Technology Plan and will be used to help achieve one of our 3 goals to "Make 75% of student, teacher and classroom devices more agile and collaborative by the end of the 2020-2021 school year." This will be done through the creation of a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure or VDI and replacing aging and failing Smart Boards in the district with interactive displays that have updated functionality to make them more collaborative and support the 5 Strategic Coherence Plan Skills of Critical Thinking, Communication & Collaboration, Adaptability, Perseverance and Civic Responsibility.

VDI will make the Chromebooks that students and teachers are now using more versatile by creating a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure or VDI where a Window-based desktop can be accessed from any device and anywhere. VDI has two main advantages for end users: 1) Students and teachers will have access to applications such as Autodesk Inventor, Adobe Creative Suite and Microsoft Office which wouldn't normally be available on a Chromebook and 2) They will be able to do work in these programs from home instead of needing to be on a

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Windows-based device that is physically located in the district. VDI has many benefits for the Technology Department: 1) no need to purchase additional devices for students to access these programs; 2) management of the programs and the Virtual Desktop are all done from a single location ultimately taking up less staff time to maintain.

The new interactive displays that the District will purchase and install to replace the aging and failing Smart Boards that are currently in each classroom will help to transform the way that teachers and learners interact and share information in the classroom. These interactive displays will all have the ability to cast to from any device. This will allow a teacher to easily have a student share work that they are doing on their Chromebook on the classroom display. These new interactive displays also function as a basic whiteboard and can access the internet without even needing to turn on or connect a computer. This added versatility not only supports the 5 skills identified in our Strategic Coherence Plan, but better reflect the way teams work and collaborate in today's businesses.

The district will focus on the areas of:

School Connectivity

- Setup of a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure
 - We will be expanding the current infrastructure that the district has set up for VDI by adding another server and configuring it for added users and redundancy where each one will fail-over to the other should one of the servers stop functioning properly.

Classroom Technology to Enhance Teaching and Learning

- Classroom technology
 - There are 145 classrooms that are currently using Smart Boards or simply projectors and screens with no interactive capabilities. These devices range in age, but none are less than 6 years old and are quickly coming to the end of their useful life. Brewster plans to utilize \$130,000 of the Smart Schools Bond Act funds to begin the process of replacing these devices with newer more interactive digital displays with a projected life span of 14 years. These funds will only address less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the need to replace all of these. The District's plan is to propose the use of a recurring Installment Purchase Agreement that spreads these purchases out over 4 years and sets in motion a funding plan to continue to replace these and other devices as they near the end of their useful life.
- Server for VDI
 - Part of the cost of the expansion of our Virtual Desktop Infrastructure includes purchasing another server. This second server will allow us to add additional users and create a redundant system that will ensure uptime for end users in the

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event that we would have any problems with one of them. The configuration of this server is referred to in the School Connectivity section.

Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan Expenditures

The investment in Classroom Learning Technology will be as follows:

SCHOOL CONNECTIVITY		SUB-ALLOCATIONS	
Setup of expanded Virtual Desktop Infrastructure			\$15,000
CLASSROOM LEARNING TECHNOLOGY		SUB-ALLOCATIONS	
Interactive Displays			\$134,408
Servers to support expanded VDI			\$31,000
	Total		\$180,408

Proposed Timeline:

- Aug 21, 2018 Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan presented to the Board of Education for approval
- Aug 22, 2018 Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan posted on our website for public comment
- Sep 04, 2018 Public Hearing at the Board of Education meeting to present/discuss the Preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan.
- Sep 25, 2018 Final plan approved by the Board
- Sep 26, 2018 Smart Schools Investment Plan submitted to the State Education Department for approval

Community Feedback:

Comments regarding this plan can be submitted the following ways:

Written:

Mr. Jim Treloar, Director of
Technology & Innovation
Brewster CSD
50 Foggintown Road
Brewster, NY 10509

Email:

jtreloar@brewsterschools.org

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