

***Why are you proposing to construct additional classroom space above the current science wing?***

The Board of Education has come to recognize the needs within our school community and the opportunity to add value for our students and the community as a whole with the creation of the Community area adjacent to the school space. This public discussion and Board decision took place last year and we took into consideration the public's security concerns and noted their enthusiastic support for daycare within this community section of the building. During our presentations it has been noted that the "community wing" is not part of the current referendum vote with funding secured separately to fund the remodeling needed to convert part of the space for daycare facilities for our staff and community members.

The new second floor will create classroom space that ultimately allows for the tech classroom to move up to the main campus on the first floor with lesser remodeling needed compared to other locations in the main school building. This move not only improves security and safety for our students but it also moves them out of a building that is nearing the end of its usefulness for students without major renovations. In the Board's view, this is the best option available to us. Please note that there is no "ready space" in our current main building that would allow tech to move.

Again, there are significant construction/remodeling costs associated with this move (plus significant costs if we needed to stay in the tech building that are not included in the current project projections) - moving up to the main campus is the right thing to do.

***Who is qualified to vote in school district budget votes and referendums?***

To answer this we have relied on information readily available on the New York State School Boards Association website ([nyssba.org](http://nyssba.org)). The answer lies within law and regulation and is specific to school districts.

Qualified Voters:

1. A qualified voter is a person who is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old, a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which he or she offers to vote, and who is not otherwise prohibited from voting under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law (for example, a person who has been adjudged to be mentally incompetent). Only qualified voters of the school district may vote on a question brought before an annual meeting and election or special school district meeting.

a. School districts may not require voters to pay taxes or have children attending the public schools to be eligible to vote).

b. Military personnel residing on a military base may also be qualified voters in the school district where that base is located.

2. Owning a home in a school district does not necessarily make the owner a district resident for purposes of being considered a qualified voter eligible to participate in a school district annual or special school district meeting or election. **"A person may have only one legal residence or domicile, and that is the place where such person intends to have his or her permanent residence or home.** The residency of dual home owners is dependent on the intent and conduct of the owner".

There is also information related to unqualified voters and convicted felons on our webpage under the capital project tab at [www.towschool.org](http://www.towschool.org).

If you are unsure if your address in the Town of Webb UFSD school district is your domicile some of the items to consider would be:

- What address do you use when you file your Federal Income Tax Return?
- What address do you used when you file your New York State Income Tax Return?

- What is the address on your Driver's License?
- What address is used for your motor vehicle registration?
- Are you claiming a New York State STAR Exemption at this address?
- Do you claim a New York State STAR Exemption at another address?

### **How much will each of the propositions cost me as a taxpayer?**

We have created a Potential Property Tax Rate Calculator on our website. Go to our homepage, [www.towschool.org](http://www.towschool.org), and then go to the right hand side with the tab labeled 'Capital Project Info'. Once you are on that page you will see our most up to date information. If you click on the title '**Potential Property Tax Rate Calculator** For the Various Propositions' this will open up an excel spreadsheet. Here you can look up your assessed value, plug it into the spreadsheet, and see how much each proposition would cost you both annually and monthly for the 15 years of the bond.

### **What portion of the project will be paid for by New York State?**

Unlike other districts the bulk of the monies we receive for our capital investments and operations come in the form of taxes paid rather than aid given. Many of our taxpayers don't realize that ~39% of the assessed land value in the district is owned by New York State. Essentially, NYS pays taxes to us for ~39% of what is collected annually and the same will be true on this project. Their increase will be at the same rate that our taxpayers will increase. We will also be receiving 10% aid on the first \$10 mil spent on the aidable portion of this project. This is in addition to the 39% of the school tax levy that NYS will be covering.